

Lighting the Advent Candles

We light our first candle for all God's people.

We light our second candle for all God's prophets.

Prophets of the past, present and future call us to end poverty and hunger.

May the light of the prophets shine bright today.

May their words point us to God.

Counting God's Gifts

COUNTING

God's
gifts is good for
your soul!

A Miracle
Every Day



The N-eg-ativity











Responsive Reading

Real life stories, full of meaning

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

John the Baptist's heartfelt pleading

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Mary was puzzled about conceiving

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Joseph thought she was deceiving

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Bethlehem was truly heaving

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

The stable floor in need of cleaning

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

The birth was hard and not appealing

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Hear the baby Jesus screamin'

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Shepherds on the hill were freezin'

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

The angels sang of peace and healing

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

King Herod was up to his old scheming

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Wandering wise men, their families
grieving

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

The frankincense had got them sneezin'

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Real lives and real feelings

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

All the world God was redeeming

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

The precious gift of love revealing

That's a Christmas I can believe in.

Sermon

➤ **Carefully chosen**

➤ **Lovingly given**

➤ **Personally named**

Prayers for Children

Father God

Bring children the gift of love

Let our gift of toys show that they are
loved and cared for.

Father God

Bring children the gift of joy

Let our gift of toys bring a smile to their
faces and happiness this Christmas.

Father God

Bring children the gift of peace

Let your gift of peace make their worries
melt away like snow.

Father God

Bring children the gift of hope

Let your gift of hope help them believe
things will get better.

Father God

Bring children the gift of courage

Let your gift of hope give them the
strength they need to face each
challenge.

Father God

Bring children the gift of safety

Let your gift of protection keep them safe
from all danger and harm.

Bless all children everywhere. Amen.