



The **Heart** of **CHRISTMAS**

A Children's Sermon
to accompany the distribution
of the MLAJ Magnet

Good morning, girls and boys. And Merry Christmas to you all! I have a special poem to share with you to remind you of what Christmas is all about. Here is how it goes:

Christmas comes with colored lights,
Snowmen, trees and other sights.
But there is a better part,
Something special at the heart.

What's the heart of all this joy?
God sends us a baby boy!
Christ is born! And now we say
He's the heart of Christmas Day!

At the very heart, the very center, of Christmas (even the word Christmas) is Christ. Christ is the heart of Christmas! It is not the lights, the snowmen and the tree. It is all about Jesus Christ. He is the One we are celebrating today. Mary and Joseph knew that well and made sure that Jesus was at the center of their lives. Joseph named the baby born in Bethlehem "Jesus," as the angel had told him, "for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1: 21). After Jesus was born, the Bible says, Mary "treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19).

We should treasure up and ponder all these things about Jesus in our hearts, as Mary did. Our hearts should be filled with hope, peace and joy. And our hearts should overflow with love because Christ has come to earth. In all that we say and do, may we show others the love we have in our hearts for Christ and the love we have for them because of him.

Because I love you all so much, I have a present for you, too: a magnet reminder of the greatest Christmas gift ever given: the Baby Jesus.