

# FIRST things FIRST

## Daily Devotionals

**December 22-28, 2025**

Devotions are prepared for you to use in your Quiet Time with the Lord and are designed to prepare you for the sermon next Sunday. This week's First Things First is a bit different as we explore a different message next week. On Sunday, the 28<sup>th</sup>, we will be learning about some of our favorite hymns and how they came to be. We sing hymns each week sometimes not knowing the story behind them and how God helped shape their stories. We will explore some of the stories and how hymns can be and are a part of worship.

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### **Monday, Dec. 22**

### **Created to Sing**

**Scripture:** Psalm 150

From the very first breath we take, praise seems to be a part of who we are. Psalm 150 calls on everything that has breath to praise the Lord. Cymbals crash, trumpets sound, and voices rise together. Worship is not meant to be restrained or hidden. Worship is a full-bodied response to a faithful God. Praise reminds us that worship is not about performance or perfection. It is about participation. We join a long line of believers—and even creation itself—declaring that God is worthy. When we sing, we are stepping into the purpose for which we were made.

**Prayer:** God, remind me that my life is an instrument of praise.

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### **Tuesday, Dec. 23**

### **Songs in the Night**

**Scripture:** Psalm 42

There are times when praise comes easily. Other times, not so much. The psalmist speaks of singing God's song in the night. A reminder that worship should happen in the good and the bad. When we choose to sing in the darkness, praise becomes an act of trust. It declares that God is still present, still faithful, even when circumstances say otherwise. Worship places pain in God's care.

**Prayer:** Lord, Help my praise rise from trust, not just comfort. Amen.

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### **Wednesday, Dec. 24**

### **Worship That Changes Us**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 6:1-8

When Isaiah encountered God in worship, everything changed. Worship revealed both God's holiness and Isaiah's need for grace. True worship always transforms us. It humbles us, cleanses us, and then sends us out. Praise is not just about what happens in the sanctuary; it prepares us to serve in the world.

**Prayer:** Holy God, meet me in worship and reshape my heart. Amen.

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### **Thursday Dec. 25**

### **Praise in the Prison**

**Scripture:** Acts 16:25-26

Paul and Silas sang hymns while chained in a prison cell. Their praise did not come after the doors opened. It came when they were locked tight. Somehow, their worship shook the foundations. Praise has a way of changing those things that tie us down. Worship lifts our eyes beyond walls and reminds us that God's power is not limited by our situation.

**Prayer:** God, help me to praise You even when I feel trapped. Amen.

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### **Friday, Dec. 26**

### **A New Song**

**Scripture:** Revelation 5:6-10

The Bible often speaks of a "new song". In Revelation, heaven erupts in song because the Lamb has brought salvation. Praise rises from blessings for what God has done and hope for what God will do. Every shift in life brings a new song. Worship does not stay stuck in the past.

**Prayer:** Lord, put a new song in my heart. Amen.

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### **Saturday, Dec. 27**

### **When Our Lives Become Praise**

**Scripture:** Romans 12:1-3

Worship is more than singing. Worship means offering all of ourselves to God. Paul reminds us that true worship happens when we live in ways that honor God. Songs may end when the service is over, but praise continues in how we treat others, how we make decisions, and how we love.

**Prayer:** God, help me to worship You with my whole self. Amen.

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### **Sunday, Dec. 28**

### **Hymn Sing**

Worship at 10am

by Pastor Clint Phillips