## December 2025 Las Posadas | Luke 2: 1-7

"In the name of heaven, I beg you for lodging."

Many of us "are preparing" by buying Christmas decorations, planning dinner menu, buying gifts. As you take a moment to think about how you prepare, consider this verse: Joseph and Mary have no place to stay during this season. Think about what is happening in the world, think about the homeless, think about the migrants who, for one reason or another, have had to leave their cities and are begging for shelter. Where do you see hope? Write a prayer for the vulnerable.

"This isn't an inn, go on ahead. I can't open, lest some scoundrels be here."

It's very common for us to tend to classify or stigmatize people. We hear the narrative that "migrants are \_\_\_\_." Write down the narrative you have about migrants. Jesus invites us to offer help, to offer our arms, our words. What can you do? How can you build peace?

"I don't care about the name, just let me sleep, for I tell you now, we will not open it."

List all the things that are worrying you right now. Now write three things that have made you laugh this week. Write the name of one person you are grateful to have in your life. Turn your worries into prayer. Where do you see joy in your life? When we feel grateful to God, we let go of our grumpy side and are more open to empathizing with those who are suffering. Are you familiar with AMMPARO? It's the ELCA's strategy to accompany migrants with protection, advocacy, representation, and opportunities, this is a chance to learn more and share your joy.

"Enter, holy pilgrims, receive this humble dwelling, for though it is poor, I give it to you from my heart!"

Christmas is not just a date on the calendar; it's a celebration of God's tangible love, who takes of the most fragile human form: a vulnerable baby. This demonstrates that when you love, you make yourself vulnerable. God isn't looking for a "perfect place"; He's looking for a heart willing to love. What does love mean to you? How do you show it to your family? How do you show it to your friends? How do you show it to strangers and foreigners?