



Week beginning December 14th

Come Lord Jesus and fill us with joy

Opening Questions

- The approach to Christmas is a very busy time. How have you made space for Jesus during this time?
- Where have you encountered joy this week?

Getting into the text

Read Matthew 11:2-11

- Why do you think John was beginning to question whether Jesus really was the one he was expecting? How did he deal with his doubts?
- How did Jesus respond to John's question?

- Who were the people who were experiencing joy as a result of Jesus' ministry?
- How do you think Jesus' words would have encouraged John?

Applying the Bible to your life

- What can help you to find joy even in times of doubt and questioning?
- What joyful stories of Jesus at work today can you share with those who doubt who he is?

Something to pray about

In our Old Testament reading this week Isaiah prophesied that, '**The desert and parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.**' (Isaiah 35:1)

- Thank God for the joys and blessings he brings.
- Offer to him any areas of your life where you are experiencing doubts or questions and ask him to help you to find a way through.
- Pray for those you know or read about in the news who are experiencing a kind of wilderness in their lives because of the struggles they are going through.