



Advent Week 2 -- Peace

A Liturgy to Use at Home

This liturgy can be done alone, with friends over Zoom, or as a household/family unit. If you share in it with others, be sure to include everyone (both the youngest and the oldest among you!) in the process. It could easily be used to start or end your day. It could be part of a dinnertime routine. As always, do as you can -- with freedom -- and enjoy!

Read: the scripture for the day from your Advent Link Chain (easy template and directions found here: www.the-river.org/advent/) or from the list below. (They are the same in both places.)

Light: the 1st & 2nd candles in your wreath, the Candles of Hope & of Peace...

And Pray:

*Gracious One,
Thank you for the promise of peace.
Thank you for the moments
where we feel it deep in our hearts.
Teach us to make peace
with our words, with our hands,
for our own place and all places.
Amen.*

Play: Song of the week: [Peace](#) (link on our website)

Reflect:

Pick 1 or 2 each day...or stay with the one(s) you like most!

- Describe a time today when you felt connected to peace...or if not today, tell a story of a time in your life when you were peaceful...
- How does today's scripture passage speak to you of peace?
- Where are you feeling the need for more peace these days? Consider this question on multiple levels...Internally. For others. Relationally. Community-wide/Globally.
- What helps you find peace personally?
- How have you -- or could you -- help to make peace around you?

Blessing:

Finish by either:

- Imagining Jesus speaking these words over you: *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart(s) be troubled and do not be afraid.* (John 14:27)
- Exchanging peace with others if you're gathered: (First) *The Peace of God be with you...* (Response) *And also with you!*

Scripture for this week

December 6th: Luke 1:26-28, 30-31

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus."

December 7th: Luke 1:46-50

Mary said, "My soul gives glory to the Lord. My spirit delights in God my Savior. He has taken note of me even though I am not considered important. From now on all people will call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me. His name is holy. He shows his mercy to those who have respect for him, from parent to child down through the years."

December 8th: Matthew 1:19-21, 24

Joseph was faithful to the law. But he did not want to put her to shame in public. So he planned to divorce her quietly. But as Joseph was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. The angel said, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary home as your wife. The baby inside her is from the Holy Spirit. She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins." Joseph woke up. He did what the angel of the Lord commanded him to do. He took Mary home as his wife.

December 9th: Luke 2:1-5

In those days, Caesar Augustus made a law. It required that a list be made of everyone in the whole Roman world. It was the first time a list was made of the people while Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone went to their own town to be listed. So Joseph went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was. Joseph went there because he belonged to the family line of David. He went there with Mary to be listed. Mary was engaged to him. She was expecting a baby.

December 10th: Micah 5:2

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

December 11th: Luke 2:6-7

While Joseph and Mary were there, the time came for the child to be born. She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. That's because there was no guest room where they could stay.

December 12th: Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.