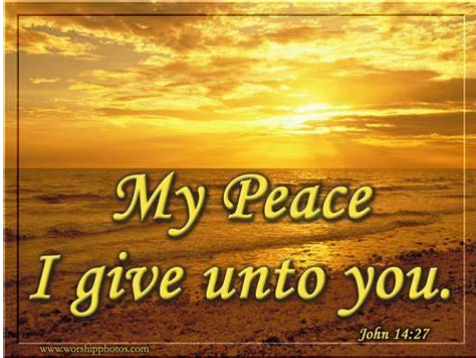


Guided by a cloud 38 (Exodus 13:21-22)

This week the Advent candle is representing peace. The angels proclaimed “Peace on Earth” when the Baby Jesus was born. As we listen to the news, we may wonder whether peace is possible. We all need peace in our lives. We need inner peace, but we also need peace with others. God tells us what to do to find that peace. Inner peace begins with our relationship with God, we can exchange our weakness for His strength. Isaiah 26:3 paraphrased says, “*God will keep me in perfect peace as my mind focuses on Him and trusts Him.*” We need to put our hand in His and receive His peace. “*Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the children of God*” (Matthew 5:9). God has called us to be peacemakers in our world. We can help bring peace to our world one heart at a time.



Worship time

[Praise is rising](#)

[You stepped down from heaven](#)

[Peace to you](#)

Reflections on Peace. God wants us to experience His peace, the peace that passes all understanding. When God sent His son to into the world He sent to us The Prince of Peace... Jesus.

For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. These will be his royal titles: “Wonderful,” “Counsellor,” “The Mighty God,” “The Everlasting Father,” “The Prince of Peace.” **Isaiah 9:6**

Jesus is our peace. The Prince of Peace is our ultimate source of peace. How do we get from Jesus being our peace to actually living a peace filled life? We have to receive it. *“I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”* **John 14:27**

The peace we yearn for comes as a gift which long ago came as a priceless gift wrapped in swaddling clothes. As with any gift we have to choose to receive it, open it and use it. Peace is a gift to be used every day. *Just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust him, too, for each day’s problems; live in vital union with him. Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with joy and thanksgiving for all he has done.* **Colossians 2:6-7**

One of the fruits of the Spirit’s work in our lives is PEACE. That means we can become peacemakers and peace-givers. Our world may be filled with turmoil and unrest but this Christmas we can help to bring peace. St. Francis of Assisi prayed:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; and Where there is sadness, joy... Divine Master; Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Take time to receive God’s gift of Peace and share it with others.

Experience God’s peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

“Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you” 1Peter 5:7