

Peace



SAY Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and at Advent, we light candles to remind ourselves of the light of hope and promise of peace he brought to a world ravaged by sin.

ASK What is peace?

EXPLAIN Peace is the end of hostility and fighting. It's when all is as it should be. It's harmony. It's rightness and wholeness.

LIGHT the first and second candles of your wreath.

SAY These candles represent hope and peace. When Jesus came, he brought peace between God and humanity.

READ & DISCUSS Isaiah 9:6-7 and Luke 2:1-7

PRAY O Lord, our God, thank you for sending Jesus to make everything right between us. We're grateful for the peace that comes through knowing Him. Help us to be champions of your peace. May we be peacemakers in a world torn by sin and strife. Help us to be yours as we wait for you to come again. We love you. Amen.

FURTHER DISCUSSION What is it so hard to "keep the peace?" How does knowing that Jesus came to bring peace between us and God make you feel? What are some ways that we can be peacemakers?

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Isaiah 9:6-7

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.