

Hi Today is the second Sunday of Advent and the second candle that we light is the candle of Peace. We would like to talk to you about what God says about Peace from the Bible.

The peace of God allows us to look at others through heaven's eyes and help guide the world to see God's here and not-yet here kingdom. Peace from God, biblical peace, allows us to trust in God's promises (Proverbs 3:5), through restful, tranquil faith, despite the dark, scary world around us.



What Is the Candle of Peace?

One of the hallmarks of the Christmas story is when the angels appear to the shepherds and proclaim, “Peace on earth,” in [Luke 2:14](#).

Jesus brought about peace, in the most unexpected ways, when he arrived. The Jews, particularly the zealots, wanted a rebellion. They wanted their Saviour to overturn the oppressive rule of the Romans and bring about peace in a violent way.

But Jesus had something else in mind. As mentioned in Jesus brings us peace in a number of ways.

First, he gives us inner peace. Because of his work on the cross, we have a chance to receive salvation and be indwelled by the Holy Spirit. This grants us

an inner peace ([John 14:27](#)). Not only do we have the peace that comes from our assurance of salvation, but we also have the peace of mind knowing God will heal this broken world and will come again.

Secondly, we can have peace with others. We put aside our differences ([Galatians 3:28](#)), especially with other believers, because we belong to the same family. We have the same purpose: to let others know about the peace of Christ.

The Hebrew word for peace: *Shalom*, goes far beyond not fighting with others or peace as we know it, shalom is, in essence, how things are meant to be: a slice of heaven.

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What Does the Bible Say about Peace?

Not surprisingly, the Bible has a lot to say about peace, as it attributes peace to Jesus himself: the Prince of Peace ([Isaiah 9:6](#)).

In fact, the word peace appears somewhere between 200-400 times in the Bible.

In addition to the items listed above, biblical peace:

- Guards our hearts from the devil ([Philippians 4:7](#))
- Brings us joy ([Proverbs 12:20](#))
- Is a blessing from God ([Psalm 29:11](#))
- Assists us during dire circumstances ([Isaiah 54:10](#))

In a scary and violent world, the peace of God grants us a tranquillity you cannot find anywhere else and offers a light to others who do not yet know that peace.

Why Does This Matter?

We live in an eye-for-an-eye, revenge culture. We also live in scary times. But the peace of God transcends our circumstances and world. With this, we can be rest assured that he will come and make everything right once more.

Our peace can also stir the curiosity of those who do not believe in Christ. They will see us exercise a spirit of tranquillity, faith, and they will want to know the reason for our faith in shaky times.

When they ask, we can have a reason at the ready. "I am not afraid because I have the peace of Christ."

Advent Wreath Prayer Week 2 — Peace

Heavenly Father, You are the God who gives peace. This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus we can experience a Christmas free from turmoil and chaos. Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, you offer us peace that passes understanding.

That first Christmas, when you sent your Son, you sent the one who is called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Even the angels cried out, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.” The angels knew your purpose. They know the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love that Christmas held. They recognized that the fullness of God was wrapped in the tiny flesh of an infant as you humbled yourself and dwelt among us. Emmanuel. God with us as the baby Jesus.

That baby would grow to be the same Godman, Jesus, who would again humble himself to face death on a cruel cross as payment for our sin. He would triumphantly defeat sin and death and hell in order to cancel our sin debt and reconcile us to you, Father.

You exalted Him and gave him a name above all names. Every knee in heaven and earth and under the earth must bow to the name of Jesus. The winds and waves obey Him. He rules and reigns as king overall. No situation or circumstance that we find ourselves in is a match for Jesus.

We are able to have the fullness of peace in our hearts on Christmas day, and every day, because that same Jesus sits at your right hand in heaven and makes intercession for us. Not only that, but he paid our sin debt. He loves us with a love that is unfathomable. Nothing can separate us from His love. He is good and his plans for us are good.

Father, this second week of Advent, keep us in perfect peace as our mind is stayed on the truth of your powerful love. Thank you for your mighty, sovereign hand. Help us to trust fully in you and rest in the peace that you offer. It's in the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

You Could Make your own Advent Wreath with battery operated Tea Lights; you could put someone's name on each candle as you pray for them.





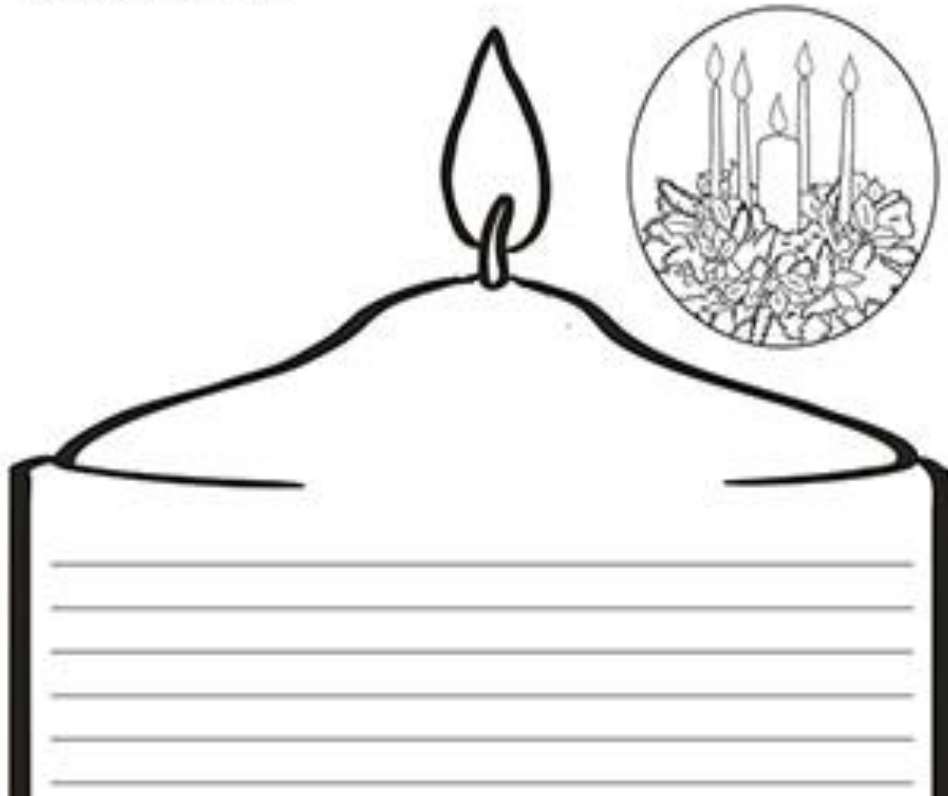
Enjoy Colouring this Picture



- 1. Find a little box you can decorate if you wish with Christmas paper**
- 2. Write out all the Bible verses highlighted in blue on a piece of paper, make sure they are the same size as the box so that the lid will fit, cut them out, roll the up and place in the box. This will make a nice Christmas present for someone, of course you could make more than one.**

My Advent Prayer

After discussing, reading and thinking about Advent, write your own prayer for this special season. Try and remember to say it each morning until Christmas Eve.



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Cryptogram

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
23	21	26	6	4	18	3	17	1	2	13	11	24	20	14	10	9	25	5	12	22	19	7	8	15	16

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 1 20 23 6 19 4 20 12 7 4 25 4 24 4 24 21 4 25 3 14 6 5

_____ , _____ , _____ _____ _____
 11 14 19 4 10 4 23 26 4 17 14 10 4 23 20 6 2 14 15

DIRECTIONS: At the top is a key that lists all the letters from A to Z with a box below. Each of the letters has a corresponding number. The bottom part contains a phrase. Each of the blanks has a number underneath it. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase

Enjoy, bless you all