

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is born !

We welcome you here in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace;
may He help us to be people who are full of His peace.

Centuries before His birth, a prophet foretold His coming :

A child is born to us ! A son is given to us !
And He will be our ruler, He will be called,
"Wonderful Counsellor", "Mighty God", "Eternal Father", "Prince of **Peace**".

— *Isaiah* Chapter 9 verse 6

Please stand to sing the hymn

Hark ! the Herald Angels Sing.

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| <p>1. Hark ! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King,
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."</p> | <p>2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see !
Hail, the incarnate Deity !
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.</p> |
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*Hark ! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

*Hark ! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

3. Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace !
Hail the Sun of Righteousness !
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild, He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth.
Born to give them second birth.

*Hark ! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

Please sit.

To fit in with our theme of peace, we have decorated our tree and
the stable with doves, a symbol of peace.

In the service, we shall sometimes use the Hebrew word
"Shalom"; it means wholeness, wellness, comfort, safety,
tranquillity etc., and, as a greeting, it means
"May all that is good and wholesome be in you."

Leader Let us share God's peace with each other by turning and saying to one another "Shalom", "Peace be with you".

ALL (turning to their neighbours)
"Shalom", "Peace be with you".

The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

Luke Chapter 1 verses 26-38.

Leader **SHALOM, PEACE BE WITH YOU !**
Thank You, Lord, that Mary accepted the rôle you had chosen for her.

ALL **Help us to accept the rôles that you have chosen for us.**

Mary visits Elizabeth

Luke Chapter 1 verses 39-47.

Please stand to sing part of the hymn that Mary sang to God at this time.

**My soul does magnify the Lord
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour;
For He that is mighty has done great things,
And Holy is His name.
My soul does magnify the Lord,
My soul does magnify the Lord
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour;
For He that is mighty has done great things,
And holy is His name.**

Leader **SHALOM, PEACE BE WITH YOU !**
Thank You, God, for the encouragement, confirmation and peace that You brought to Mary as she visited Elizabeth.
We pray that You would bring encouragement, confirmation and peace to all of us.

ALL **Lord, help us to encourage one another, and give Your peace to us all.**

Joseph's dilemma

Matthew Chapter 1 verses 19-25.

Leader **SHALOM, PEACE BE WITH YOU !**
Thank You, Lord, that You sometimes speak to us through our dreams;
Thank You, Lord, that when we are worried You are willing to help us make the best decisions and to bring us Your peace.

ALL Help us, Lord, to seek for Your solutions to our problems, and to accept those solutions, and so find peace in You.

At the inn in Bethlehem

Rhubarb and custard.

The birth of Jesus

Luke Chapter 2 verses 1-7.

Leader **SHALOM, PEACE BE WITH YOU !**
Thank you, God, for the birth of Your Son Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

ALL Thank You, God, for the birth of Your Son Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Leader Thank You, God, for the special times of solitude and peace You give us.

ALL Thank You, God, for our special times of peace and quiet.

Please stand to sing Away in a manger.

- 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**
- 2. The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus ! Look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**
- 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus : I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.**

Please sit.

The Shepherds hear the Good News

Luke Chapter 2 verses 8-20.

When He was born, the angels sang :

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **Peace**, good will"

— *Luke* Chapter 2 verse 14

Reader Suddenly many other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God, singing –

ALL **"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease."**

Leader

SHALOM, PEACE BE WITH YOU !

Thank You, God for the enthusiasm of Your believers; help us to be enthusiastic about You too.

ALL **Help us, God, to be enthusiastic too.**

Leader Thank You, God, that Jesus, the Prince of Peace was born in such a humble place, help us to create His peace in all our homes.

ALL **Help us to create Your peace in our homes.**

The Wise Men visit Jesus

Matthew Chapter 2 verses 1-14

Herod Where will the Messiah be born ?

ALL **He will be born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet wrote.**

Leader

SHALOM, PEACE BE WITH YOU !

Thank You, God, that You warned the Wise Men and Joseph to keep away from Herod.

ALL **Thank You, God.**

Leader Help us to recognise the times when we lack Your peace in our hearts.

ALL **Help us to recognise these times and act accordingly.**

Please stand to sing the hymn

O Prince of peace.

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Please sit for the message.

Message

Please sit or kneel for the prayers.

Peace to us all.

We thank You, God, that You offer Your peace to us all. Help us to receive that peace as Your gift to us this Christmas . **Amen.**

Peace to the world.

We thank You, God, that You desire people all over the world to put their trust in You and to live at peace with one another. Help us to spread Your peace throughout the world. **Amen.**

Peace in our homes.

We thank You, God, that You desire there to be peace in our homes. May we be people who work in all possible ways to bring this about. **Amen.**

Peace in our hearts.

We thank You, God , that as we each learn to put our faith and trust in You, then Your peace fills our heart. Help us to trust You more, so that Your peace reigns in our hearts more and more. **Amen.**

Together we sing –

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come,

Your will be done, in earth, as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil,

for the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

Before He was crucified, He told His disciples :

"Peace I leave with you, My Peace I give unto you."

– John Chapter 14 verse 27

Please stand for our final hymn

Silent Night

1. **Silent night, holy night;
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace;
Sleep in heavenly peace.**
2. **Silent night, holy night;
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born;
Christ the Saviour is born.**
3. **Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiance beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

Please remain standing for the Blessing.

Blessing.

We invite you to join us for a BBQ .

Grace for the BBQ.

THOSE CONTRIBUTING :

Names omitted

The **Christingle Service** will be on December 24th at 7pm.

Our **first Family Service for 2007** will be on Easter Sunday, April 8th at 10 am.

Anyone wishing to take part in these services please phone () at least two weeks before the service.

Kids' Club for Primary School children restarts Tuesday, March 6th at 3:15pm.

Phone ().

A prayer for everyone :

"May God our Father give you grace and **Peace.**"

– *Colossians* Chapter 1 verse 2