OPENING SCRIPTURE

Glory to God in the Highest and on earth Peace toward all men

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to earth. Thank You for the joy and hope we have in You. Thank You that in Jesus we can find counsel, peace, strength and all that we need. In Jesus Name, Amen.

WORDS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9 v 6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given and the government will be on His shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth Long lay the world in sin and error pining 'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born O night, O Holy night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His Gospel is Peace Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother And in His name, all oppression shall cease Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we Let all within us praise His Holy name Christ is the Lord; O praise His Name forever! His power and glory evermore proclaim His power and glory evermore proclaim Translator: John S. Dwight; Author: Placide Cappeau (1847)

REFLECTION

We read that Jesus was known as the Prince of Peace. He came into the world to restore relationship between God and man. By His death on the cross He brings the very peace of God to each one of us. The sad lack of peace in so much of our world highlights the fact that man still rejects Jesus. As we worship Him this Christmas time let's each endeavour to experience His peace in a greater way in our lives and to share His love with others.

Let's pause and be still for a moment and acknowledge His presence and peace.

Now let's lift up our broken world to our Heavenly Father and pray for a fresh revelation to come upon mankind of our Heavenly Father's love and a fresh experience of worshipping Jesus, the Son of God this Christmastime.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we pray for many to look beyond the feasting and celebrations and to meet with Jesus, Son of God, Prince of Peace this Christmas time. We pray for Your love to flow where there is hatred within the nations of our world. We pray peace for the Holy Land and peace in Ukraine. We pray for Your love and peace to flow through our towns and cities and through our families.

Lord, in a personal way I surrender my will to You and ask that the flow of Your love and peace will start with me. Forgive me of my sins and failings I pray. I give You my worries and fears and wait as You give me and I receive Your peace. I receive a fresh infilling of Your peace today. Thank You Jesus for coming to earth for me and for each of us. In Jesus Name, Amen.

CLOSING SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9 v 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end

BENEDICTION

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus this Christmastime and forever. Amen.

> 1 God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay, remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray Oh tidings of comfort and joy Comfort and joy Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

2 From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same; how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. [*Refrain*]

3 "Fear not," then said the angel, "Let nothing you affright; this day is born a Saviour of a pure virgin bright, to free all those who trust in Him from Satan's pow'r and might." *[Refrain]* 4 The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind, and left their flocks afeeding, in tempest, storm, and wind, and went to Bethlehem straightway, this blessed Babe to find. *[Refrain]*

5 Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place, and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface. [*Refrain*]

A prayer to find peace with God:

Dear Heavenly Father I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. I ask for Your forgiveness now and turn from everything which I know is wrong. Thank You for sending Jesus to earth and to die on the cross for my sins. Please come into my life and bring me Your peace. In Jesus Name - Amen. PEÂCF

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Christmas Peace