

ADVENT: CANDLE OF PEACE

Monday, December 8

Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

Philippians 4:6-7 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

The word Advent means “coming.” It is a season filled with expectation. It’s a time when we remember a world that was waiting for a coming Savior.

There’s just something about this time of year that seems to raise the blood pressure of the population. The busyness of shopping, family gatherings, church services, work parties etc.

What’s interesting is that this is the exact opposite of what this season is meant to be. While the rest of the world is pulling us toward busyness, Jesus is simply leading us toward peace.

This week we lit the candle of peace, knowing that Jesus alone can make us feel at rest in this chaotic world. He calms our hearts as we await His 2nd Coming.

May God grant us peace as wait for Christ’s glorious return.

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PRAYER

God, remind us of the gift of Jesus and the Spirit so that our hearts can be calm and peaceful. Help us to know how close You are to us all the time, and help us to show You and Your peace to other people too. Amen.

CHRISTMAS CAROL

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Edmund H. Sears / Richard Storrs Willis

It came upon the midnight clear / that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth / to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men / from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay / to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on / by prophet seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years / shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth / its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song / which now the angels sing.