

ADVENT CANDLE CEREMONY

**Praying for peace
with
EMBRACE the Middle East**



ADVENT SUNDAY:

READER: We have this advent ring to remind us of the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World and the Prince of Peace.

Today we think of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs:

Precious Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace -
source of all bright hope in darkness and struggle;
as Abraham & Sarah longed for their promised son,
so we ache for your reconciling presence.
Our hearts break for all living in danger or fear,
especially those in the midst of continuing conflict.
Come, Prince of Peace with your world-changing light;
we need you with us to end this long night.

The first Advent candle is lit

**All sing: Will you come and see the light at the stable door?
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star, it will show you who you are,
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

ADVENT 2:

READER/S: We have this advent ring to remind us of the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World and the Prince of Peace.

Today we think of The Prophets:

Precious Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace -
source of all bright hope in darkness and struggle;
as the prophets announce your coming reign, so we proclaim your
reconciling presence.
Many have lost sight of the worth of each refugee;
strengthen us to speak up for the value of every life.
Come, Prince of Peace with your world-changing light;
we need you with us to end this long night.

The first & second Advent candles are lit

**All sing: Will you step into the light that can free the slave?
It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed, there's a longing to be freed.
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

ADVENT 3:

READER/S: We have this advent ring to remind us of the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World and the Prince of Peace.

Today we think of John the Baptist:

Precious Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace -
source of all bright hope in darkness and struggle;
as John prepared the way for your transforming word,
so we ready ourselves for your reconciling presence.
The workers are few in the face of great need;
lead us to wholeheartedly welcome the least.
Come, Prince of Peace with your world-changing light;
we need you with us to end this long night.

The first, second & third Advent candles are lit

**All sing: Will you tell about the light in the prison cell?
Though it's shackled out of sight, it is shining well.
When the truth is cut and bruised, and the innocent abused,
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

ADVENT 4:

READER/S: We have this advent ring to remind us of the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World and the Prince of Peace.

Today we think of Mary:

Precious Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace -
source of all bright hope in darkness and struggle;
as Mary risked losing everything to carry you,
so we count all loss next to your reconciling presence.
Move us to pray more faithfully for your peace
and give generously to help refugees and all in need.
Come, Prince of Peace with your world-changing light;
we need you with us to end this long night.

The first, second, third & fourth Advent candles are lit

**All sing: Will you join the hope alight in a young girl's eyes
Of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?
When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast,
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**