

Ministry @Home



These resources are to help equip & enable worship together as "family". They are intentionally intergenerational to allow space, conversation, activity & response together as the family of God. We encourage all ages to be participative & open, being responsive to God and each other.

Gather.....

- As you gather find a place that is comfortable and have the resources ready for the activities, prayer or response times ready.
- Choose 3 members to light the 3 candles (engage all ages)

Opening words of praise with lighting of 3 candles -

I will light a light
in the name of the Maker,
who lit the world
and gave everything life.

I will light a light
in the name of the Son,
who saved the world
and stretched out his hand to me.

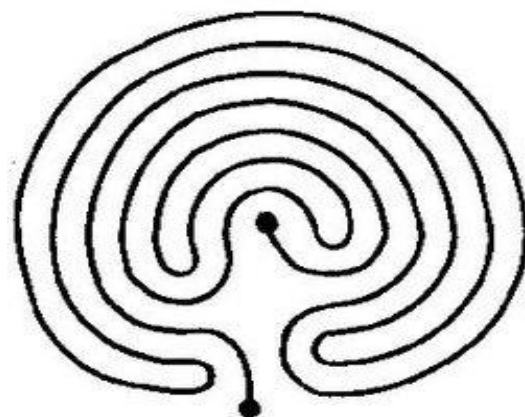
I will light a light
in the name of the Spirit,
who is present everywhere in the
world
and gives me strength.

Together:
We will light three lights
for the trinity of love:
God above us,
God beside us,
God beneath us;
The beginning,
The end
and the Everlasting one.

Welcome.....

Song: I am a friend of God (can be sung or listened to)
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=8p8x2eK4SfY>

Reflection time: Preparing the way - using the finger labyrinth printed below slowly use your finger following the labyrinth to the centre thinking about the word peace. What pictures or words come into your mind when you reflect on the word peace? Once everyone has had a turn at following the labyrinth share with one another the thoughts or pictures that came into your minds and share where do you find PEACE. Our second candle is lit in remembrance of the prophets who foretold the coming of Jesus the saviour and of how Jesus would reign in righteousness (being fair) and Peace. Now is the time to light the first and second candle on an advent wreath if you have one or colour the 1st and 2nd candle below.



Bible passage: Read Isaiah 40:1-11 together with those who you are gathered with; take it in turns to read a verse each - listen for the way it speaks of preparing the way for Jesus to come and how it speaks of what He will do. Watch the following clip that tells us about John the Baptist who also told people about Jesus coming and what He could do for them. Mark 1:1-8

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=pOPKWI61my0>

Interactive Learning.....

This picture will be on the sheet every week during Advent – Today's candle is **Peace** but don't forget to colour the Hope candle from last week,



Peace from the Cross

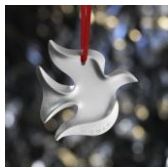
If you are able take a walk outside into a garden or park and look for small twigs that can be used to make a cross. When you are back place one twig across another and tie with red wool or string. As you are making the twig crosses share with one another of something you may need to put right. Just as Jesus forgives us and we find Peace we may need to either forgive others or put something right in our relationships with others. As we journey through advent and especially this week we think of how Isaiah prepared people for Jesus and how John the Baptist prepared the way we too need to prepare our hearts and minds to receive Jesus this Christmas time.

Whilst creating chat about the following questions & Share stories.....

What places do you find peaceful?

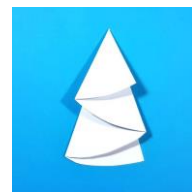
Do we take enough time in our busy days to have "peaceful" times?

What can I do this week to find a time of peace to prepare my heart for Jesus?



Dove of Peace – Model a piece of Clay into a dove & hang in a prominent place over Advent & Christmas to remind you that God's Peace is with you.

Video game challenge - if you have access to a video game via a phone, computer or tablet play a challenge game with each other. As you compete with one another watch how the tension builds - does it feel very peaceful? As you are watching each other play are you finding tips and preparing for your next go? How much preparation is needed? Compare this then to your hearts and minds - Do you need to stop normal activities (like Video games) to focus on preparing to receive Jesus into our hearts this Christmas time.



Peace Christmas Trees – Using the template found here

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/376613587590235060/>

Make these Christmas trees together – young members will need help with the folding. Once folded place your name & the names of people who you know on the trees and remember to pray for yourself and them over the coming week.

Reflection & Prayer Time.....

Song: This is my Desire
(can be sung/read aloud or listened to)
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=mZGzu6oI9b4>

Encourage members to read silently or aloud their prayers. Other prayers can be said at this time, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

**Lord Jesus, Light of light,
you have come among us.
Help us who live by your light
to shine as lights in your world.
Glory to God in the highest.
Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Celebration....

**If any of your members
celebrate a birthday within the
next week – sing**

Happy birthday to you
To Jesus be true
May God's richest blessings
Be showered on you.



Closing.....

The Grace (with "Messy" actions)

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit
be with us all,
now and evermore. Amen.**

Closing Responses.....

Song: Peace like a River
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6085sLXCMs>
(can be sung/read aloud or listened to)

From where we are
to where you need us.

Jesus, now lead on!

From the security of what we know
to the adventure of what you reveal.

Jesus, now lead on!

To make this world
look more like your kingdom,

Jesus, now lead on!

**Ask different members to blow out the
candles.....until you meet again**

Extra Ideas

- <http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/search/label/Advent>
- <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/under18s/christmas-and-advent/>
- <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/under18s/christmas-and-advent/>
- <http://www.bcd-churches.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Roots-Advent-families-resource.pdf>