

This Week's Worship: Advent- Peace!

Opening

Wherever we come together,
God is with us.
God is here.

We come together to say sorry
We come together to say Thank you
We come together to ask for God's help
We come together to hear God's story
We come together to celebrate God's love.

Wherever we come together,
God is with us.
God is here.

We light our Advent candle for this week

Saying Sorry

Hold onto a stone and think about things that you have done this week you would like to say sorry for.

God loves us and forgives us when we are sorry for wrong things we have done.
For times this week when we have made others sad.
We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not helped others
We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not looked after your creation,
We are sorry

For times this week when we have been selfish
We are sorry

Put the stone in a bowl of water

As we leave these things behind, may God forgive us and give us a new, clean start today.
Amen

Saying thank you

To join in you will need: some slips of paper, some pens and an empty jam jar (you can join in without this for the first few weeks but can then join in when you have had the time to put some things in the jar!) Ask each person to draw or write down on one of the slips something they would like to say thank you for and put it in the jar. As we pray, pull a slip out of the jar and say thank you for what is written on it. Continue to fill the jar during the week.

God, you are amazing and you have given us good things. We thank you for all your gifts to us.
Thank you for...
Amen

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...

Amen

Continue until everyone has had a chance to say something.

Story and response

Listen to this week's story or read a story from the Bible.

I wonder which part of this story you liked the most?

I wonder what surprised you about this story?

I wonder what this story makes you feel?

I wonder where you are in this story?

Do you wonder anything about this story?

Prayers

What does peace mean?

How does it feel if peace is 'with you'?

What does it mean to make peace?

You will need: A straw, the dove shape and paper rectangle cut out of the resource sheet, sellotape, pens

Wrap the paper rectangle around the straw (not too tight) and then fold the top of the paper over to make a 'pocket' for the end of the straw. Make sure that there is a little gap between the fold of the pocket and the end of the straw or your paper will stick to the straw and will not fly when the time comes!

Write or draw prayers for people or places who need God's peace on the front of the dove shape. Turn the dove over and sellotape the paper pocket to it.

Turn the dove the right way round, aim it and then blow through the straw. Watch your peace dove fly as a symbol of giving the prayers to God!

Pray: Jesus, thank you for bringing your love and your peace to us.. As we wait for you to return, we pray for peace in our world. We pray for peace where there is war and violence. Help us to be peacemakers in our own homes and communities. Amen.

Close

Wherever we come together,

God is with us.

God is here.

May God bless us.

May we know that we are loved

May we know that we are cared for.

May we know God's hope.

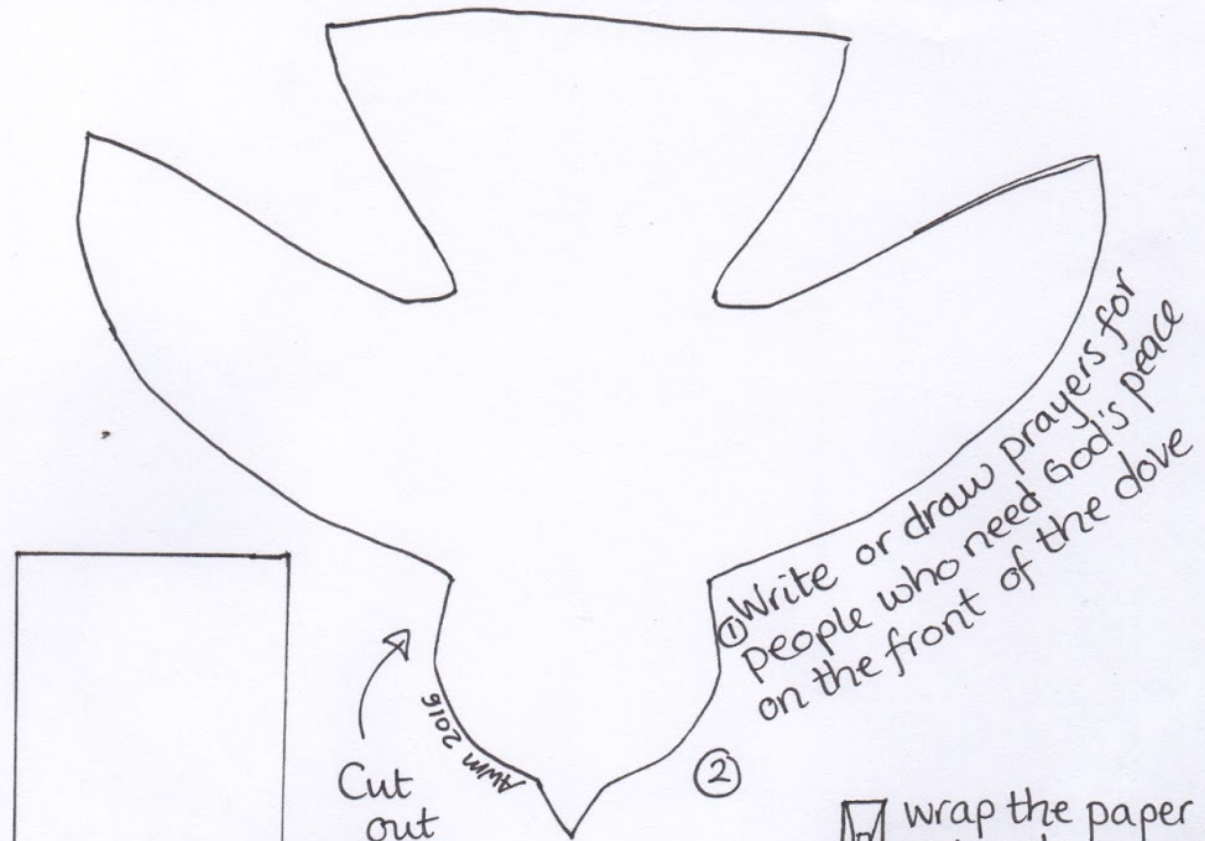
God is with us

God is here

Amen.

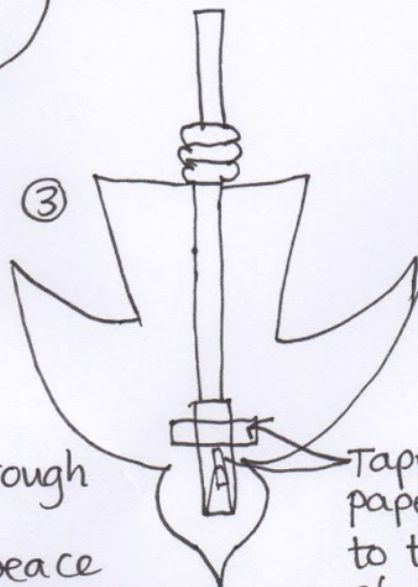
Extinguish the candle.

You will need: Scissors, sellotape, a straw, pens



① Write or draw prayers for people who need God's peace on the front of the dove

② wrap the paper rectangle around the top of the straw. Fold the top of the paper over and tape in place to make a 'pocket'. Leave a little gap between the end of the straw and the end of the pocket.



Tape the paper pocket to the back of the dove shape.

④ Turn your dove over and aim! Blow through the straw and watch your peace prayer dove fly!

* Remember to leave a little gap inside the pocket between the end of the pocket and the end of the straw or your dove will not lift off!

Flying Peace Prayer Dove