

Christmas Day
25 December 2011
The Birth of Christ
The Coming of the Light of the World

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Leader: Today is Christmas Day, when we recall the hope we have in Christ. Today we light again the candles of hope, peace, love and joy. Each candle is lit as the reader speaks:

First Candle: *We speak of hope - because God keeps his promises to us.*

Second Candle:

We work for peace - because Jesus is the 'Prince of Peace' and he calls his children to work for peace in his name.

Third Candle:

We show love - because Jesus gave everything for us and led us to know the forgiveness of God.

Fourth Candle:

We share joy - because the Holy Spirit fills our hearts and minds with the presence the God

Last Candle:

Now we light our last candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised so long ago, you have come to us once again; and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.

The Christ candle is now lit

Leader:

Lord, you come as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know that you are God and you are with us. May the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come. **Amen.**