

CHRIST OUR PEACE

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.
Isaiah 9:6-7

REFLECTION

As we draw closer to Christmas Day we will be lighting the fourth candle this weekend. This fourth candle symbolizes peace which reminds us that Jesus is our peace and His incarnation two thousand years ago is to bring ultimate peace to all mankind in reconciling all to God through His salvation work at the cross.

But the peace that Jesus offers to us is not just something of a distant future. It is in the here-and-now. The very moment we believe and receive Him as our Lord and Saviour we are made at peace with God relationally. But that's not all. Jesus also grant us peace in our hearts and minds in our daily lives and circumstances. This comes from an inner knowing that whatever happens around us or even to us, God is in control and that He has overcome all situations. This inner assurance also reminds us that God is not far away and unable to rescue us; rather, He is very present and is able to save us from our troubles.

So, if you are able to witness the lighting of the fourth candle this weekend, take the time to reflect on the Lord Jesus Christ our Peace. Are you in need of the peace in your heart or circumstances that only Jesus can give - one that grants you deep assurance and quiet confidence? Ask of Him for this peace. Do you know of someone who also needs such peace in their lives? Intercede on their behalf for Christ to enter in.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You are our everlasting peace. Come into every troubled mind and heart, and turn our thoughts toward You. Grant us Your peace that brings deep assurance and quiet confidence especially in challenging circumstances, that we may be able to rest secure in Your love and grace. We ask this in Your loving name, Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Thank God for His love demonstrated in the incarnation of our Lord Jesus into our human world and shown through His redemptive work on the cross. His gift of salvation reconciles us all to God and brings us peace. Turn your thanksgiving to worship for the Lord is good and His love endures forever.
- Pray for those who may have yet to experience God's love and peace, even as the world celebrates Christmas this year. May they come to know Jesus Christ as the true reason for Christmas - the one who brings everlasting peace. May the Holy Spirit work at the circumstances and hearts of those who are seeking hope and meaning in life, and bring them to the saving knowledge of and relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Pray for those who have been greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many have suffered various kinds of loss and are grieving over their losses and suffering with no real comfort or relief to ease their pain. Pray for God's means of grace to minister to them even through His Church.
- Pray for yourself, your family members and relatives. Are any of you troubled in heart and mind by the happenings around you and you feel anxious or are distressed? Turn your focus towards Jesus, open your heart to let Him in. Surrender your worries and concerns to Him in exchange for His peace. Allow His peace to take residence in you even as you remind yourself that God is in control of every situation and circumstances.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

Col. 3:15

If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:

Email: wecare@brmc.org.sg

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