

Advent

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am **the light of the world**. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have **the light of life**."
John 8:12 New International Version (NIV)

Creative idea, Jesus light of the world

Purchase a map of the world large enough to place tea lights onto it. Alternatively use a smaller A4 printed version available from: <http://geology.com/world/world-map.gif> which could be put into the middle of a table and the tea lights placed around it.

Please be careful with lit flames and have water or sand nearby just in case. Battery operated tea lights are now cheaply available in stores such as Wilko which could be used instead.



Take a moment in silence to consider the parts of the world where we would like **Jesus as the Light of the World** to bring peace. Then prayerfully let each person take a turn to place a candle onto the map. Remember our Link Dioceses, Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Victoria Nyanza in Tanzania, Ahoada and Warri in Nigeria, Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea.

Dear Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace,

We ask you to bless your troubled world, torn apart by war and conflict. Let us play our part by living peacefully with one another and do everything that we can to promote reconciliation and love. Amen

As we await the second coming of Christ our Lord and begin our plans to celebrate his birth at Christmas let us dwell on some of his names and titles that are found in the Bible.

You may like to spend time looking at:

Emmanuel: (Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:23) – Literally “God with us.” Both Isaiah and Matthew affirm that the Christ who would be born in Bethlehem would be God Himself who came to earth in the form of a man to live among His people.

Light of the World: (John 8:12) – Jesus came into the world to shed the light of life and truth through His work and His words.

Prince of peace: (Isaiah 9:6) – Jesus came to bring peace between God and man who were separated by sin.

Son of God: (Luke 1:35; John 1:49) – Jesus is the “only begotten of the Father” (John 1:14). Used 42 times in the New Testament, “Son of God” affirms the deity of Christ.

Way, Truth, Life: (John 14:6) – Jesus is the path to God, the source of truth and eternal life.

Prayers

We think of our Link Dioceses, Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Victoria Nyanza in Tanzania, Ahoada and Warri in Nigeria, Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea. Let us pray for the Mothers’ Union across the world and all the projects that its members undertake. Bringing literacy and enlightenment, prayer and support for families around the globe.

Dear God,
Make us ready to receive Jesus, your gift of love.
Ready to hear the good news,
ready to go and tell everyone else,
ready to do all we can to make a difference
and ready for everything that you’ve got planned for us.
Amen

Living Lord,
Shine on us, to illuminate our path,
so that with each step we grow closer to you.
Shine on us, in every part of our lives,
and let your radiance fill us with joy and love.
Shine on us, so brightly that we become as one beam
that can reflect your light onto the other people we meet.
In the power of your name, Amen