



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9 December 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE

Theme sentence

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

—Luke 1.78–79

Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath

Heavenly Father,
you call us to repent of our sins:
soften our proud and stubborn hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you declared the forgiveness of God:
teach us to forgive one another.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you search our hearts and show us the truth:
direct us in your way of righteousness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Celebrating the Gift of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Prayers at the Preparation of the Table

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Blessing and Dismissal

May God himself, the God of peace,
make you perfect and holy,
and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.



Ten-year-old Sadia lives in a village in southern Pakistan with her parents and seven brothers and sisters. She's one of the few girls in her entire region who go to school.

Where Sadia lives, many families can't afford the cost of schooling or don't see the value of education. On top of this, many teachers are poorly trained and use corporal punishment, which limits learning and makes children too frightened to attend class.

Only 15 per cent of poor rural girls in Pakistan finish primary school, compared to 40 per cent of their male counterparts. Without an education, these girls are more likely to marry young, get sick, miss out on work opportunities and live in poverty.

But through your support of the Christmas Bowl, you can help girls like Sadia to overcome these barriers.

Second Sunday of Advent

Creating peace through education

Through your Christmas Bowl gift, you can give more children like Sadia the chance to go to school, escape poverty and create peaceful, productive lives. **Please give today.**

CALL: 1800 025 101
VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

