

# Carols by Candlelight, Boxing Day 2023



## Peace

*The triptych is open with all three panels visible. The Advent Wreath is to hand.*

*The first two candles, Love and Joy, are in front of their respective pictures.*

*The map of the world has one candle alight, Peace, placed at Bethlehem.*

## Welcome

Welcome to Carols by Candlelight.

*Children collect their candles and lights are dimmed as carols are sung:*

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Saviour is born!  
Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

O little town of Bethlehem  
How still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shine  
The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight

O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the King  
And praises sing to God the King  
And Peace to men on earth  
For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is given  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven  
No ear may hear His coming  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive him still  
The dear Christ enters in

*Young ones gather around the map of the world with their candles*

Away in a manger  
No crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus  
Laid down His sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky  
Looked down where He lay  
The little Lord Jesus  
Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing  
The Baby awakes  
But little Lord Jesus  
No crying He makes  
I love You, Lord Jesus  
Look down from the sky  
And stay by my side  
Until morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus  
I ask You to stay  
Close by me forever  
And love me I pray  
Bless all the dear children  
In Your tender care  
And fit us for heaven  
To live with You there

## The Story so Far

*The young ones leave their candles around the map,  
and move to sit in front of the triptych*



On **Christmas Eve** we looked at the first picture, Love. It is the dawn of a new day, and so has a red sun. Notice the bird: a dove.

On **Christmas Morning** we looked at the second picture, Joy. The night sky is full of angels who are singing about very good news and mega joy. You can see the manger, and the dove above it.

## Thought for Today      Triptych Three: Peace

Tonight, we look at the third picture, Peace. It has a fruit tree. And there's the dove again with something in its beak...an olive leaf. This stands for peace. And the last book of the Bible tells how this tree has fruit for the healing of the nations.

Jesus was given quite a lot of names by prophets and writers. One of these was the Prince of Peace. He came to bring peace. He showed us how to live at peace with each other. And he died to bring peace between humans and God. Most of us know that he died on a cross, and sometimes that is called a tree, because it was made of wood. His death paid the price of sin and was the gift of God's forgiveness. All we need to do is to say thank you.

And then God promises that the Dove, the Holy Spirit will begin to work inside us, so that fruit starts growing, such as Love, Joy...and Peace.

The world needs peacemakers very much, and with Jesus having opened up a way, and showing us the way, we can be peacemakers.

So let's sing a song which is a special prayer.

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let There Be Peace on Earth  
The peace that was meant to be

With God as our Father  
We are family  
Let us live with each other  
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment and live  
Each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me

*The small candles are blown out with just the candle,  
Love, placed in front of the third panel of the triptych.*

Please feel free to take this sheet with you as a souvenir of today.  
You will find it and other service programmes on the Mill Grove website.  
[www.millgrove.org.uk](http://www.millgrove.org.uk)



We wish you the blessing of the Love, Joy and Peace of Jesus Christ in 2023,

Keith, Ruth and the Family of Mill Grove