

Virginia Council of Churches  
Christmas Day – Advent Reflection

*“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the LORD appeared to them, and the glory of the LORD shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you Good News that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a SAVIOR has been born to you; HE is the MESSIAH, the LORD.’” Luke 2:9-11 NIV*

THE GIFT - PEACE

December is the time when Christmas around the world is wonderfully celebrated, with great joy and peace because of the birth of JESUS CHRIST. The assurance and encouragement indicative in this birth narrative is the basis for the joy that is paramount in the service provided to and by the Virginia Council of Churches as a faith community. This joy undergirds the thankfulness that is being extended to each of you for your generous support of the goals and objectives of the VCC in 2023; we pray for increase in your life and ministry, and in the work of the VCC. We encourage you to share in these goals and objectives through engaging conversations, inspiring activities, and intentional communal gatherings inspired by this season. The world needs our collective witness as people of faith. We have been entrusted with this sacred gift of “Peace.” Let us shout it from the mountain top – *“Let there be peace on earth and goodwill to all humanity.”* Regardless of our differences, we are created in the image and likeness of the GOD who gave us JESUS. Therefore, let us devote ourselves to the Babe of Bethlehem, who is the joy of this season. We celebrate you and this majestic season with the joyful peace that is found in the blessed SAVIOR.



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