

Worship Sheets for
Sunday 3 January 2021

*Wishing you peace,
joy and hope this New Year*

Father God, thank You for making all things new! As another new year begins, may I continually have a new song in my heart to sing to You. Amen

Let's worship our God

Born in the night, Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.

Clear shining light, Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
light of the world, Mary's Child,
dawn on our darkened day.

Truth of our life, Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
prove it is true, Mary's Child,
go to your cross of wood.

Hope of the world, Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.

John 1:9-12, 14, 18

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Reflection

I am sure that Christmas lights went up earlier this season, and there are still so many around for us to enjoy. Some communities have organised Star Festivals.

Just seeing the colourful bright lights in gardens, homes and outdoor places brings a sense of joy, hope and anticipation. Perhaps they have been more heart warming this season after a challenging year.

At home too, lighting a candle and seeing the flame flickering, seems to bring a warm glow that attracts our attention.

After experiencing what we might call a dark year, we hold on to the hope that light follows darkness, just as dawn follows the night. Darkness lifts, sometimes gradually, sometimes with the flick of a switch.

Light transforms and brings fresh perspectives, new possibilities, reveals the truth. Light and darkness are opposites, but they are not equal.

Jesus, the Light of the World has come.

Darkness is dispelled by His radiance. The presence of Jesus, Emmanuel, promises light, hope, joy and truth.

We see a world around us in desperate need of Jesus' light. A world of injustice, greed, brokenness and hopelessness. A similar world to that which John described, where people failed to recognise who Jesus is.

But, what a joy it is when we let His light shine on us and we recognise who Jesus is. What hope, what peace, what joy we experience.

This year, let's be carriers of Jesus' light into the world around us;

at home, at work
and in our
communities. Let's
take the light of
Jesus into the
darkness so that
others might
experience the
transformation He
brings to our lives!



**As we share in this song, let's think about
where we can take the light of Jesus**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Jesus is the Light, I'm gonna let Him shine
Jesus is the Light, I'm gonna let Him shine
Jesus is the Light, I'm gonna let Him shine
Let Him shine, let Him shine, let Him shine

Let's Pray

Loving Lord, we pray for those living under
the shadow of darkness.

For those who have lost livelihoods, for
families who are separated, for those who are
struggling with debts.

For those who are lost and lonely. For
refugees, those facing persecution, for those
living in violent situations.

For those who are ill physically or mentally,
who are suffering and are in pain.

Jesus, Light of the World, would you shine
the brilliance of your light into their lives and
bring healing, hope and restoration. Amen

Lord, you have called us and brought light
into our lives. And now You ask us to be
your light in the continuing darkness. At
times we may be like a small, fragile,
flickering candle, at times a bright strong,
beam of light... Help us this coming week to
let your light shine through us in our words
and our actions, in our attitudes and
relationships. With our hands, our faces,
our feet and our eyes.

In in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Let's join in the prayer Jesus taught us
Our Father ...

We offer our gifts to God

As bring our gifts to you and at the start of
this New Year we offer ourselves to you, in
grateful response to all you have given us,
and all you have done for us. Amen

We join in praise to Jesus, Light of the World

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
So highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly you came to the earth you created
All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

A blessing

At the start of this new year
May the grace of God uphold you,
the peace of God surround you,
the love and light of God flow from you
and the strength of God protect
and bring you safely through this days ahead.
Amen

