

HOW TO HAVE THE

*Perfect  
Christmas*



*December 6, 2015*

*This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.*

Matthew 1:18-19 (NLT)

### How can I be a peacemaker in the midst of a world of relational dysfunction?

#### 1. Live \_\_\_\_\_ in God.

*As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"*

Matthew 1:20-23 (NLT)

#### 2. Live \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

*When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.*

Matthew 1:24-25 (NLT)

# COMMUNION

**Invitation (leader):** Christ our Lord invited to His table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with each other. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

## Confession and Pardon

**All Together: We confess, O God, that we have been less than child-like in our minds and hearts. We have labored for that which does not satisfy, and given ourselves to things that do not build up the family of God. We think more about the economy than about Your Kingdom. Our hearts are filled with anxiety for our own personal welfare instead of with compassion for the least, the last, and the lost. We have forgotten to relax in Your presence, and we have been too busy to discover the deep joys of the Holy Spirit. We are not worthy to be called Your sons and daughters. Our thoughts are not Your thoughts, and our ways are not Your ways. Forgive us, we pray, and redeem us from all of our sin. In the name of the everlasting Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**Leader:** Hear the good news! Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**All Together: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

## Communion Prayer

## Presentation and Sharing of the Blessed Bread and Cup at the Altar

# LET'S CONNECT

PLEASE TEAR OUT AND DROP IN BASKETS AS YOU EXIT

Date:     /     /

Service Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1st time      2nd time      3rd time  
 Regular Attendee      Church Member  
 Male      Female

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Single      18-23      50's  
 Married      24-29      60+  
 Divorced      30's  
 Widowed      40's  
 Middle School      High School      College

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_     Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please update my contact information

## MY DECISION TODAY

- I said **YES** for the first time,  
and became a follower of Jesus.  
 I decided to **RENEW** my relationship with Jesus.

*We have resources to help you with your decision.*

# PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY FOR: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Public Prayer List     For Pastors Only

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

\_\_\_\_\_

## GIVE BACK TO GOD ONLINE!

go to: [egracechurch.com/give](http://egracechurch.com/give)

An effective and time-saving way to give your tithes and offerings without carrying cash or writing checks.

1. Scan **QR CODE** with any Smart Phone.
2. Set up an **ONLINE** giving plan with Grace Church.



# CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Darkness has been upon the land. Fear and Anxiety seek to claim our lives. To whom can we turn in our trouble.

**P: Seek the Lord. In God there is peace and hope. A voice has proclaimed it so.**

L: In the midst of all turmoil, the word rings strong and true. God is faithful, loving and just.

**P: Prepare us for this journey, O Lord. Help us to bold proclaimers of your love.**

## INVOCATION

We have prepared our homes, and our gifts, Lord, but we need help in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Peace. Free us from the stresses and strains of this time, and place your peace which passes all our understanding in our hearts. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

## SCHEDULE

### Worship Times:

Sunday @ 11:30am (Traditional)

### Grace Kidz/Youth

*Children's Ministry* Sunday @ 11:30am  
(during service)

[egracechurch.com](http://egracechurch.com)