




**ADVENT
2013**



**Send thy peace,
O Lord.
Thank you
for keeping me
thankful,
watchful and faithful.**



Advent, which means “coming,” is the four week period immediately before Christmas.

It is a time for meaningful waiting and active preparation - waiting for God and preparing for the light of Jesus’ birth. Advent booklets, or calendars, are read every day leading up to Christmas to enable us to prepare spiritually. Each daily page reveals an image, a prayer, a quote to provide inspiration through the process.

The images and writings about the season’s Peace, Light, Hope, and Joy were created by men and women at the County Correctional facilities to assist us in consciously placing ourselves in God’s presence.

God of hope, come!

Replenish all with the joyful blessings that only your peace can bring. Be the Morning Star in our midst, the Light that can never go out, the Beacon of Hope guiding our way. Come into our midst, where your everlasting goodness resonates with assuring love and vigorous hope.

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December 1

Peace

So then, we must always aim at those things that bring peace and help strengthen one another.

Romans 14:19



December 2

Peace



Peace

**Wonderful,
hopeful,
silently
attainable,
sometimes
elusive.**

*Send thy peace,
O Lord, that all
people have love
in their hearts.*

December 3

Peace



Please bring hope, peace and grace to all those in turmoil. Help them to find a way to a better life and enrich us all with their gifts of love.

December 4


Peace



**Lord,
Come bring your
life to destruction
and the destroyed.
Resurrect, breathe
us back to fullness.
Resurrect, color our
grayness and wrap us
in your forgiveness
and grace. Keep us
all in your peace.**

December 5

Peace



Dear Lord,
As we wait for
all your promises to
come true, we ask that
you would remain present
with us. Help us today, and
every day, to hear your
word, do your will, and
walk gently in the
way of peace.*

* Litany provided by Art & Spirit Ministry


December 6

Peace



December 7

Light



**Once again Jesus spoke
to the people.
This time he said,
“I am the light for the world!
Follow me, and you won’t
be walking in the dark.
You will have the light
that gives life.**

John 8:12

December 8

Light

**Our Father, watch over us.
Dear Jesus, let me be free.
Mighty Father above, guide me in spirit.
King of all kings, let your light shine in me.
Almighty One, give spirit within.
The only true One, and the last.**





December 9

Light

LOVE IS IN EVERY
LAYER OF OUR SOULS

*... I have come
into the world as
a light so that no
one who believes in
me should stay in
darkness.*

John 12:46

December 10

Light

Transformation

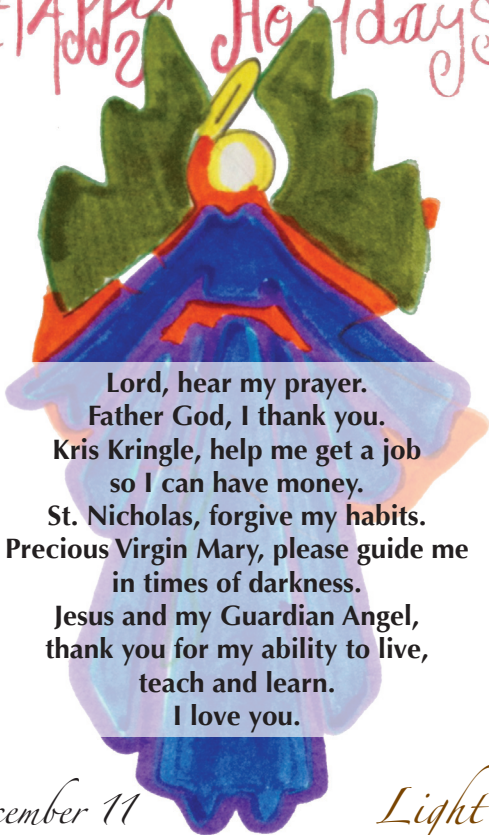
God brings us
from our dark
cocoon



to the
light of
His Son



Flapper Holidays



Lord, hear my prayer.
Father God, I thank you.
Kris Kringle, help me get a job
so I can have money.
St. Nicholas, forgive my habits.
Precious Virgin Mary, please guide me
in times of darkness.
Jesus and my Guardian Angel,
thank you for my ability to live,
teach and learn.
I love you.

December 11

Light

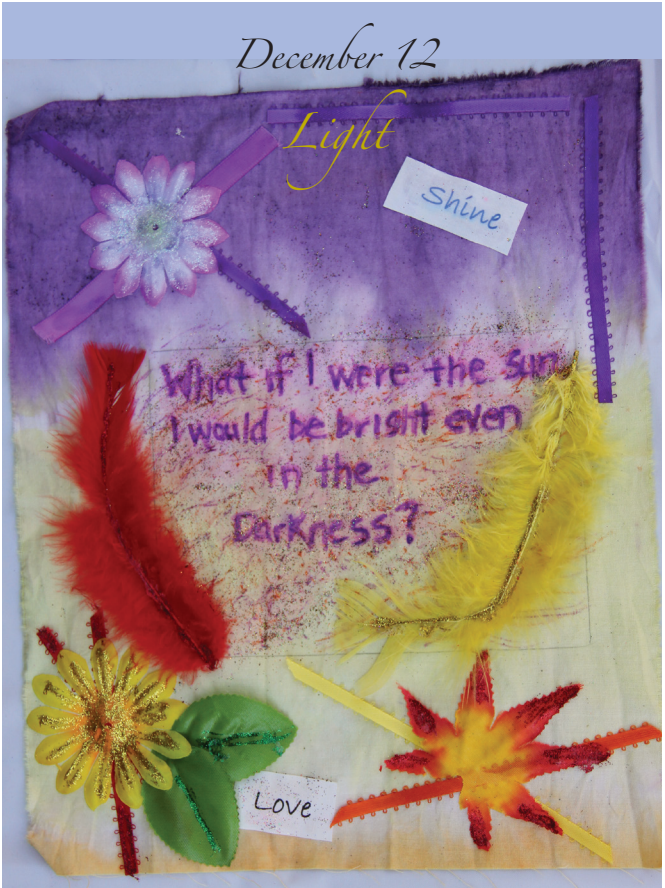
December 12

Light

Shine

What if I were the sun
I would be bright even
in the
Darkness?

Love





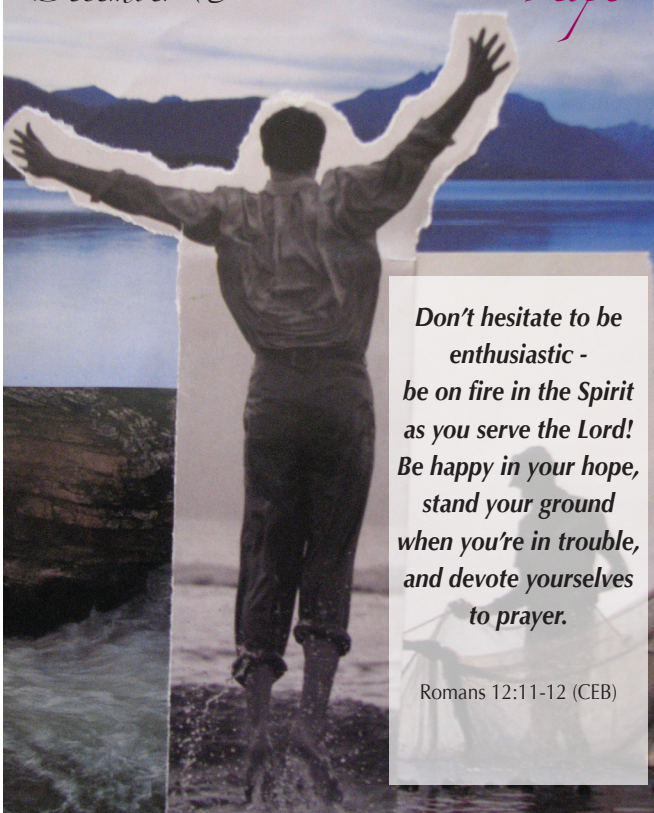
Elmwood: Art from Within

The community gathered to view inmates' art on October 9, 2013 at the Hall of Justice, San Jose. Before leaving, many created prayer flags to send to Elmwood, showing their admiration for the inmate art and appreciation for the enlightening exhibit.



December 13

Hope



***Don't hesitate to be
enthusiastic -
be on fire in the Spirit
as you serve the Lord!
Be happy in your hope,
stand your ground
when you're in trouble,
and devote yourselves
to prayer.***

Romans 12:11-12 (CEB)

December 14

Hope

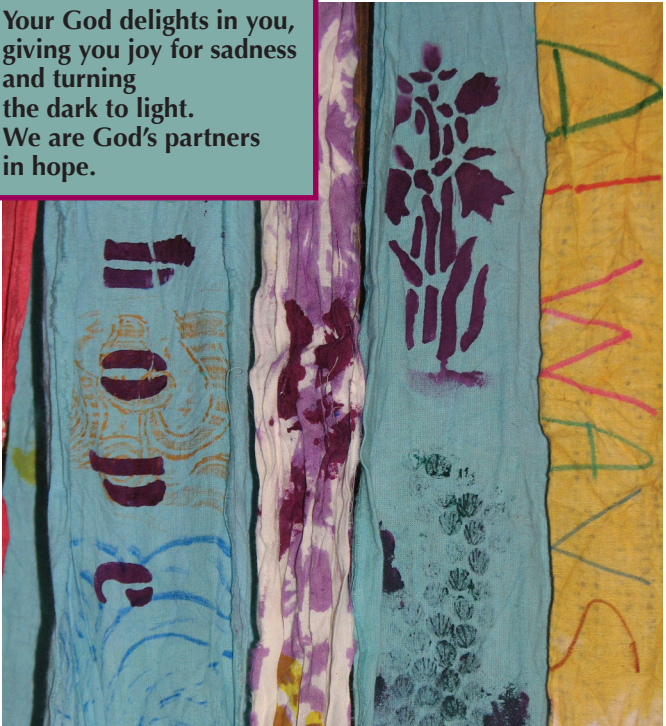
Dreams: Reach into forever, grasping for the bright light. Dreams, just within reach.



December 15

Hope

**Your God delights in you,
giving you joy for sadness
and turning
the dark to light.
We are God's partners
in hope.**



December 16

Hope

If hope could be a color, it would be soft as cotton candy.

If hope could be a sound, it would be a baby's laughter.


If hope could be a body part, it would be a beating, unnoticed heart.

If hope could be a being, it would be like the immortal God and always there ready to be reached.



December 17

Hope

A blue and purple striped banner is shown, hanging from the top. The banner features a white dove in flight in the center, surrounded by intricate patterns. The word "HOPE" is written in large, black, serif capital letters across the bottom of the banner. The background is a bright, slightly blurred outdoor scene.

**May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in faith
so that you overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit."**

Romans 15:13 (CEB)

December 18

Hope

If hope could be a color, it would be as clear as God's love for me, as so does his Son.

If hope could be a feeling it would be holding a newborn baby in your arms close to your heart.

If hope could be an animal, it would be an eagle soaring beyond the bounds of the tip of mountains high above the world below.



December 19

Joy

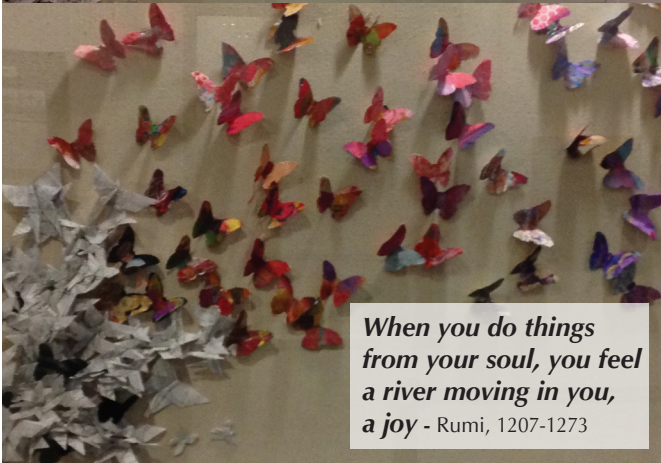


**Come, let us praise
the Lord!
Let us sing for joy to God
who protects us!
Let us come before him
with thanksgiving and
sing joyful songs of praise.**

Psalm 95:1-2

December 20

Joy



***When you do things
from your soul, you feel
a river moving in you,
a joy - Rumi, 1207-1273***



December 21

Joy

Send thy peace, O Lord, and let us dwell in your happiness and know the true meaning of joy.

Send thy peace, O Lord, that truth and joy all will endure.

Send thy peace, O Lord, over our tears of sorrow and transform them to tears of joyful praise.

Send thy peace, O Lord, that joy and hope mark our families this holiday season.

December 22

Joy

Meditation with God

He smiled at me,
warming up my frozen heart.
Tears, like ice, melting.



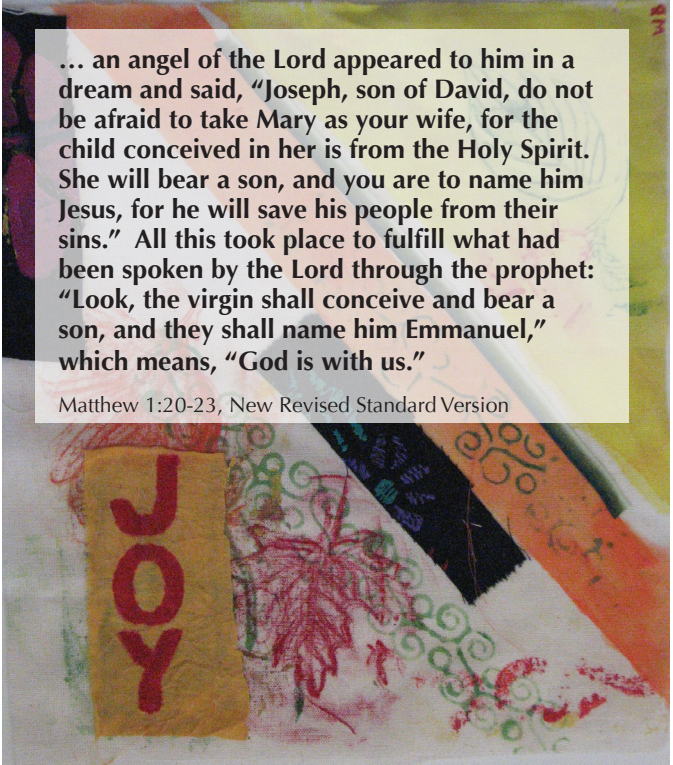
Life I will never stop.
I will keep on moving on.
Yes, I will survive.

December 23

Joy

... an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

Matthew 1:20-23, New Revised Standard Version



December 24

Joy

**Silent night! Holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round young virgin mother
and child**

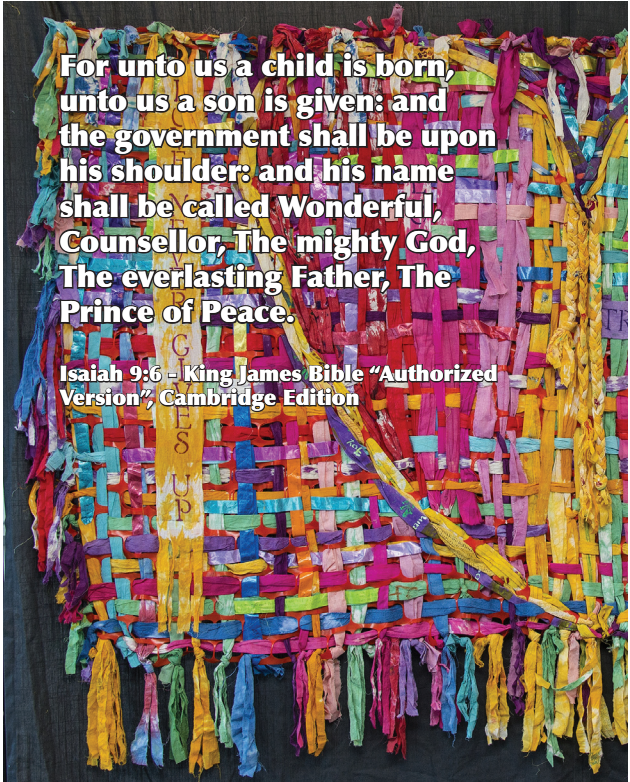
**Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace!
Sleep in heavenly peace!**

**Noche de paz, noche de amor,
Todo dureme en derredor.
Entre sus astros que esparcen su luz
Bella alumbrando al ninito Jesus
Brilla le estrella de paz
Brilla la estrella de paz.**

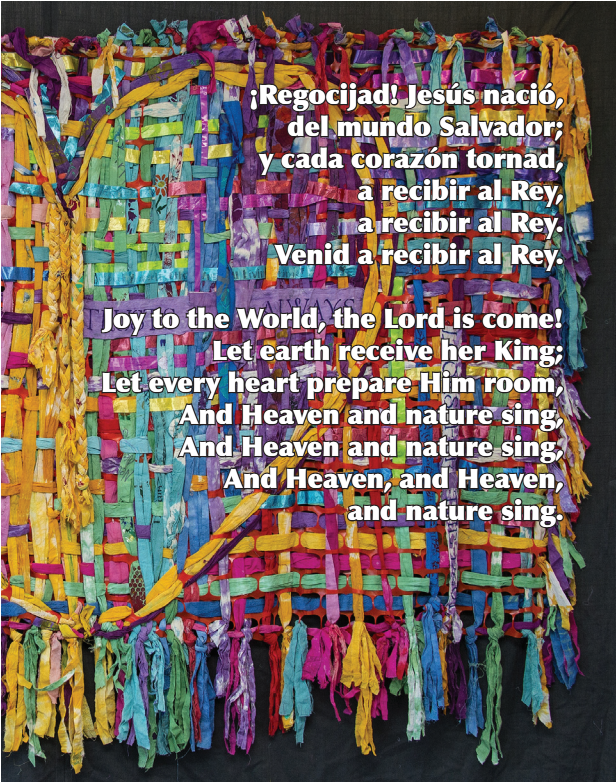
December 25

**For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given: and
the government shall be upon
his shoulder: and his name
shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The
Prince of Peace.**

**Isaiah 9:6 - King James Bible "Authorized
Version", Cambridge Edition**



Christmas Day



**¡Regocijad! Jesús nació,
del mundo Salvador;
y cada corazón tornad,
a recibir al Rey,
a recibir al Rey.
Venid a recibir al Rey.**

**Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven,
and nature sing.**



Aknowledgements

Art from Elmwood inmates; general public visiting 'Elmwood: Art from Within' exhibit.

Prayers and Writings from Elmwood inmates unless otherwise noted.

Scripture selections from Campbell United Methodist Church Art & Spirit team.

Photographs taken by Campbell United Methodist Church Art & Spirit team and CIC Ministries.