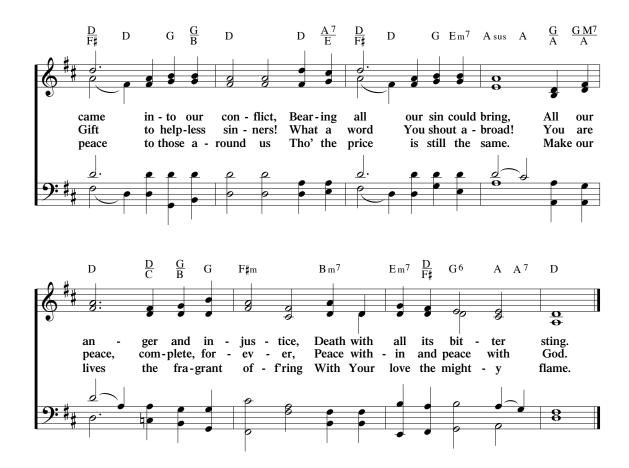
God of Peace

TUNE: We Believe in God the Father (RIPLEY) Psalm 93:1-2; Isaiah 11:6-9; 53:4-5; Matthew 5:9; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14; Philippians 4:6-7; Colossians 1:19-20, 24



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- TOPICS: Life of Christ; Peace in Christ; Praise & Worship; Serving in Christ's Name; All Saints Day
- LEAD-IN: *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.* (Matthew 5:9, NASB)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

Jesus' seventh beatitude is this:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. (Matthew 5:9, NASB)

Father, You are the God of peace. In You there is no conflict of any kind. You are wholeness. You are harmony. You are complete and pure well-being.

You are the ultimate peacemaker.
You sent Your only Son from Your heavenly peace into our battleground world.
Prophets announced Him as the Prince of Peace.
Saints and angels greeted Him as the coming of Your peace.
Throughout His 33 years He lived Your peace and taught Your peace while wrapped in the most severe poverty and persecution.
And before returning to You, He spoke Your perfect peace into the hearts and lives of His followers, saying:

> "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful." (John 14:27, NASB)

In Christ, You have brought Your peace to us. Paul told the Ephesians:

He Himself is our peace. (Ephesians 2:14, NASB)

And to the Colossians he said:

It was the Father's good pleasure...through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross. (Colossians 1:19-20, NASB)

In Christ, we have peace with You. Romans 5:1 says:

Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (NASB)

In Christ, our hearts and minds are wrapped in Your peace throughout every circumstance

as we trust You. Philippians 4:6-7 says it so beautifully:

> Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (NASB)

In Christ, You have promised to permeate all creation with Your perfect peace: Many centuries ago, Isaiah described our future this way:

The wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the young goat, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little boy will lead them. They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:6, 9, NASB)

In the meantime, Father, You have left us here, wrapped in Your peace,

to be Your peacemakers.

You are the ultimate peacemaker.

You made peace here

by coming to us,

by crossing every barrier to reach us in our need.

You made peace by

loving, healing, forgiving, talking, listening, and giving, by accepting suffering daily, and in the end, pouring out Your life completely.

You call us to make peace the same way,

by daily, constantly pouring out our lives for others. And as we make peace,

You call us Your children.

Father, what reward could be greater? How could we do any less than share the precious gift of Your peace?

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