

A Christmas Meal Prayer

Leader 1:

Lord of Life, together with the traditions of decorating Christmas trees, of singing carols and giving gifts, this Christmas meal is an important part of our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Leader 2

Come, O LORD, and surround our table today and during this Christmas season. Gift us with the taste of joy as we savor our coming together for this meal. As twinkling stars and singing angels rejoiced at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem, so may we take joy in this, our Christmas dinner celebration. Let everyone say: **“Amen”** (*all repeat “Amen”*)

Leader 1:

Bring peace to our world, especially to countries that are so troubled. Be with the innocent who suffer. Keep us mindful of those who are not with us today who *have been* and *who always will be* a part of our lives, who have helped us to become who we are. At this time, let's name those people special to us who is not here with us or who has died. We can also mention what particular gift of that person you miss. (*Leader 2, wait until people have finished speaking names, then begin*)

Leader 2

Dear Lord, bless our food and conversation around this table. As we are your family, help us to be family to one another. Let everyone say, **“Amen.”** (*All repeat “Amen”*)

Here you can sing verse 1 of Silent Night.

**Silent night, holy night. All is calm. All is bright. 'Round yon virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.**