

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

P- Let us pray for each person who helped make these quilts.

C-We give thanks for the many hands that have worked with skill and love, cutting, sewing, and tying these quilts.

P- Let us pray for each person who receives one of these quilts.

C- We ask your presence with those who have experienced crisis, disaster or need in their lives, whether from fire or flood, war or poverty. May the quilt be a sign of your love which surrounds them.

P-May the colors and shapes which make up these quilts remind us of the beauty and diversity of your creation, and of the many peoples throughout the world You call Your own.

C-Bring us together, Lord, like the many pieces of cloth in each quilt. Bring unity and community to your people in all places. Encourage us in our work together, and unite us in Your love.

P-Let us ask God's blessing on each of these quilts as they go forth from here.

C- Merciful God, receive these quilts, the work of our hands, and go with them into the streets and homes where we cannot go. Shelter from sin and sickness those who wrap themselves in these, our gifts. Grant that all your children who find comfort in these quilts, may also know the comfort of your loving arms. Amen.

A Quilter's Carol-Words by Jeannie Spears

Whose child is this, that laid to rest,
Beneath my quilt is sleeping:?
This child wrapped up in piece so warm,
While love its watch is keeping.

Chorus:

Hope! Hope! For the world anew, And I stitched a quilt to
cover you!
Hark! Hark! Hear the angels sing, A lullaby through the ages.

There is no star shining down so bright
on the place this child lies dreaming.
No kings will come with their gifts tonight,
but love with joy is beaming. (Chorus)

If I were there at the Christ child's birth,
the gifts I'd bring would be the same.
A quilt to make the manger warm,
and love and joy to greet him.
(Chorus)