

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**"PEACE"**

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

**PURPLE**

***Dear Readers, Please follow the instructions in Italics (Don't read the italic portion). Please speak clearly and as if you were talking to the person in seat furthest away from the front of the church. Introduce the scripture with the following and then read the passage:***

Sisters and brothers in Christ, Last week, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent the reading centered on 'hope.' On this 2nd Advent Sunday we focus upon the Peace or Shalom of God. The Reading comes from the Prophet Isaiah. Listen now, to the Word of the Lord:

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills: all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!"

So ends this morning's first scripture reading. May God bless the receiving of the Word.

***Now, have one person light one PURPLE Advent Candle, and then light the 2<sup>nd</sup> Purple "Peace" Candle while another person says the following,***

"We light this candle of PEACE on the Second Sunday of Advent to remind us that we must prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child, the bringer of hope to all the nations."

***Please close the Advent lighting Ceremony with the following prayer:***

"We praise you, O God, that you have come as a light of hope and peace in a world often shadowed by conflict, darkness and despair.

Lord, may the light of Christ within us, enable us to look upon our own lives, and the world around us, with the vision of peace trust that only you can bring.

Help us, O God, to prepare ourselves for the advent of PEACE in our life through the coming of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.