

Second Sunday of Advent: Peace

Family:

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth,
and set lights in the sky — sun and moon and stars.
By these stars, our ancestors charted their journeys.
By these stars, they knew God was with them.

People:

Today we light two candles to bring the fire of the stars
down from heaven to earth, to nestle among the greens.

Family:

We name this candle Hope. *(light the first candle)*

We name this candle Peace. *(light the second candle)*

People:

We too are on a journey, and we do not always know the way.
But we chart our path by the star of peace.
Even when violence and fear are raging
and peace seems like a pipedream,
we set our face steadily towards the light.

Family:

Listen now to the plea of the apostle Paul:
“Do not be anxious about anything,
but in every situation,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.
And the peace of God,
which transcends all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds
in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).

ALL:

**Lord Jesus, as we search for signs of peace this week,
help us to *become* the signs of peace that others are searching for.
As these candles are but a glimpse of the light of the heavens,
help us to be a glimpse of heaven’s peace. Amen.**