

PEACE

Today we light the second candle of Advent, the Candle of Peace.

Our church family has reminded us that peace comes in many forms. Sometimes it meets us in seasons of deep loss or fear-when a loved one dies, when illness overwhelms, or when we find we cannot even pray. Yet again and again, God's grace proves sufficient, holding us when our own strength cannot.

Peace also shows up in the ordinary: in nature, in music, in a handwritten note, in a child's simple faith, in the everyday moments of home and work. Some have called this the *"holy-pause"*, that quiet space between what pressures *us* and how we respond, where we remember that God's presence is steady and sure.

Scripture promises that *"the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds."* Today we claim that promise for ourselves, for our community, and for all who long for calm in a chaotic world.

As we light the Candle of Peace, we remember: peace is not the absence of storms, but the presence of God with us in them.

Unison Prayer:

Holy One, let Your peace rest on us.

Where we are weary, steady us.

Where we are anxious, calm us.

Where we are grieving, comfort us.

Teach us the holy pause,
and make us bearers of peace to others.

Amen.

12/7/2025

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