**The Second Sunday of Advent – Peace**

Watch and wait for Christ’s coming!

We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,

remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light the first candle in hope.

We light the second candle in peace.

(Light the first candle.)

(Light the second candle.)

Hear God’s promise of peace from Isaiah 11:

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,

 and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

 The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,

 the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

 the spirit of counsel and might,

 the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

 His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,

 or decide by what his ears hear;

 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,

 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,

 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,

 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

Let us pray:

 Faithful God,

 you are at work to restore all of creation in its intended harmony.

 Give us your shalom

 that we may be reconciled to all enemies

 in the peace that passes all understanding

 through Christ Jesus our Lord.

 God of promise, God of hope,

 into our darkness come. Amen.