

PEACE: THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LEADER: "Comfort, comfort my people," says our God. "Speak tenderly to them, and tell them their time of struggle is ended."

RESPONSE: Let righteousness go before you, O Lord, and make peace the path for your steps.

LEADER: A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord!" And like a shepherd, the Lord will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them close.

RESPONSE: We will prepare the way, for the Shepherd is coming to gather us.

LEADER: God is not slow, but patient with us, not wanting anyone to be lost. So while we wait, beloved, let us strive to be found at peace and found making peace.

RESPONSE: Make us peacemakers, O God, in our homes, our streets, and our world.

Light two purple candles.

ALL: We light a candle of peace today, a peace that comforts the weary and puts the willing to work. We wait for the day when mercy and truth meet, and righteousness and peace find a home in our neighborhoods and among all nations. Until then, we prepare the way by making room: for the grieving, for the stranger and the refugee, and for the God who comes. Amen.