



Year C, Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024: Micah 5:2-5a;
Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7;
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

*"And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth and he shall be the one of peace."
Micah 5:4b-5*

Like hope, love and joy, PEACE is an internal state of being, a fruit of the

Spirit produced in our minds and souls.

P-E-A-C-E as we are accustomed to spelling it, has its origin in Latin, meaning agreement, tranquility, absence of hostility and harmony. The Old and New Testament meaning of PEACE is unity, wholeness and completion. It is the feeling that comes when the last jigsaw puzzle piece snaps into place; or the mental reaction when the project is finished and we press the send tab on the computer; or the calm sensation that follows the deep exhale as we settle down in bed for sleep.

Advent celebrates that in the fullness of time, God's perfect PEACE became flesh in Jesus to restore unity between God and the crown of God's creation, humanity. This PEACE as described by Paul that surpasses understanding is the inward response to the presence of wholeness and balance in body and soul.

It is good to KNOW that it is impossible for the dis-ease of NOT-KNOWING with its uncertainty and PEACE to occupy the same space at the same time.

Warren D. Cornell poetically penned in his hymn,

Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father and Mother above!
Sweep over my spirit/ our spirits forever, I pray
In fathomless billows of love!

Advent Blessings,
Rev. Julia