***Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.***

This week, we’ve lit the Advent candle of Peace. Peace – what a wonderful word. Today, we learn of the Child, our only Source of Peace. He will be called Wonderful. He will be called Counselor. He will be called Mighty God, Everlasting Father… the Prince of Peace. The Prince of Peace… Satan, we know is the father of lies, the author of confusion, celebrating chaos, reveling in despair. But Christ, the Son of God, is the Prince of Peace, bringing what no other before or after brings – everlasting peace – John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.* This is a peace that can only flow from the Love Jesus. It can’t arrive by way of the world because the world does not possess it, does not understand it, indeed cannot comprehend it. Don’t be upset with the world for all the chaos and confusion we see… the world has nothing else to offer. We must know Jesus to know Peace.

 Verse 6 says *For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.* We knew this Child was coming. Isaiah 7:14 told us so - *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.* God with us. Jesus, His name meaning Savior, is with us. Christ, meaning Anointed One promises us Peace. The government, and in this day and time, this would have meant kingdom, will be upon His shoulder, meaning the neck and we know that Christ took the yoke of our sin upon Himself and He broke it. He shall be called Wonderful – literally a Marvelous miracle – a marvelous miracle that He paid our debt and prepares a place of honor for us. Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace – The Keeper of our true Peace. The Hebrew word here is Shalome, meaning Safe and at Peace in all ways, perfectly and complete.

 When we lose something, one of the things people ask is, “Where was the last place you had it?” Probably wouldn’t be lost if I knew that. But… when we lose our Peace in this world, when the news is squawking and the serpent is hissing and the wicked are screeching, when every thought is anxious and every moment holds chaos, we must ask ourselves, “Where is the last place I found true Peace, when my Spirit breathed easy within me?” And then we turn and focus on Jesus, and our Peace returns, along with the Joy that slipped away, the Hope that seemed so far, and the Faith that faltered and fell. Our true Peace is found in the perfect Love of Christ.

 Verse 7 says *Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.* His Kingdom and His Perfect Safety and Peace will know no limit. It will be limitless in time and expanse. As big as we can imagine, Christ’s Kingdom is larger and more magnificent still. The zeal, the jealousy, the sake of the Lord will make this happen.

 This week, where is our peace? If we’ve lost it, where is the last place we had it? To find it, we must return to the only place it can be found – Jesus. Peace He left with us, Peace He gave to us. We won’t find Peace in this world. We must return to the Eternal Keeper of the Peace – The very Source of Love – Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

If you’re here today and you’ve never had that peace, come as we sing.