

**“Shalom (Peace)”**  
**by Rev. John C. Tittle**

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9: 6-7 NRSV**

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How would you define peace?  
DYK (Did you know?): To the Jewish mind, peace is more of a positive way of being and relating in the real world. Peace helps you **engage** the world’s chaos, rather than flee from it or pretend it doesn’t exist.
2. Our passage from Isaiah says, “For unto us a child is born...” Why do you think that Jesus was born for us? What is the purpose of his earthly arrival?
3. One of the names for the Messiah in the Scripture reading is the Prince of Peace. In what ways did Jesus live into that title in his life?
4. Isaiah also says that “endless peace” will come through this child, this Prince of Peace. How is Christ’s peace endless? How does he establish and uphold peace?
5. The sermon said that: *The peace of Christ gives us the courage to work through the rejection and wounds we collect over our lives, so that we can mend, move forward, and forgive, rather than being held hostage by hurt or bitterness. For Jesus, another name for his peace is salvation, deliverance.* How have you experienced Christ’s peace in your life?
6. How might you extend Christ’s peace this Christmas?