

## **THE SECOND CANDLE - PEACE (E.C. Newman and Emily Garrett)**

### **Prayer**

Dear God, we thank you for the gift of Jesus. We are thankful for hope and peace in our hearts, and we hear your call for us to be witnesses and promoters of hope and peace. Help us today and every day to be grateful, and to do your will, by sharing our hope and peace with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### **Introduction**

Last Sunday, we lit the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope. We light it again and remind ourselves of God's gift of hope. Today, we light the second candle of Advent, the candle of Peace, and we celebrate the hope and peace we are given, and the hope and peace we promote and share with others.

### **Scripture: Isaiah 40:11, and John 14:27**

*He tends his flock like a shepherd, He gathers the lambs in his arms, and carries them close to his heart. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. - Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid.*

### **EC and Emily's story**

We know that God wants us to be witnesses and promoters of hope and peace, not only during Advent, but every day. -- After Emily's husband, Wayne, died 2 years and 7 months ago, and after my wife, Lynn, died 3 years ago last month, and after Field's wife, Jenny, died 3 years ago next Thursday, our glasses of hope and peace were about empty. All three of us were down flat. And as it says in Mark, the only way to get us back up was by prayer.

So this congregation, you very people, with a lot of faith, prayers, and help, did God's work; you got God's full attention, and you got us back on our feet.

You helped get rid of a lot of hurt, and our glasses of hope and peace were refilled.

Now, at this time of year, as we pray for others in this congregation, we remind ourselves that there are many, many more people out there, not far from this very place, who need and wait for us to pray and help them find hope and peace. ----- Bless you, and Thanks be to God.