*From the Pastor’s desk:*

**SECOND ADVENT: PEACE**

“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.” **(Isa 9:2 KJV)**

The world we are is full of hate, wickedness, hardship, disappointment, frustration, depravity, oppression, depression, sickness, death, and the likes. Is this surprising? Not a single bit; where there is darkness, all sorts of evil practices are perpetrated. This was the state of humanity before God magnanimously came in the form of man to rescue us.

Therefore, celebrating Christmas, which is occasioned by the birth of Jesus, is not just about putting up Christmas decorations. Rather, it is about reflecting on the essence of the greatest gift God has given us in Christ Jesus. On the day Jesus was born, the angel of God announced the birth of the Saviour of the world.

**“Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”” (Luke 2:13-14, NIV)**

Beloved, you are part of those who the favour of God rests on because you have been translated from darkness into the marvellous light of His Son, Jesus. Alleluia! So, whatsoever may be the antics of the enemy, keep your gaze on the peace God has brought to you. On this second Advent, I encourage you to allow the peace of God to rule and reign your heart. Peace is a state of tranquillity. A moment of quietness and harmony. An absence of violence. A state free of war and fear.

Jesus said, “My peace I give to you …. Let not your heart be troubled.” **(John 14:27).** More so, Peace is a fruit of the Spirit. **(Gal 5:22).** If you are a child of God, you cannot afford to dwell in fear, because peace is one of the fruits the world must see in you. May that peace of God that passes all understanding rule in your heart. Over your expectations, may you not be afraid, and may you not suffer shame, in Jesus’ Name.