

Pastor's Weekly Devotional- December 22, 2016
"The Message of Christmas"

Building a culture of peace and non-violence is an urgent demand, not only for political reasons. As Christians, we are called to articulate the protest of the Gospel against the cult of force and greed, against unbridled competition and impunity where fundamental human rights are being violated. The culture of violence is the result of a perversion of basic values. Overcoming violence has to begin in the heart and mind.

Each year at Christmas, we hear the message of the angels: "Glory to God in the Highest Heaven, and on Earth peace to all" (Luke 2:14).

We celebrate the birth of "the Prince of Peace" the One who reconciled us to God and with each other and who has ushered a new relationship between those who have been separated by alienation and hostility.

As we celebrate Christmas this Sunday, let us consider what we can contribute to overcoming violence and building a culture of peace. Living in a situation where violence has become omnipresent, those who have heard and accepted the Gospel of Peace of the Christ Child are entrusted with the message of reconciliation. They are made ambassadors for Christ and called into a ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18-20).

This then, is our mission as Christians: wherever the walls of hostility are being broken down, wherever communal conflict is being resolved peacefully, the peace of the Christ Child is being proclaimed to the glory of God.

Remember our Christmas Eve Service is this Saturday at 9:00 p.m. On Christmas Day (Sunday), the service is at 10:00 a.m.

Have a blessed Christmas.
Pastor Sewdin