

**\*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE** from Isaiah 2 and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Leader: In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established  
as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

**People: I don't know what will happen now; we've got some difficult days ahead.  
But it doesn't really matter with me now, because I've been to the mountaintop.**

Leader: Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go to the house of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

**People: God has allowed me to go to the mountain.  
And I've looked over, and I've seen the Promised Land.  
I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight,  
that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.**

Leader: For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples.  
They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

**People: I believe that unharmed truth and unconditional love  
will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated,  
is stronger than evil triumphant. We must accept finite disappointment,  
but never loose infinite hope.**

**\*SECOND ADVENT CANDLE – HOPE**

*During the candle lighting the congregation will sing "Peace be with you" in Arabic.*

$\text{♩} = 36$

As - sa - laa - mu la - kum, As - sa - laa - mu la - kum, Sa -  
- laam, Sa - laam, As - sa - laa - mu la - kum.

**\*ADVENT PRAYER**

**All: Gracious and merciful God, keep alive the vision that all people shall one  
day gather at your holy mountain, and that you will teach us your ways.  
Help us see that we will turn from arms manufacturing to the production of  
food. Help us know that by following you, we will not hurt or kill in all your holy  
world. May your Word, O Lord, instruct us all the days of our lives.  
Keep this vision of hope real and active at all times.  
May it sustain our hope and our work for your beautiful Kingdom. Amen.**