<u>Iesus Is Our Peace</u>

December 20, 2015 Text: Luke 2:25-35

I. Simeon's Story and Prayer

- A. Simeon's Waiting for Consolation (2:25)
- B. Simeon's Peace (2:29)

II. Our Story

- A. Our Need for Consolation
- B. Jesus Is Our Peace
 - 1. Peace with God, Peace from God (Romans 5:1; 2 Cor 5:18-19)
 - 2. Peace Among Men (2:14; Eph 2:14-18; Col 3:15)

Ouotations

"Man's Maker was made man, that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breasts; that the Bread might be hungry, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired from the journey; that the Truth might be accused by false witnesses, the Judge of the living and the dead be judged by a mortal judge, Justice be sentenced by the unjust, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Vine be crowned with thorns, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might be made weak, that He who makes well might be wounded, that Life might die. He was made man to suffer these and similar undeserved things for us, that He might free us who were undeserving; and He who on account of us endured such great evils, merited no evil, while we who through Him were so bountifully blessed, had no merits to show for such blessings. Therefore, because of all this, He who before all ages and without a beginning determined by days was the Son of God, saw fit in these latter days to be the Son of man; and He, who was born of the Father but not made by the Father, was made in the mother whom He had made, that He might sometime be born here on earth of her who could never have been anywhere except through Him." —Augustine

"It is completely incomprehensible to us how God can reveal himself and to some extent make himself known in created beings: eternity in time, immensity in space, infinity in the finite, immutability in change, being in becoming, the all, as it were, in that which is nothing. This mystery cannot be comprehended; it can only be gratefully acknowledged. But mystery and self-contradiction are not synonymous." — Herman Bavinck

Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

- 1. What causes anxiety or a lack of peace in your life?
- 2. Where do you find peace in a world plagued by hatred, violence and war?
- 3. How does Jesus give us peace with God?
- 4. Do you have peace even in facing the reality of death? Could you pray with Simeon, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation"?