# "God with Us: Got Peace?"

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – December 7, 2014

### Eph 2:12-18

12 remember that at that time (when we were sinners) you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

You can have Peace because...

# 1. JESUS IS PEACE

### Eph 2:14

For <u>he himself is our peace</u>, who has made the two one and has <u>destroyed the barrier</u>, the dividing wall of hostility,

### <u>Isa 9:6</u> (Prince of Peace foretold)

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

### John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace..."

You can have Peace because...

## 2. JESUS LONGS TO GIVE US PEACE

Matthew II:28-29 (Jesus woos us with peace)

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

<u>Luke 23:34</u> (Jesus on the cross)

Jesus said, "Father, <u>forgive them</u>, for they do not know what they are doing."

John 20:19 (Resurrected Jesus)

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

You can have Peace because...

# 3. TRUE PEACE COMES THROUGH <u>FAITH</u> IN CHRIST

Rom 5:1 (Peace is tied to faith in Christ)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

You can have Peace because...

# 4. AUTHENTIC PEACE <u>TRANSCENDS</u> FEELINGS & CIRCUMSTANCES

Phil 4:12

I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.

#### Phil 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the <u>peace of God</u>, which <u>transcends all understanding</u>, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

You can have Peace because...

# 5. THE HOLY SPIRIT FILLS YOU WITH PEACE

John 14:27 (Jesus announcing the Holy Spirit)

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.

Gal 5:22-23 (Fruit of the Spirit)

22 But the <u>fruit of the Spirit</u> is love, joy, <u>peace</u>, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control.