

## **Week 2: Peace**

### **Bible Verses: Isaiah 9:2-7, Isaiah 11:1-9, Luke 2:8-14**

We learned last week that in the book of Isaiah, God's covenant people are in exile. Now, the prophet announces that God is extending peace and reconciliation to them through a new ruler. In chapter 11 Isaiah explains what this new ruler will be like. Read Isaiah 9:2-7, 11:1-9

The Gospel of Luke brings us to the announcement of Christ's birth to the shepherds. They are encountered by the angels and the angels give a message of praise and peace. Read Luke 2:8-14.

### **Questions for Adults and Teens:**

- Why do you think the promise of a new leader evokes promises of peace?
- How does Isaiah express peace as the absence of conflict and the presence of connection and completion?
- Why do the angels announce peace to the world at Jesus' birth. How does Jesus connect you with God's peace?
- What factors contribute to your peace? What hampers your sense of peace?
- Where does peace need to be restored in your life and in your community?

### **Questions for Families:**

- What does it mean to have peace?
- When is a time that you felt at peace?
- How can we help promote peace and be peacemakers?

### **Prayer:**

God of peace, you have promised the end of conflict on earth, yet we still see struggle and strife around us. In the midst of the chaos, give us the strength to be people of peace wherever we are and with whomever we meet. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.

Questions and discussions adapted from the following sources:

<https://hindscoaching.com/2020/09/21/advent-3-joy-video-chat/>

<https://storyboardingchurch.wordpress.com/2017/12/04/busy-lives-use-faith5-for-advent/>