



**The Second Week of Advent:  
A Covenant of Peace**

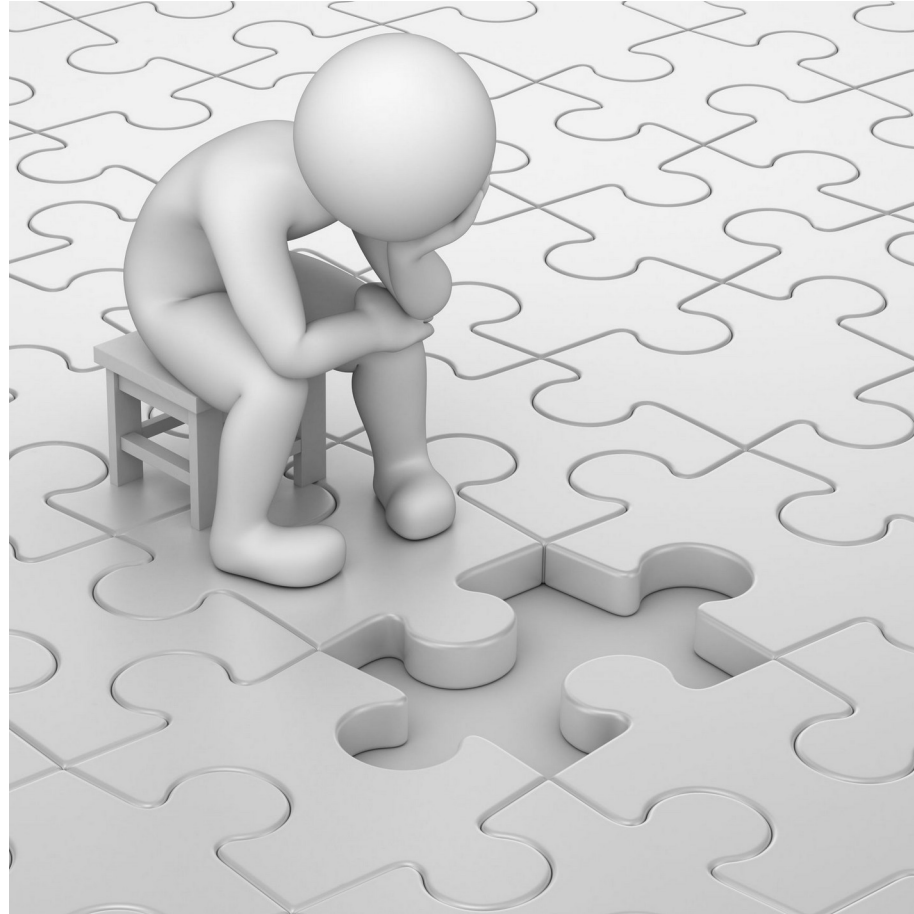


## **The Second Week of Advent: A Covenant of Peace**

# Introduction: Definitions of “Peace”

- “Peace” = freedom from strife or conflict
- “*Peace*” = “*Shalom*” = *wholeness, calmness of heart*

# “Hole-ness” vs. Wholeness



# The Lord's Covenant of Peace

## Ezekiel 34:25-31

<sup>25</sup> “I will make with them ***a covenant of peace*** and banish wild beasts from the land, so that they may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.

<sup>26</sup> And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be ***showers of blessing***.

<sup>27</sup> And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land. ***And they shall know that I am the LORD***, when I break the bars of their yoke, and ***deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them***.

# The Lord's Covenant of Peace

## Ezekiel 34:25-31

- <sup>28</sup> They shall no more be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beasts of the land devour them. They shall dwell securely, and ***none shall make them afraid.***
- <sup>29</sup> And I will provide for them renowned plantations so that they shall ***no more be consumed with hunger in the land,*** and no longer suffer the reproach of the nations.
- <sup>30</sup> ***And they shall know that I am the LORD their God with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Lord GOD.***
- <sup>31</sup> And you are my sheep, human sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Lord GOD.”



# Peace is declared by the angels

## Luke 2:11-14 (ESV)

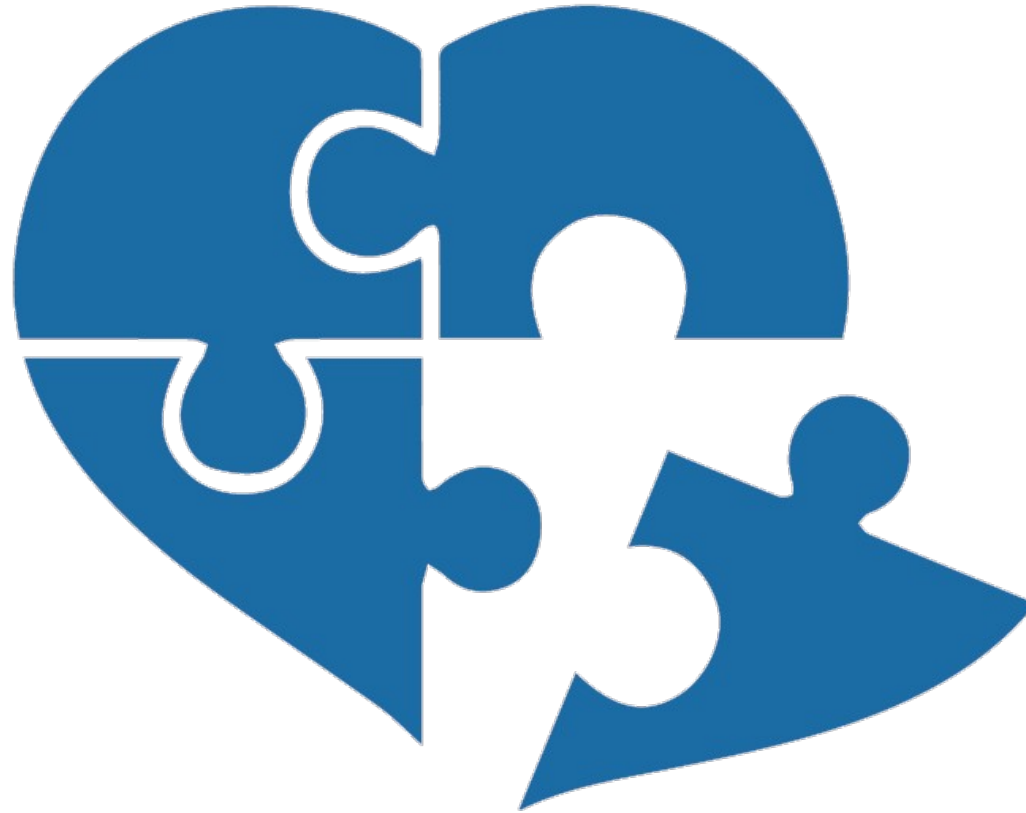
11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest, ***and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!***”

# Jesus Christ: The Missing Piece





# Peace is a person: Jesus Christ as the missing piece

## Ephesians 2:13-18

- <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
  - **14 For he himself is our peace**, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility
  - 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,
  - 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.
  - **17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.**
- 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

# The Gospel/“Good News” of Peace

## Acts 10:36 (ESV)

- <sup>36</sup> As for the word that [God] sent to Israel, **preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ** (he is Lord of all),

# The Gospel/“Good News” of Peace

## Philippians 4:7 (ESV)

- <sup>7</sup> And *the peace of God*, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

# Peace be with you

## John 20:26 (ESV)

- <sup>26</sup> Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “**Peace be with you.**”

*Peace be with you!!!*

John 20:19

