

ADVENT: PEACE



Word: Luke 2:1-14

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to their own town to register. 4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. 8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

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Discussion:

1. Reflection: As we near Christmas, why are you excited for Christmas? What is the importance of Advent Sundays and why we do it? What is the true meaning of Christmas?
2. What is the peace that Jesus offers according to John 14:27? How does one receive that peace?
3. Remembering your discussion on "*Being A Peacemaker,*" What do you recall the purpose of a peacemaker and what can you add to being a peacemaker?
(Ephesians 4:3)

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the next coming weeks of Advent Sundays as we reflect on hope, joy and love.
2. Pray that the world will come to know the true meaning of Christmas, starting with our homes, our church and then our neighbors.