

SERIES – ADVENT 2022  
Inner Peace, 12/4/22  
Luke 2:8-20

I. The Peace of Advent

- a. Peace comes in the midst of our storms
- b. Peace defies our circumstances
- c. Peace is a person – Jesus
- d. *Shalom* (Hebrew); *Eirene* (Greek)
  - wholeness, health, well-being, and prosperity
  - reconciliation and harmony that leads to rest and freedom from disturbance.
  - everything that makes for a person’s highest good, independent of their outward circumstances. It is an inner sense of peace even in the midst of troubles.

*Jesus offers us the ability to experience inner calmness and serenity, harmony and stillness when our circumstances threaten to throw us into a state of anxiety, worry, and fear.*

HYMN – It Is Well With My Soul by Horatio Spafford  
*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll,  
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well, with my soul.*

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES (NIV)

Luke 2:8-20 - And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

<sup>16</sup>So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

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

Isaiah 9:6-7 - 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. <sup>7</sup>Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.