

## **Week 2: Christ our Peace**

### **Primary text**

Isaiah 9:1-7

### **Secondary text**

John 14:27

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### **Discussion**

#### **OPENING QUESTIONS**

1. When you hear the word peace, what comes to mind? How do you think our culture defines peace versus how Scripture defines it?
2. What does it mean for Christ Himself to be our peace?
3. Where in your life or our world do you most long for peace right now?
4. Where do you see glimpses of God's Kingdom peace in your life right now?

#### **PRIMARY TEXT—THE PRINCE OF PEACE, Isaiah 9:1-7**

5. What words or images in Isaiah's prophecy stand out to you? How do they speak to people living in darkness or distress?
6. In verse 6, Jesus is called "Prince of Peace." What kind of peace do you think Isaiah envisioned? Is it political, personal, spiritual—or all three?
7. How does the promise that "the zeal of the Lord will accomplish this" shape your understanding of where peace ultimately comes from?

#### **SECONDARY TEXT—"MY PEACE I GIVE YOU," John 14:17**

8. What do you notice about the connection between peace and justice in this passage? How might true peace always include righteousness?
9. What do you think Jesus means when he says, "My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives"?
10. How might Jesus' peace differ from a simple absence of conflict or anxiety?
11. In what ways can believers experience Christ's peace even in times of uncertainty, grief, or fear?
12. What does it mean that Jesus offers this peace just before his crucifixion? How does that deepen our understanding of the kind of peace he brings?

#### **INTEGRATING THE TEXTS**

13. Isaiah speaks of a coming ruler who will bring peace, while Jesus promises his peace to his disciples. How do these passages together show both the already and not yet nature of God's peace?

#### **PERSONAL AND COMMUNAL APPLICATION**

14. What practices help you rest in Christ's peace in your daily life?
15. How can you be an instrument of Christ's peace in your home, workplace, or community this Advent season?
16. How might the Church be called to embody and extend Christ's peace during Advent and beyond?