

## **Advent: The Light has Come**

## Life Group Material Peace in the Storm w/b 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025

(Feel free to choose questions as appropriate for your group)

## **Starter:**

**1.** Describe a time either when you felt at peace, or when you felt the opposite. Where were you? What was the situation? What was it like?

## Read Luke 2:8-14

This passage occurs just after the birth of Jesus. Mary and Joseph are in Bethlehem, where Jesus has just been born. Immediately following the birth story, the scene shifts to a group of Jewish shepherds in nearby fields – ordinary, humble people, living under Roman rule, who became the first recipients of the divine announcement.

- 1. What strikes you/ jumps out at you from these verses today?
- **2.** Before the angel appeared, what do you think would have been the everyday concerns and stresses of these shepherds?
- 3. The announcement was 'good news' and a cause for 'great joy' for everyone. What do you think these shepherds would have made of it all?
- **4.** Read verse 14 again. What do you think the peace on earth that the great company speaks of is like? Is it something that can be 'achieved'?
- 5. What impact do you think this announcement (followed by meeting Jesus) would have had on the shepherds, and their everyday concerns?

- 6. As an adult, before he died and rose again, Jesus said to his disciples, "peace I leave with you, my peace I give you." (John 14:27) What does having the peace of Christ mean to you?
- 7. The famous prayer begins, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." Where do you see a need for peace? What might being an instrument of God's peace look like for us individually and together?
- 8. Where, in your everyday stresses and concerns, and perhaps 'stormy' circumstances, do you need to know the peace of Christ? (This could be a personal reflection question with space to acknowledge this before God)

As a group, you might like to light a candle and spend some time waiting on God, meditating on the peace God brings in Christ, praying for peace in the world, and perhaps listening to a song (e.g., when peace like a river – you may like to research and share the moving background to this song.)