## The Angels' Song of Peace Luke 2:8-21

## The First Christmas Songs

Four reflections on Christmas and the peace it offers

<sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

<sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

<sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
<sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

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

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

<sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

<sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

<sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

<sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

<sup>21</sup> And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

1. Christmas is all about God's glory and our peace.

- The coming of Jesus had a heavenly and earthly effect. His coming changed everything!
- Jesus came to reveal the glory of God.
- Christmas is not about having peace on earth. It is about being at peace with God.
- Peace is given to those with whom God is pleased.

### 2. In Jesus, we have peace from errors past.

- No matter who you are, forgiveness is offered through Jesus.
- No matter what you've done, forgiveness is offered through Jesus.

# 3. In Jesus, we receive peace in circumstances present.

- The peace of Christ surpasses all understanding and offers us peace in the current context of trouble and turmoil.
- The ever-present grace of Jesus promises us continual forgiveness even when we seemingly mess up over and over again.

4. In Jesus, we are promised peace for all eternity future... If we will just receive it.