ADVENT WEEK 3: JOY SHEPHERD'S CANDLE

PASTOR:

The candle of Joy marks a shift from the solemn tone of the first two Sundays to an atmosphere of anticipation and expectancy. This was exemplified by the angels' declaration to the shepherds that they were delivering "good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2).



ADVENT WEEK 3: JOY SHEPHERD'S CANDLE

CONGREGATION:

"The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." (Romans 14)

This is the good news of Jesus' coming, and the truth of His kingdom. Joy to the World.



E B C L A P R E S E N T S

PEACE.

ONEARTH





¹⁶ He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Luke 1









⁷⁶ And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;

for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of salvation

through the forgiveness of their sins,

Luke 1





⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God,

by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

79 to shine on those living in darkness

and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

Luke 1

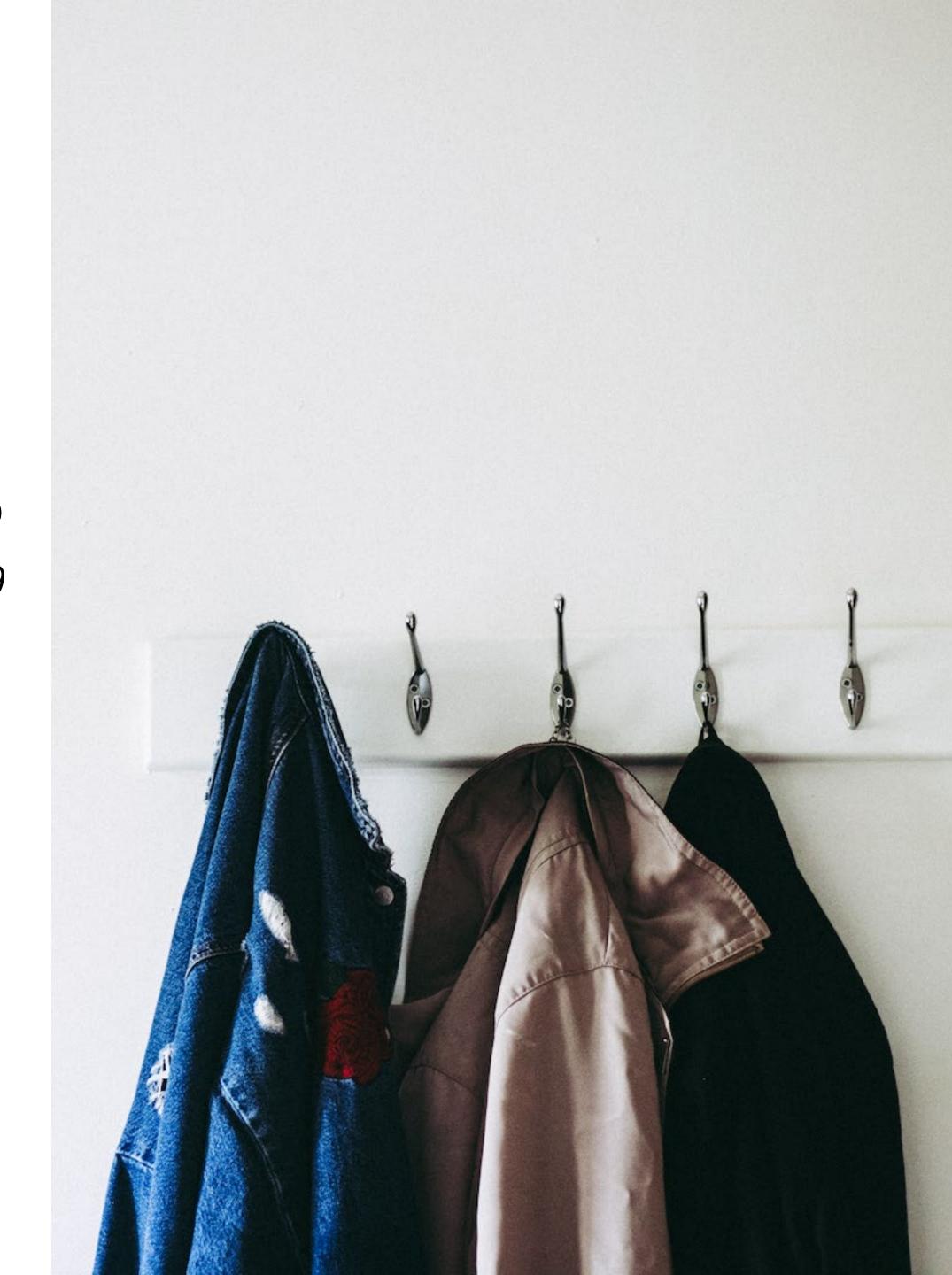
"Peace, then, as defined by the cross, is the restoration of all things. It is the holistic repair of severed relationships, the mending of the jagged divides that keep us from relationship with one another... God had waged a decisive peace in Jesus, and it had worked. That meant that God is the Great Peacemaker and restoration is the mission of God."

Jer Swigart, The Global Immersion Project

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

²⁷ "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them.





"[We are] the reconciled beloved who are commissioned as beloved reconcilers. While God's peace was decisively waged in Jesus, God's peace becomes real in the world when we embrace our vocation as everyday peacemakers."

Jer Swigart, The Global Immersion Project



