Peace in Action:

Identify one relationship or situation where you can reduce tensions safely this week—inside yourself or out in the world. Peace starts with one person choosing differently. Just one.

Learning Peace Each Day

Sunday: Consider	Monday: Ask Yourself	Tuesday: Notice Something
Where do you feel peace is most needed right now—inside yourself or out in the world?	"What small conflict can I step away from today to help calm tensions?"	Notice one moment of unexpected calm around you or inside yourself.

Wednesday: Practice	Thursday: A Thought for the Day	Friday: Remember This...
Practice taking one deep breath before responding in frustration.	"May there be an island of peace in someone's storm"	You don't have to participate in *every* argument!

Saturday: Rest
Rest peacefully having learned that Peace Making is possible.

A Tiny Journal For The Week:

Find more Advent resources at www.HopeForNiagara.org

One Week at a Time: A Coloring & Reflection Guide For Advent

Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc.

Advent Week 2
(Dec 7 – Dec 13)

This weekly Advent resource from Community Missions is a companion for your journey toward Christmas. Each week includes a short Bible passage, a reflection, simple daily practices, and a coloring page—all free to use and share. Visit HopeForNiagara.org to download the 11x17 single-page or 8.5x11 three-page version, plus other helpful Advent resources. ***Share your finished coloring page at Facebook.com/cminiagara !***

Advent Week 2: PEACE

Text for the Week: Isaiah 11:1-10 – The Peaceable Kingdom

... The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,...

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth....

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea...

A Summary of the Text:
Isaiah paints quite the picture here: wolves living with lambs, children playing safely near snakes, natural enemies sitting down to share meals together. To be very clear—this isn't about ignoring real danger or pretending that enemies suddenly don't exist. That would be foolish. No, this is about imagining a world where the things that threaten us lose their power to harm. And here's what's really interesting—notice how Isaiah starts. He begins by describing a leader who judges fairly for the poor and oppressed. Peace begins with justice. That's not something to gloss over.

Reflection:
Peace might feel like some kind of luxury when someone's just trying to make it through each day. Fair enough! But here's the thing about the peace that Isaiah describes: Peace is not the *absence of conflict*. Peace is about the *presence of justice*. And what does that look like? It's de-escalating tension before it boils over. It's making a choice to not retaliate when provoked, even though every fiber inside you wants to strike back. Peace means knowing people can change for the better, but that we are not obligated to suffer while they figure out their own issues. Sometimes peace means prioritizing our safety through boundaries and distance. Isaiah doesn't say that peace will come all at once. He says that those predators and prey can learn to coexist. In Isaiah's vision, peace starts with deliberate steps toward safety and the reduction of violence. Even so, it may still be that the chaos we sometimes see in the world around us might be beyond anyone's control. But each choice we make not to add fuel to that fire, *that is building peace step by step*. Those small actions do make a difference.

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