



Planting Peace

Week Two: Tending the Garden of Peace

How can we cultivate peace in our communities? God, the faithful and loving Gardener, planted peace when he sent his Son into the world to reconcile humanity to himself. Now, he invites us to tend his garden with him, participating in his ongoing ministry of peace and reconciliation.

This means that as we wait for the ultimate global manifestation of God's peace, we can continue to look for opportunities to share the peace of Christ with those around us.

Watch video

Hear Daniel Whitehead share a reflection on tending the garden of peace. [Click here to watch.](#)

Scripture Reading and Reflection Questions

1. Read Matthew 5:9. *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"* (NRSVue). What do you think it means to be a peacemaker? What might that practically look like in your life?
2. As Daniel shares in the video, peace grows in the soil of presence and companionship. By practicing companionship and creating spaces of belonging in the Church, we are cultivating communities of peace. What practice of companionship can you engage in this Christmas season in your family and community? Remember that companionship is something we can all practice, wherever we find ourselves in our mental health journeys. Be encouraged that companionship is more about offering presence, rather than solutions.
3. As explained in session five of *The Sanctuary Course*, companionship includes accompaniment, which can involve both spiritual and practical support. Is there someone that you can be praying with and for in this season? If you have capacity, is there a way to offer support in an empowering way to someone in your community?

Prayer

Take a moment to pray, asking God to reveal to you where you can share his peace with those around you.