THE PROPHET ISAIAH IN ADVENT

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OUTLINE OF SESSION

- **Who was Second Isaiah?**
  - His Prophetic Call (40:1-8)
  - Historical Setting
  - Life Situation
  - His Message

- **Readings for Week 2 of Advent**
SECOND ISAIAH

- Babylon – mid 6th cent.
- Is 40:1-8 – the prophet & his sense of mission
PROPHETIC CALL
(Is 40:1-8)

- Initial resistance to the call (vv.6-7)
  - Reason: despair
  - Insight: YHWH’s word is true & lasting

- Mission
  - Console Jerusalem (vv.1-2)
  - Prepare in the desert a straight highway for God (v.5)
HISTORICAL SETTING

- Is 43:14
- King Cyrus of Persia
  - Medes (550 BC)
  - Croesus of Lydia (546 BC)
  - Babylon (539 BC)
- Time of great uncertainty
LIFE SITUATION

- River Chebar (Ezek 3:15)
- YAHWISTS
  - Jerusalem
  - Synagogues
- Prevailing mood: despair
MESSAGE OF SECOND ISAIAH

- Advent of Cyrus is no accident
  - YHWH is fulfilling his plan

- Novelty of message:
  - Words about Cyrus
  - New view of oath sworn to David
  - Deepening awareness of his own role within God’s unfolding plan
SONGS OF THE SUFFERING

SERVANT

- 42:1-9;
- 49:1-6;
- 50:4-9;
ADVENT WEEK 2

- Dec 9th Second Sunday of Advent
- Dec 10th Mon. Is 35:1-10  *God himself is coming to save you.*
- Dec 11th Tues. Is 40:1-11  *God consoles his people.*
- Dec 12th Wed. Is 40:25-31  *The Lord almighty gives strength to the wearied.*
- Dec 13th Thurs. Is 41:13-20  *I, the Holy One of Israel, am your redeemer.*
- Dec 14th Fri. Is 48:17-19  *If only you had been alert to my commandments.*
- Dec 15th Sat.