

**THE  
PROPHET  
ISAIAH IN  
ADVENT**

**BRIAN  
PURFIELD**



# 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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;
- 52:13-53:12.





# 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.