THE PROPHET ISAIAH IN ADVENT

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OUTLINE OF SESSION

- Who or What is a Prophet?
- Who was First Isaiah?
- The Structure of the Book of Isaiah
- Readings for Week 1 of Advent
WHO OR WHAT IS A PROPHET?

- Prophecy in general
  - Attempts to communicate with God’s world & to understand God’s plan
    - E.g. Ezekiel 21:21

- Hebrew nabi – root “to call”
  - Greek prophetes – “a spokesperson”

- Charismatic – people with special gifts
“The task of the prophetic ministry is to nurture, to nourish & evoke a consciousness & a perception of things which is an alternate one to the consciousness & perception of things in the dominant culture.”

ISAIAH

- Leading citizen in Jerusalem; lived during reigns of King Uziah, Jotham, Ahaz (735-715 BC) & Hezekiah (715-687 BC)

- Married to a prophetess; two children:
  - Shear-Jashub – “A remnant will return”
  - Mahershalalhashbaz – “Quick spoil, speedy plunder”
NINEVEH
Israel & Judah: 8th Century BC

- Tigrath Pileser III
  - Siege of 734 BC
  - King Ahaz

- Sennacherib
  - Siege of 701 BC
  - Capture of Lachish
  - King Hezekiah
STRUCTURE OF ISAIAH

- Jerusalem judged & condemned (chs 1-12)
- God’s righteousness among the peoples (chs 13-27)
- A righteous king in Jerusalem (chs 28-35)
- Jerusalem saved, but shadow of Babylon looms (chs 36-39)
- Return to Jerusalem from Babylonian exile (chs 40-55)
- New heavens & new earth (chs 56-66)
ADVENT WEEK 1

Dec 2nd First Sunday of Advent
Dec 3rd Mon. Is 2:1-5 The Lord draws all the nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom
Dec 4th Tues. Is 11:1-10 On him the Spirit of the Lord rests
Dec 5th Wed. Is 25:6-10a The Lord invites us to his banquet and wipes away the tears from every cheek.
Dec 6th Thurs. Is 26:1-6 Let the upright nation come in, she, the faithful one.
Dec 7th Fri. Is 29:17-24 That day the eyes of the blind will see.
Dec 8th Sat. Immaculate Conception

[Is 39:19-21,23-26 - He will be gracious to you when he hears your cry.]
Dec 3rd Mon. Is 2:1-5 The Lord draws all the nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom

Mt 8:5-11 Many will come from east & west to take their places in the Kingdom of heaven.
Dec 4th Tues. Is 11:1-10 On him the Spirit of the Lord rests

Lk 10:21-24 Jesus is filled with joy by the Holy Spirit
Dec 5th Wed. Is 25:6-10a The Lord invites us to his banquet and wipes away the tears from every cheek.

Mt 15:29-37 Jesus cures many & multiplies the loaves
Dec 6th Thurs. Is 26:1-6 *Let the upright nation come in, she, the faithful one.*

Mt 7:21,24-27 *The person who does the will of my Father will enter the kingdom of heaven*
FRIDAY WEEK 1

- **Dec 7th** Fri. Is 29:17-24  *That day the eyes of the blind will see.*

- **Mt 9:27-31** Two blind men who believe in Jesus are cured.