

Year B, Week 1

Text: Isaiah 9: 2, 6

Idea: A Savior is Prophesied

Hymn suggestion: Away in a Manger

Items Needed: none, or as much as you want – the felt set-up for Eden, the ten commandments “tablets,” the Noah’s ark, a prophet figure, a baby in a manger, etc.

Throughout time, God has been reaching out to people.

He built Adam and Eve a garden so that He could live with them and be with them.

But they messed up and had to leave the garden, and from that point on, the people were separated from God.

God wanted to be with his people again, so He tried to teach them how to be holy, how to live with him – he gave them rules to live by. The people tried, but they soon forgot about the rules and lived as though they were far away from God and His kingdom.

God still wanted to be with his people, so He sent a flood to wash the world clean, but even after He cleaned the world and made a new promise with the people, the people forgot about Him and broke the promise. They were still separated from Him.

Then God sent messengers – prophets – to tell people how to be holy, as God is holy. But the people mostly ignored the prophets and forgot about God. They were still separated from Him.

In today’s lesson, God speaks through the prophet Isaiah. He tells his people that he’s going to try something different – that he’s going to send them a savior so that he can be with his people again.

He says, “You’ve all be walking around in the darkness, but I am going to send you a great light, the light of the world!

I am going to send you a child!

A son will be given to you!

He will rule the world – he will reign over the kingdom of God.

You will call him...Wonderful Counselor because his words will have such wisdom and comfort.

You will call him ...Mighty God because he will even do miracles.

You will call him ... Everlasting Father because he and Father God are one.

You will call him ... Prince of Peace because he will bring you a new kind of peace and wholeness, a new kind of shalom.

Questions without Response:

- I wonder ... why God sends a child to solve the problem of him being separated from his people?
- I wonder ... if you have heard words of comfort and wisdom at church?
- I wonder ... if you remember some of the miracles we learn about in the Bible?
- I wonder ... how we can say that Jesus is the son of God – but also God?
- I wonder ... if ever feel a deep peace when you are at church or when you are praying or thinking about God?