

HERE IS YOUR GOD

Isaiah 40:12-31

ADVENT

- Four Sundays leading up to Christmas
- A time to consider the importance of the incarnation – God's saving work amongst us in Jesus



RECONCILIATION

- God's reconciling work in Jesus to create a new humanity
- To reconcile us and lead us in the journey of reconciling others



HOPE

- As seen in Isaiah – our true hope is found in God and his revelation as seen in the person of Jesus



OUR GREAT CREATOR GOD

Isaiah 40:12-17

FOUR RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

1. Who has measured the waters? (v12)
- Creator of oceans & mountains



FOUR RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

2. Who is God's teacher? (v13)
- who has instructed God?



FOUR RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

3. Who taught God justice? (v14)
- as we have seen in Amos



FOUR RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

4. Who has taught him knowledge? (v14-15)
- God is greater than the nations



Yahweh is the original creative agent in the life of the world.

Walter Brueggemann



GREATER THAN THE NATIONS' IDOLS

Isaiah 40:18-20

WORKS OF ARTISANS

- Irrelevant in comparison to God (v18,20)





TODAY'S IDOLS

- The god of money
- Gods of power, sex, fame
- They have no lasting power and often no real substance to our lives



GREATER THAN THE NATIONS' POWER

Isaiah 40:18-20

GOD IS ABOVE THE NATIONS

- The princes are as nothing (v23)



GREATER THAN ASTRAL POWERS

- Stars are not gods
- No power in fate
- Stars are witnesses to God's creation & power



GREATER THAN OUR WEAKNESS & FOIBLES

Isaiah 40:27-31

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'?



Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:27-31

GOD UNDERSTANDS OUR CHALLENGES

- People make their complaints to God (v27)
- We ask, 'Where are you God?'



GOD UNDERSTANDS OUR FRAGILITY

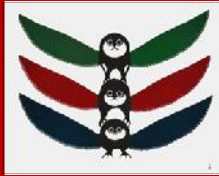
"He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless." (v29)



GOD EMPOWERS US TO OVERCOME

"but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." (v31)





GOING FORWARD

GOD IS OUR STRENGTH

- The Spirit empowers us
- The need to feed on Jesus



GOD IS OUR SHELTER

- God protects us
- Our need to wait upon God (v31)



GOD IS OUR SALVATION

- God is our security
- God's work in Jesus is the basis for our hope
- God reconciles us to himself and gives us the calling of reconciling others

