

SUNDAY GATHERING // 12.11.22

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- New to Seaside? We would love the chance to connect with you! You can fill out a connect card at the connect corner or online @ seasidechurch.com/connectcard.
- Next Saturday is our monthly Women's Group down here in the garage from 9-11a. We would love to have you join us to open our Bibles and gather together!
- Wednesday the 14th is our Youth Christmas Party from 6-8p. Details @ seasidechurch.com/events.
- Seaside is hosting a workshop on Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work, led by Jennie Haney. If you would like to join our class in Feb or May, please register @ seasidechurch.com/workshop.
- Our Christmas Eve Gatherings will be 4 & 5:30p. Bring Christmas cookies to share together after the gathering. Registration and details @ seasidechurch.com/christmaseve. On Christmas day we will have a simple gathering at 9a only, no SeasideKids, no livestream.
- Please consider giving to the Year-End Gift. This is an opportunity to give above and beyond for ministry opportunities that fall outside our normal monthly operating budget. The goal this year is \$22,000! You can give and see all the details @ seasidechurch.com/yearendgift.

COLLECT:

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

READINGS:

Isaiah 35:1-10

[1] The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the
crocus;

[2] it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

[3] Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

[4] Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."

[5] Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

[6] then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

[7] the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

[8] And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

[9] No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

[10] And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. [ESV]

Psalm 146

James 5:1-12

[1] Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. [2] Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. [3] Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. [4] Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. [5] You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. [6] You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

[7] Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. [8] You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. [9] Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. [10] As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. [11] Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

[12] But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. [ESV]

Matthew 11:2-19

[2] Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples [3] and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" [4] And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: [5] the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. [6] And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

[7] As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? [8] What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. [9] What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. [10] This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.'

[11] Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. [12] From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. [13] For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, [14] and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. [15] He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

[16] "But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

[17] "'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'

[18] For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' [19] The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds." [ESV]

LECTIONARY TEXTS FOR 12.18.22 THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT:

Isaiah 7:10-17 // Psalm 24 // Romans 1:1-7 // Matthew 1:18-25