**Intergenerational Worship**

**Bible Reading - Isaiah 2:1-5 and Psalm 122**

*Year A – Advent 1 November 27 2016*

**What is this:** Intergenerational Bible Reading and Art Observation

**Where it’s used:** In any intergenerational gathering, but specifically Lectionary based gatherings.

**Time:** 8 minutes

**Bible Focus/theme:** Isaiah 2:1-5 and Psalm 122

**What’s needed:**
- Art work for Isaiah 2/Psalm 122 by Chris Booth

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**Introduction**

Today we have two readings from the Old Testament – one from the prophet Isaiah, and one from a Psalm. They are two different kinds of writing, though both are a bit like poems, but different Authors, associated with different parts of the history of the people of God.

The Artist Chris Booth has drawn a picture of one of the passages. And we are going to try to figure out which passage it is.

*Display Artwork*
To do this, we will divide into two teams. Team Isaiah and Team Psalm.

- **Divide your gathering into these two teams.**

- **Invite Team Isaiah to read Isaiah 2:1-5 aloud together while Team Psalm listen and look at the Artwork, thinking about how the passage might have been illustrated in the picture.**

- **Invite Team Psalm to read Psalm 122 aloud together while Team Isaiah listen and look at the Artwork, thinking about how the passage might have been illustrated in the picture.**

Turn to the person next to you and tell each other which Bible passage you think the artist Chris was thinking of when he created the picture and why.

- **Display the image with each of the passages on either side**

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**Isaiah 2:1-5**
2:1 The word that Isaiah son of Amos saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
2:2 In days to come the mountains of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.
2:3 Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
2:4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.
2:5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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**Psalm 122**
122:1 I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”
122:2 Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
122:3 Jerusalem built as a city that is bound firmly together.
122:4 To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
122:5 For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.
122:6 Praise for the peace of Jerusalem:
   “May they prosper who love you.”
122:7 Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.”
122:8 For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.”
122:9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

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- **Regather the group and take suggestions as to which parts of each passage might connect to which parts of the image.**

- **Use a permanent marker or highlighter to annotate the text and image, connecting these together.**
Conclusion

Perhaps you’ve come to the conclusion that the artist Chris, knew both of these parts of the Bible and had them in mind when he created this beautiful image of many people coming to God – some with weapons, which are turned into farming tools, and some coming unarmed. Perhaps the writer of Isaiah knew this Psalm too. There are many things that they share. There are some important differences too.

The Isaiah Poem calls us to share God’s work for a future in which all nations come safely without fear of fighting, to God. And the Psalm calls us to pray for peace right now, right in our own city. Let’s shape our prayers this week in both these ways.