

Advent in Isaiah

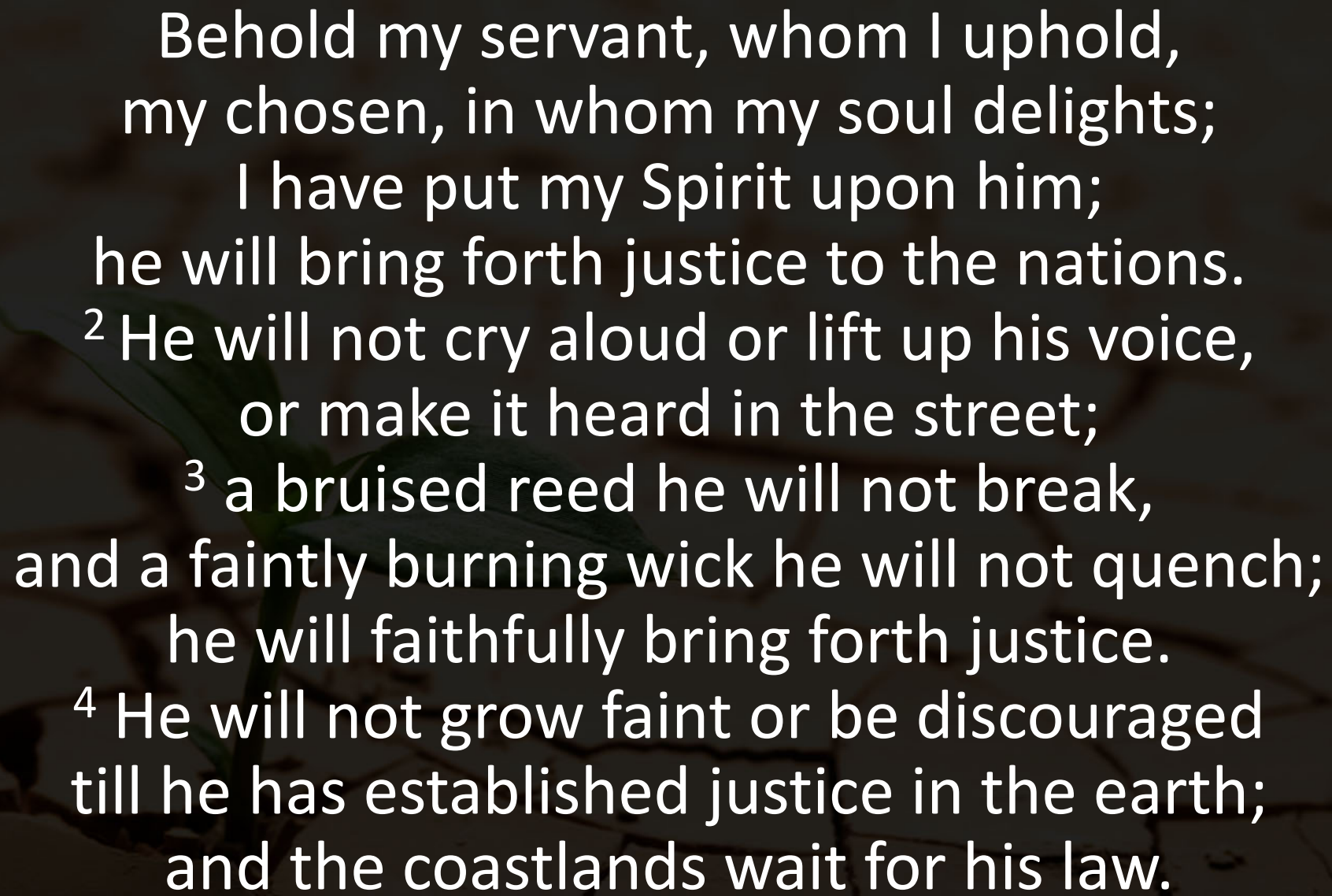
The Third Sunday of Advent: Love

Isaiah 42:1-12

“Good News of Great Joy”

“and a little child shall lead them”


Isaiah 11:6

A small green plant with two leaves is growing out of a patch of dry, cracked earth. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wall or a large rock, with the plant and the cracked earth in the foreground.

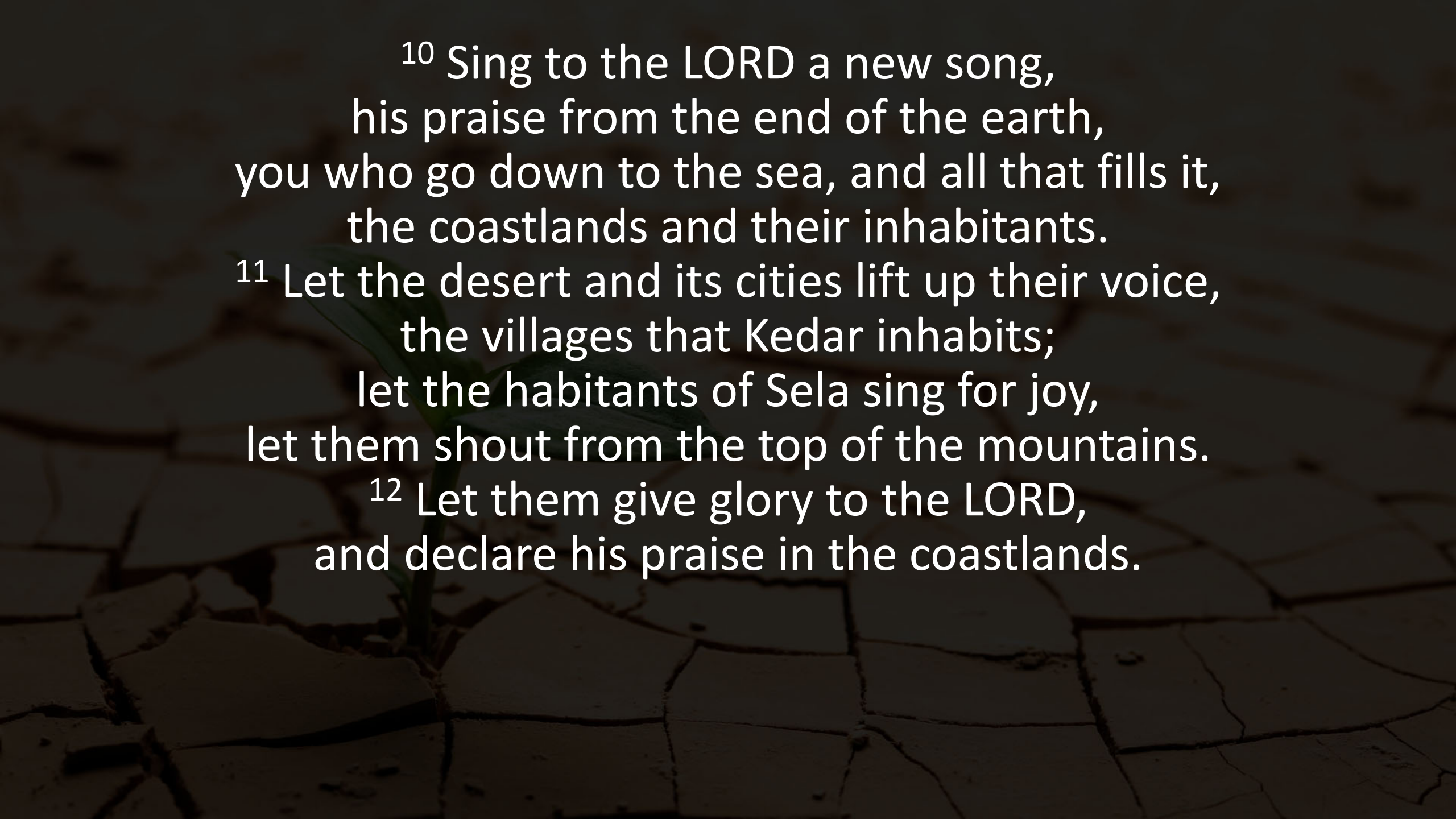
Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.

⁵ Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.



⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth I tell you of them.”



¹⁰ Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth,
you who go down to the sea, and all that fills it,
the coastlands and their inhabitants.

¹¹ Let the desert and its cities lift up their voice,
the villages that Kedar inhabits;
let the habitants of Sela sing for joy,
let them shout from the top of the mountains.

¹² Let them give glory to the LORD,
and declare his praise in the coastlands.

Promises Made

⁵ Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

God is supremely glorious,
And has created us to be His,
to enjoy Him, each other and creation.

Promises Made

Covenants

“I am God. You are my kids.
You were designed to flourish.
Live like this, and I will bless you.”

Adam

Don't eat from
that tree

Abraham

I will make you a
great nation

Moses

10
Commandments

David

I will make your
throne eternal

Promises Broken

Psalm 106:43, 45

⁴³ Many times he delivered them,
but they were rebellious in their purposes
and were brought low through their iniquity.



Promises Broken

Psalm 106:43, 45

⁴³ Many times he delivered them,
but they were rebellious in their purposes
and were brought low through their iniquity.

⁴⁵ For their sake he remembered his covenant,
and relented according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

Promises Kept

The Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 15:17-18a

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land...”

⁶ “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Galatians 3:23, 26

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God....

²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be
just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Luke 2:12-14

“And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”*



*“Rejoice, Rejoice
Emmanuel
shall come to
thee oh Israel”*

Govaert Flinck, 1639

² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;

Just & Gentle

Transcendent
Powerful
Conquering
King

Immanent
Gentle
Vulnerable
Infant

Mark 15:17-20

And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began to salute him, “**Hail** (“JOY”), King of the Jews!” ¹⁹ And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

John 20:20

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were **glad** when they saw the Lord.

Promises Enjoyed

¹⁰ Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth,



HE IS my joy,
not just what he's done.

Revelation 5:11-12

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne
and the living creatures and the elders the
voice of many angels, numbering myriads of
myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²
saying with a loud voice,

*“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and
might and honor and glory and blessing!”*

Psalms 43:4

Then I will go to the
altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy,

^{3b} he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;

Westminster Catechism

Question #1: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever

We have been created for Joy

The opposite of Joy isn't sadness, it's fear and anxiety.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice....
⁶ do not be anxious about anything,

Advent Application:

Grow in our appreciation of how far God came and how much He's given, which will result in use joining the angels in Luke 2 and Revelation 5 in incredible, natural, global, eternal, spontaneous, beautiful, joyous worship.