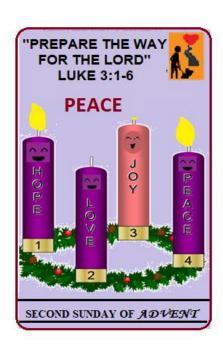
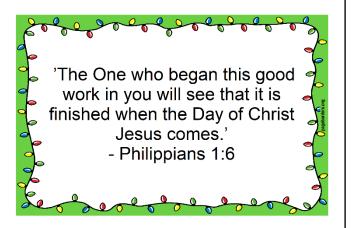
# "Prepare the Way for the Lord." Second Sunday of the advent. Children's Liturgy Activity December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021



### VERSE OF THE WEEK



#### Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

In today's gospel, we see the word of God coming to St. John the Baptist, son of Zechariah. St. John the Baptist was in the wilderness when the word of God came to him. He went through the whole of Jordan district proclaiming the word of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Prophet Isaiah has already prophesied about St John the Baptist as the voice crying out from the desert: prepare the way for the lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah, who was a priest, and Elizabeth, who was the cousin of Mother Mary. The word of God came to John while in wilderness. Wilderness is a wild region like desert, forest etc. that is lonely without people and uncultivated. Have we felt the wilderness experience anytime? Do we seek, recognize, or listen to word of God coming to us? Wildernesses are times to seek and listen to Lord.

Years ago, a word of God came to Prophet Isaiah regarding John. Isaiah revealed him as 'a voice crying in the wilderness.' All the word in scriptures is speaking to us. John recognized his mission when the word of God came to him. Are we able to discover our mission in lord when we listen or read the word of God? Lord's words come to us with a mission.

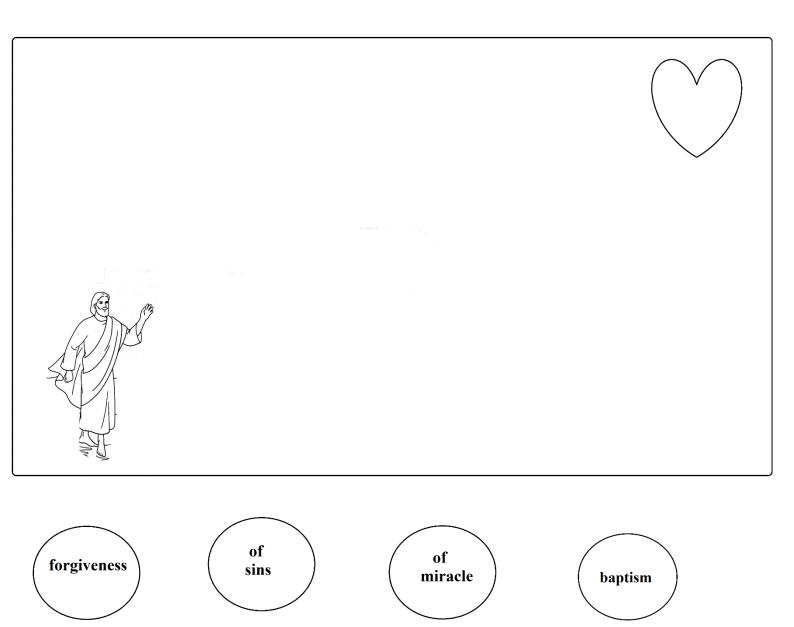
How did John prepare the way for the Lord? He cried out the word that came to him and made known the people the message of repentance. He prepared the hearts of the people.: through baptism of repentance in river Jordan for forgiveness of sins. What is baptism of repentance? It is the way of turning away from the past life and turning toward a new life.

Repentance makes us humble, fill us with God's grace, makes all unclear and hard ways clear and smooth. It prepares our heart to receive Jesus, who forgive all sins and makes us new creation in him filling us with Holy Spirit. It brings the kingdom of God in us.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas- the first coming of Jesus, let us prepare our hearts filling in god's grace through repentance and confession. Let us seek and find His wish- our mission from the word of God.Let us cry out to make his word known to all. Let us live the gospel and make way for Jesus to the hearts of many anticipating his Second coming.

## 'Prepare a way for the Lord'

How did John the Baptist prepare the way for the lord? Cut and paste the right pebbles in the right order to make way for the Lord to our heart.



sleep

of

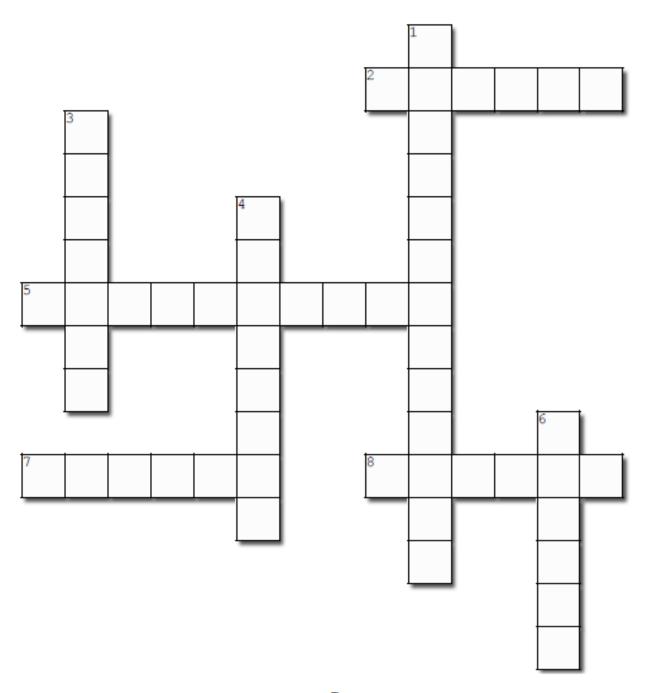
power

 $\mathbf{of}$ 

judgement

repentance

#### **Crossword Puzzle**



#### **Across**

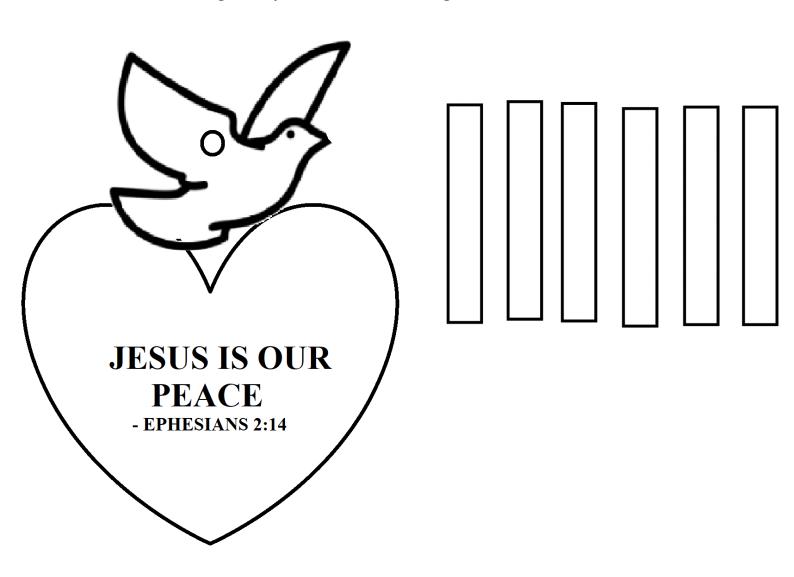
- 2. St John Baptised in river -----5. A wild area which is not used by people
- 7. The prophet who prophesized about John the Baptist.
- 8. An area of low land between hills or mountains

#### Down

- 1. In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, who was the governor of Judaea,
- 3. John the Baptist proclaimed the ----- of Repentance
- 4. Prepare a way for the Lord, make his path -----
- 6. To feel or show that you are sorry for something bad or wrong that you did and that you want to do what is right.

#### **Peace Craft**

Cut out the template of the dove. Stick it on a hard paper. Colour it and decorate it with glitter. Cut out the strip templates and colour in different colours. Now stick the paper strips behind the heart template. Tie a thread in the hole given upon the dove and hang it on the Christmas tree.





Dear God, John the Baptist received your word in the wilderness, and he cried out to make your word known to all . Give us grace to listen, recognize and proclaim your word to all. Help us in your mercy to prepare ourselves for you and make way for you to enter all hearts by proclaiming your love and forgiveness that we have experienced.

In Jesus' name we pray, amen.