

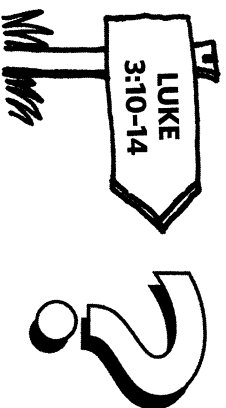
THINK and LOOK ahead

• FOOTPRINTS IN FAITH •

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

# Be prepared

LUKE 3:1-6



What three things did John tell the people they must do?

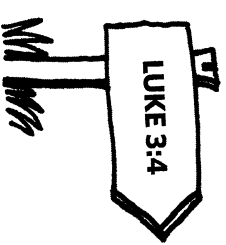
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

God sent John the Baptist  
to prepare the way for Jesus.

Use the code to find out what Isaiah said John would do



△	○	□	A	F	O	T
□	D	H	P	W		
	E	L	R	Y		
	1	2	3	4		



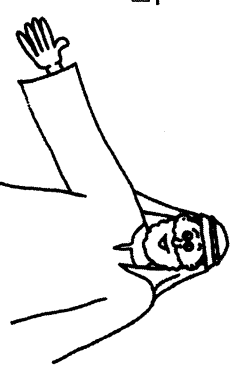
“

3○ 3□ 1□ 3○ 1△ 3□ 1□

1△ 4○ 1△ 4□ 2△ 3△ 3□











































4△ 2○ 1□ 2□ 3△ 3□ 1○

”



**THINK** and **LOOK** ahead

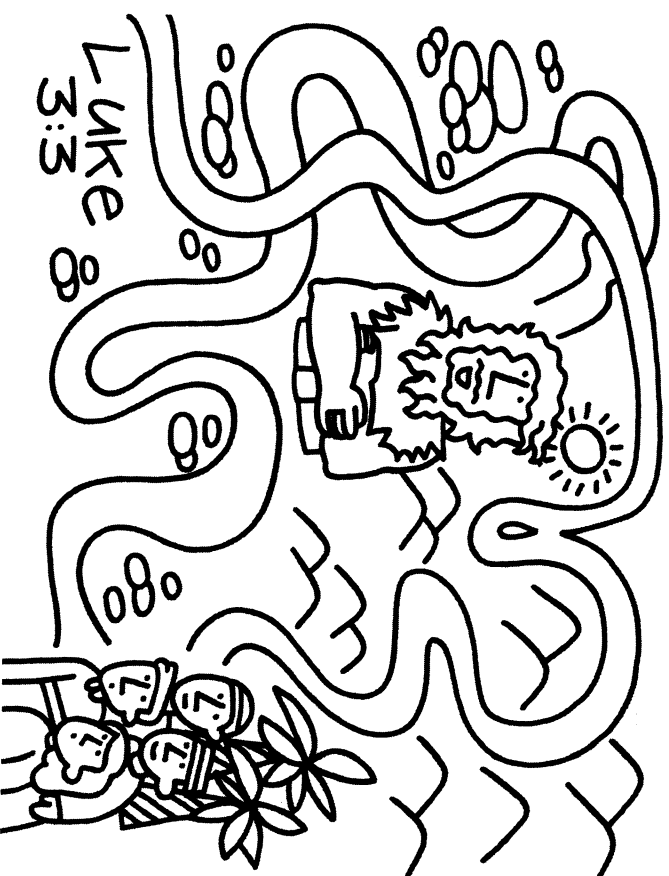


SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

## LUKE 3:1-6

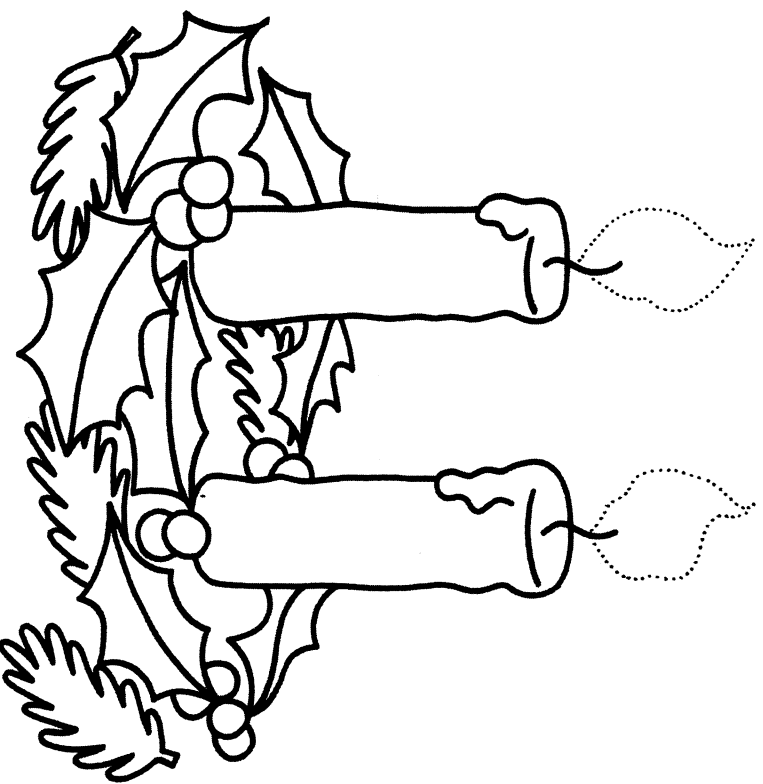
**Help the people find their way to John**



Today is the  
Second Sunday  
of Advent.

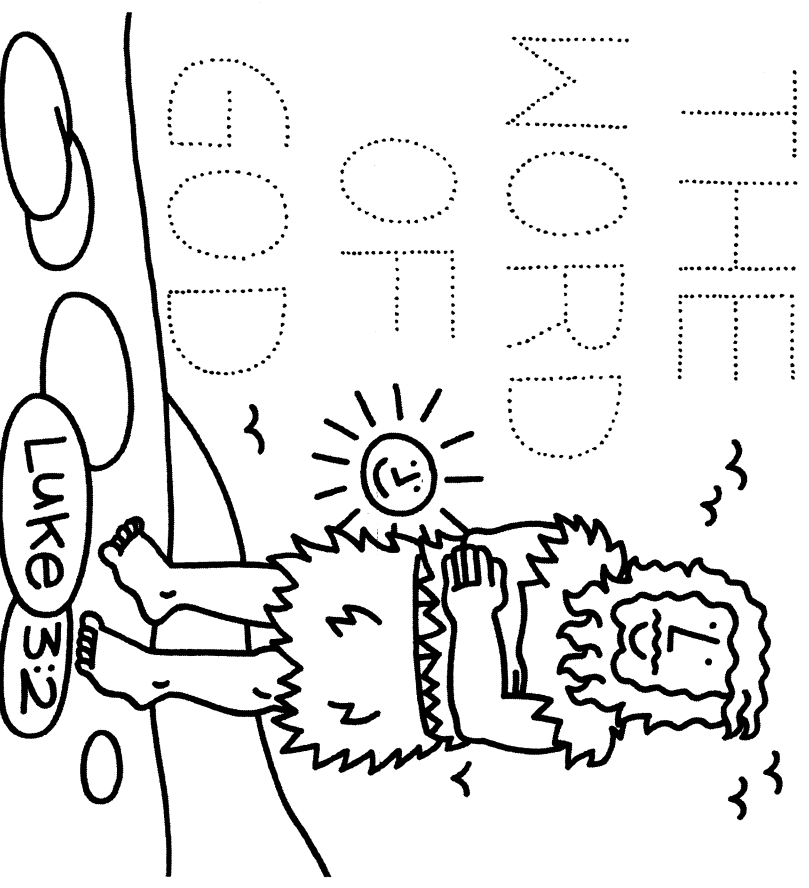
*How many candles do we light today?*

Trace the flames and color the picture



While John was  
in the wilderness, what  
came to him there?

Trace the letters to find out

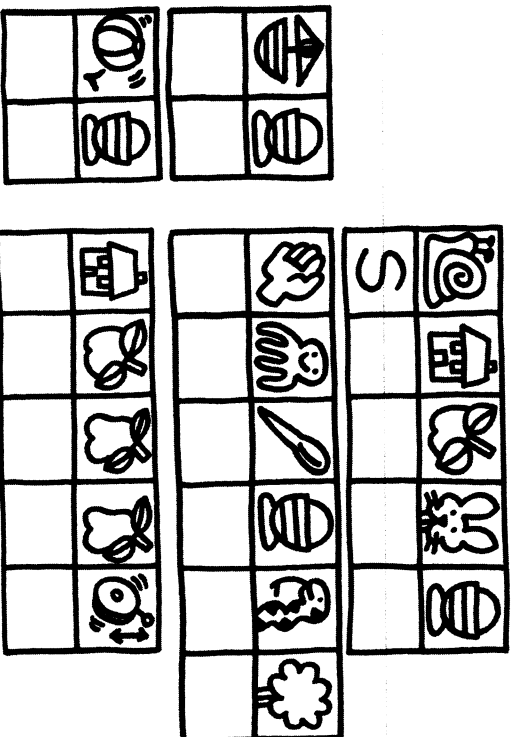


**THINK** and **LOOK** ahead

For the next week  
find out what John  
told the people to do  
to please God.



Write the letter that begins each word



• STEP BY STEP •

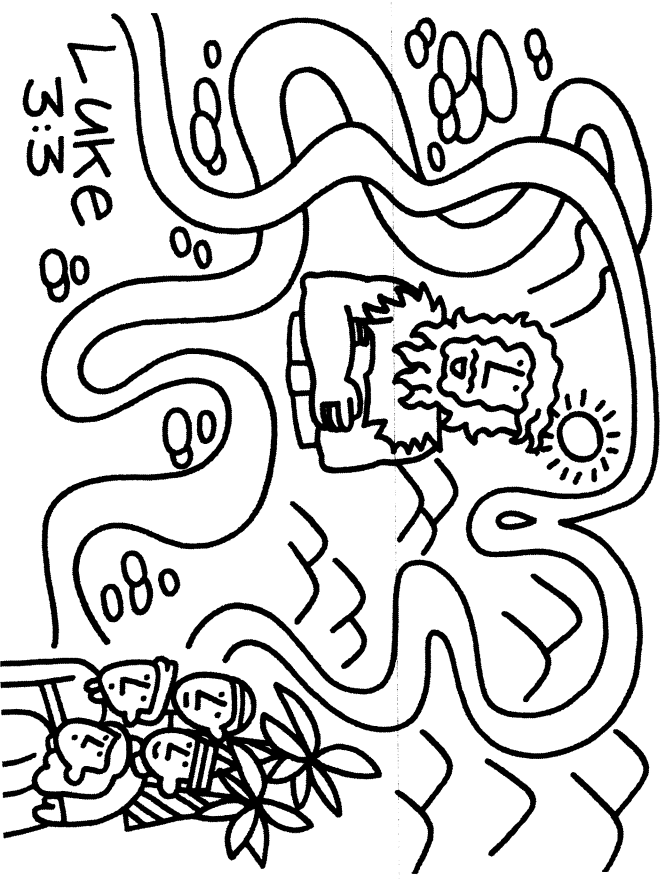
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

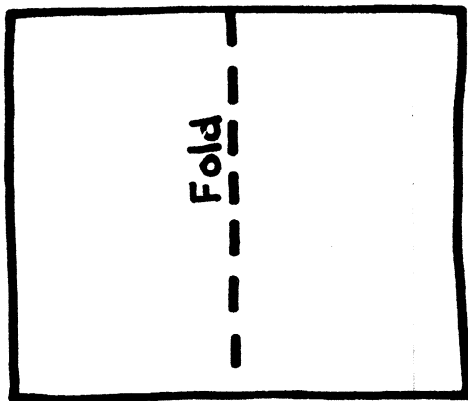
# Making a fresh start

LUKE 3:1-6

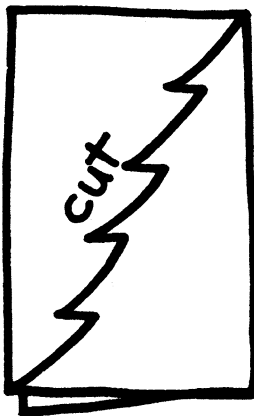
God sent John the Baptist  
to show people the way to Jesus.

Help the people find their way to John

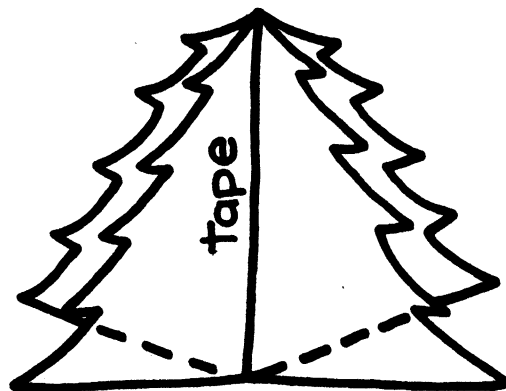




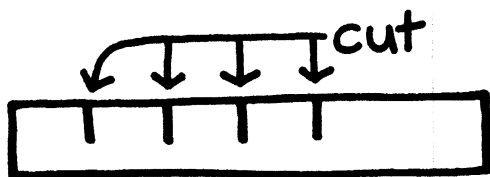
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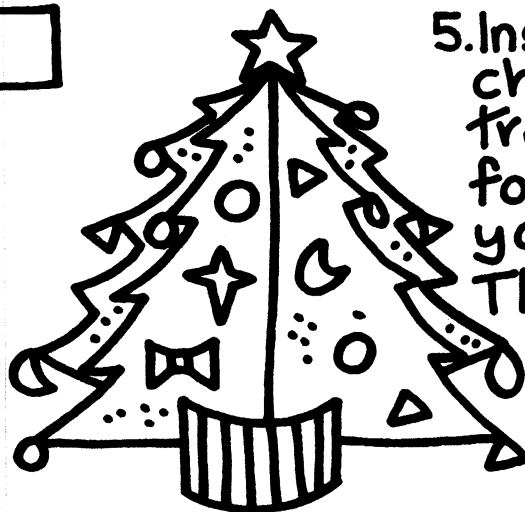
2. Trace the shape of the tree on each and cut out.



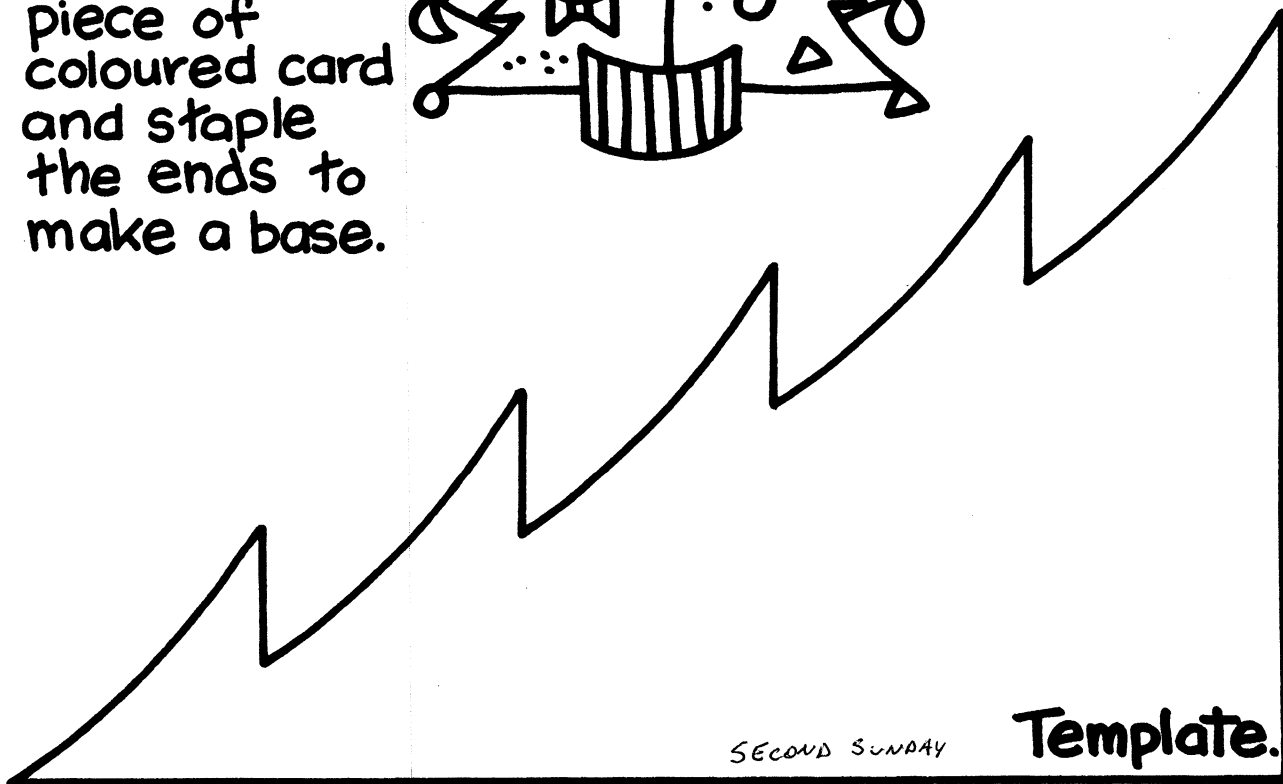
3. Tape the four shapes together along the folds.



4. Roll another piece of coloured card and staple the ends to make a base.



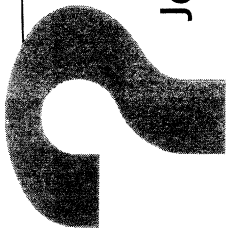
5. Insert the christmas tree into the four slits you have cut. Then decorate.



SECOND SUNDAY

OF ADVENT C

Template.



What came to  
John the Baptist in the  
wilderness?

Use the clues to find the  
missing letters and decode the answer

A place where trees grow

△ □ ◇ ○ ▽ ↑

What a kangaroo does

└ □ ☆ ▽

Baseball bats are made from this

~ □ □ ▴

A very thick mist

△ □ =o=

Opposite of enemy

△ ◇ \* ○ ▽ ▴

Season following autumn

~ \* ▽ ↑ ○ ◇

↑ └ ○ ~ □ ◇ ▴

□ △ =o= □ ▴

LUKE 3:2



Today is the  
Second Sunday of Advent  
and we light two candles  
on our wreath.

Write the first letter of each picture to find  
the missing words in the poem!

On this \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday,

\_\_\_\_\_ candles we light,

The \_\_\_\_\_ from our wreath,

Is now twice as \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_ sent John the Baptist,

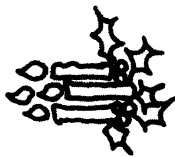
To help change our \_\_\_\_\_

And show us the \_\_\_\_\_ to make a fresh start

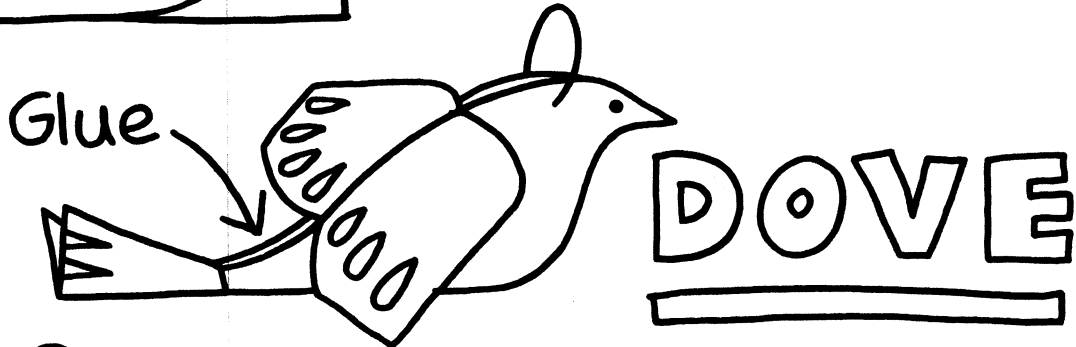
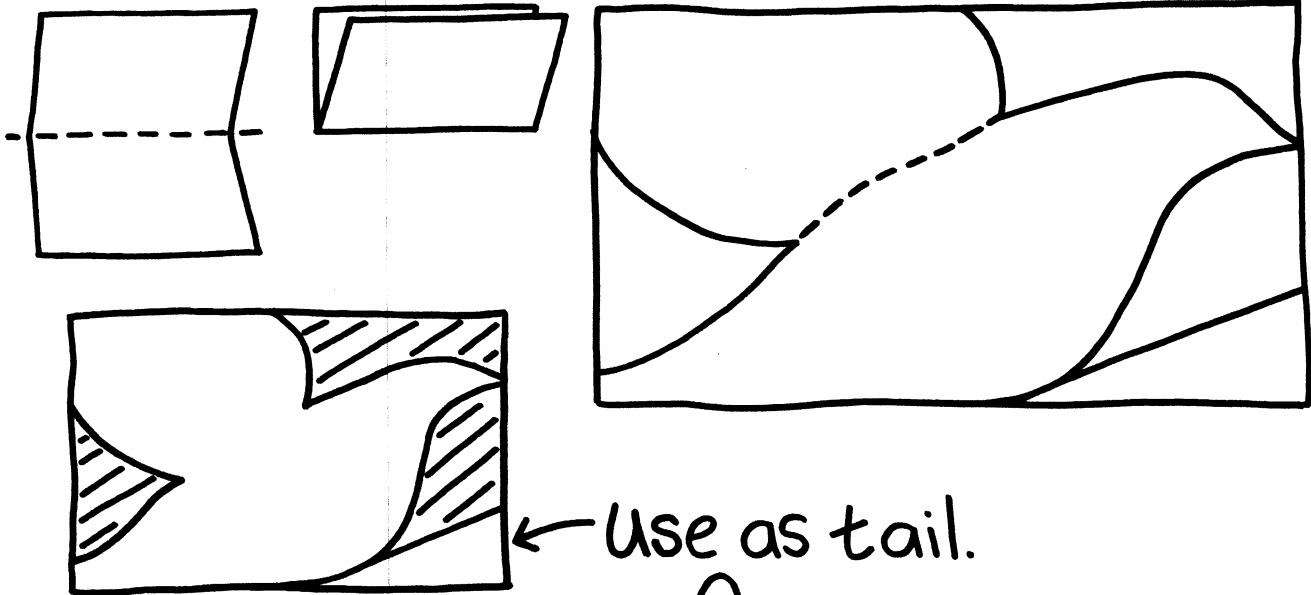
In the words of \_\_\_\_\_, "prepare a way,"

So that we will be ready for

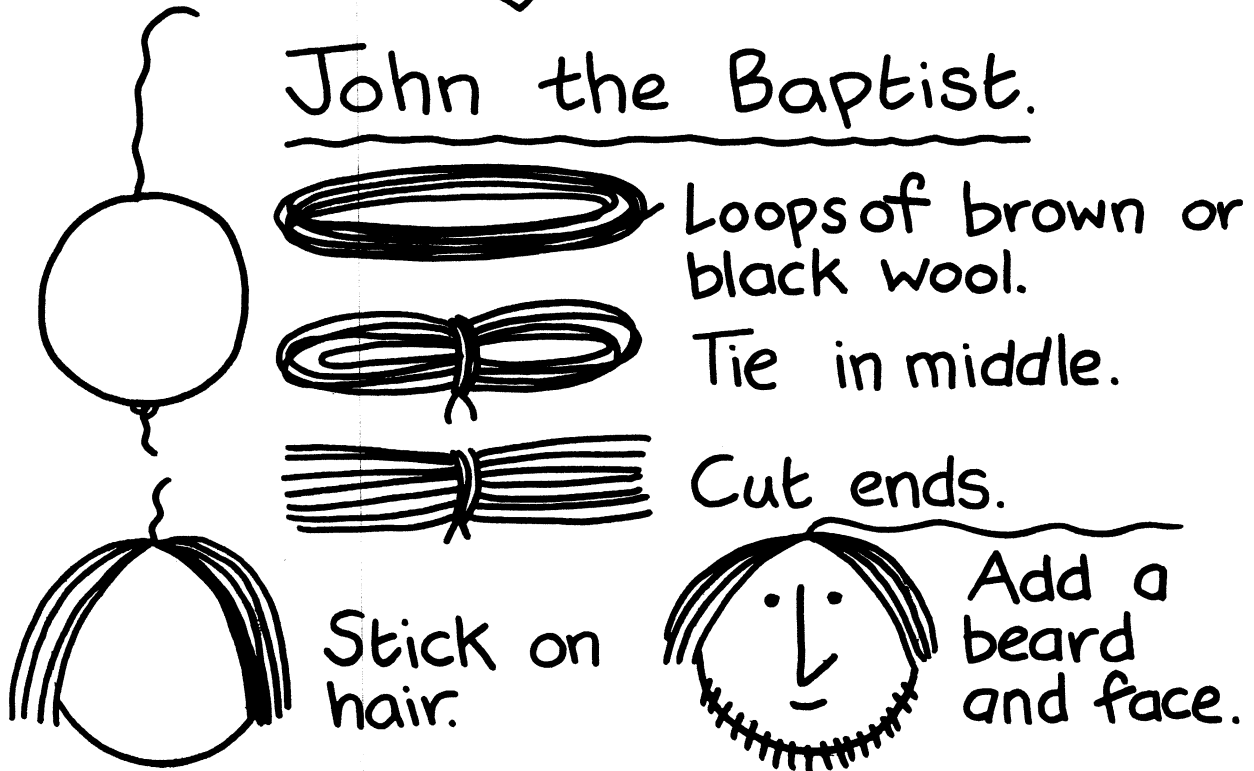
\_\_\_\_\_ day!



# Dove and John the Baptist.



## John the Baptist.



## Second Sunday of Advent

Prepare my people

### INTRODUCTION

The people of Israel had turned away from God's love. He had promised to send them a savior, but first he sent someone to prepare the people to welcome the Son of God.

### SIGN OF THE CROSS

### LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles, and also light two candles on the Advent wreath. Say together:

May the light of Jesus shine in our hearts.

### SORRY

John the Baptist told the people of Israel to turn back to God and ask for his forgiveness. Today we do the same as we sing Sorry Song 1 together.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing the Advent Song.

### GOSPEL (LUKE 3:1-6)

When Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Judea, a man appeared in the desert and began to preach the word of God; his name was John. He told the people to turn away from their sins and to ask for God's forgiveness. He baptized the people who were truly sorry and wanted to make a fresh start in their lives, and so he came to be known as "John the Baptist."

### DISCUSSION

What was the name of the man who appeared in the desert? What did he tell the people to do? John the Baptist wanted the people to turn back to God and ask for forgiveness. Then they could make a fresh start and try to lead better lives.

Water is used in many ways, but most importantly, it keeps us alive and makes us clean. John baptized all the people who were truly sorry, as a sign that they wanted to wash away all their sins, and so begin a new life with a fresh start.

God sent John to prepare the people for the coming of his son, Jesus. He was filled with the Holy Spirit, and had the courage to stand before

the crowds and the Jewish priests and preach to them. He came to turn them away from sin and to change their hearts so that they were ready to listen to the words of Jesus when he came.

Ask the children to tell you what they know about John the Baptist. Read the following passage to tell them more about his family and how he was specially chosen by God:

Zechariah and Elizabeth (Mary's cousin) had been married for many years and had no children. They were good people who lived according to God's rules. Zechariah worked as a priest in the temple, and it was while he was there that the angel Gabriel appeared to him and said, "Do not be afraid! You and Elizabeth will have a son, and you will call him John. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit and be remembered for his greatness. He will lead the people of Israel back to God and prepare the for the Lord." (Luke 1:5-17)

Mary, the mother of Jesus, went to visit her cousin Elizabeth after the angel Gabriel had appeared.

### ACTIVITY

Continue decorating the Jesse tree or adding scenes to the Advent frieze.

### CREED

### CLOSING PRAYER

Help us, Lord, to be like John the Baptist,  
filled with your spirit and brave enough  
to say and do what is right.

Give us the courage to choose the right way,  
despite what others might say or think,  
because we believe in you  
and love you with all our hearts.



# Second Sunday of Advent

## Focus

A candle and a tray of sand with pebbles and some cacti or dried twigs to create a desert scene. Make a smooth sandy path between the rough stones on either side.

## Introduction

Before any important event there is always careful planning and preparation. God's plan was to save the world from sin by sending his Son Jesus to be our Messiah or Saviour. In preparation for this great event God sent a special messenger before Jesus to 'prepare a smooth path for the Lord' and to get the people ready to receive the Son of God into their lives.

## Gospel Acclamation

Light two candles on the Advent wreath and sing the Advent Acclamation for Year C.

## Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of St Luke (3:1-6)

When Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, a man appeared in the wilderness and began to preach the Word of God; his name was John. He called the people to turn away from sin and to ask for God's forgiveness, and he baptised them as a sign of turning back to God. All this happened just as the prophet Isaiah had foretold: 'A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare a path for the Lord. Make it straight and smooth and all people will see God's salvation."'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Reflection

*What was the name of the man who appeared in the wilderness?*

He was called John the Baptist.

*What was John like?*

Some Gospels describe John as wearing a 'rough coat of camel's hair' and eating 'locusts and wild honey' (Mark 1.6). Since we know that he was living and surviving in the wilderness, we can imagine him with a beard and untidy, long hair.

*What did John come to do?*

John had been chosen by God to help prepare the Israelites to welcome their Messiah or Saviour. Filled with the Holy Spirit, he began preaching to the people and baptising them in the river as a sign that they wanted to wash away their past mistakes, and start afresh with their lives.

*Do you know the name of the river where this happened?*

John is believed to have baptised people in the River Jordan close to the place where it leaves the Sea of Galilee.

*Are people still baptised today? Where and when does this usually happen?*

Most people are usually baptised as babies in a baptismal font rather than the local river! When a baby is received and welcomed into the family of the Church, its parents and godparents promise to pass on their faith and commit themselves to bringing that child up as a Christian.

## Activity

As symbols of today's Gospel, help the children to create doves (as a sign of baptism) and John the Baptist figures to hang from the tree.

*Doves*

Fold a sheet of paper or card in half. Draw a diagonal line and copy the shape as shown. Carefully cut out the dove shape, add the tail and a loop of gold thread, before gluing the bird's body together. Fold down the wings and hang from the tree.

*John the Baptist*

Make a hole at the top and bottom of a ping-pong ball. Thread it with gold string and make a knot at the bottom. Glue on lengths of black or brown wool for hair and a beard, and draw on a face.

## Intercessions

As brothers and sisters in one loving family, together let us pray to our heavenly Father:

Christ came to proclaim the Good News to the world; may Christians everywhere share his mission and Gospel.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Christ came to lead us away from sin; may we turn back to God's loving ways during this season of Advent.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Christ came to show us the way to his kingdom; may we have the courage to follow wherever he leads.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Christ came to heal the sick and raise the dead to life; may those who are suffering or dying be comforted by his peace and promise of eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing that our heavenly Father is listening, in the silence of our hearts let us share our own unspoken prayers with him.

*Silence*

Loving Father,  
through baptism we are reborn  
to new life as your children.  
Keep us close to your love as we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ your beloved Son.  
We make our prayers through Jesus our Lord.  
**Amen.**

# Second Sunday of Advent

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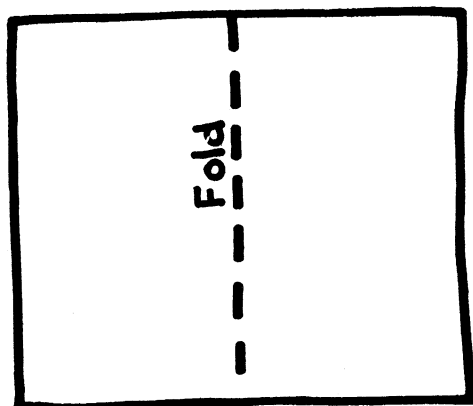
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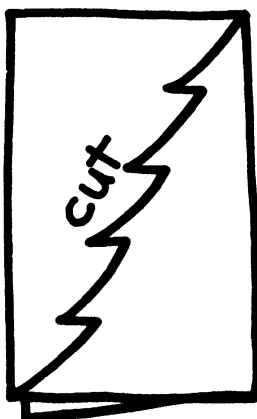
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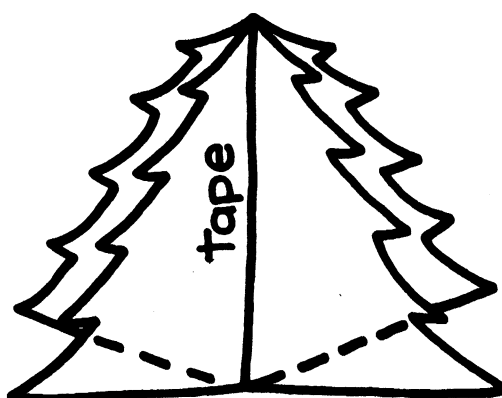
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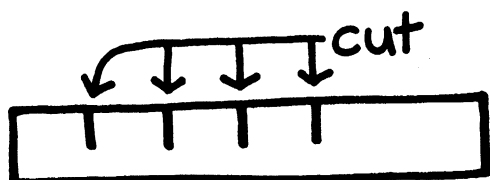
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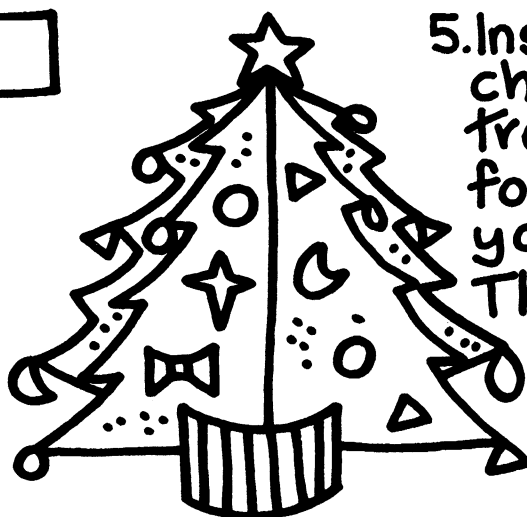
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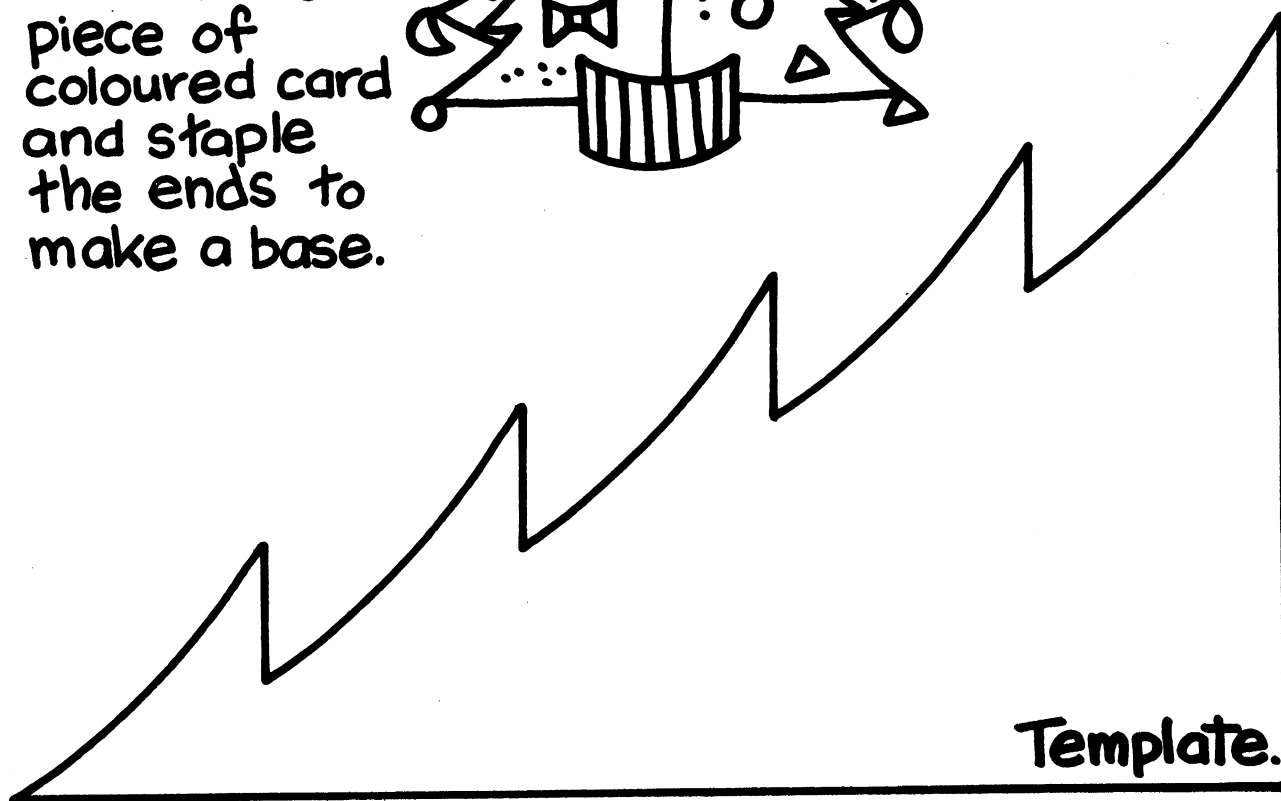
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Template.

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