

Sunday 4th December 2022

Second Sunday in Advent



Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 3: 1-12

Today, on our journey through Advent, we think about someone else who pointed the way to Jesus - John the Baptist. John, we are told, fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah and prepared the way of the Lord. He was a wild man, but he drew people to hear what he had to say about getting ready for Jesus, God's Messiah.

§ Today, we light the second candle on our Advent wreath.

As we light the second candle on our Advent wreath today, we remember the prophets. The prophets were people of the Old Testament who came so close to God, and he came so close to them, that they knew what was most important. They heard and believed God's promise that he would send a Messiah to rescue his people from their selfishness. Prophets spoke of the coming of Christ, and people waited, for hundreds of years. They knew a saviour was coming, even if they weren't sure exactly how or when it would be. At Christmas, we celebrate that God kept His promise. He sent Jesus as a saviour, and his presence is still with us today!

🙏 Here is a prayer for lighting the second candle:

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever! Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets but in our days you speak through your Son whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement; for you are our light and our salvation. Blessed be God for ever.

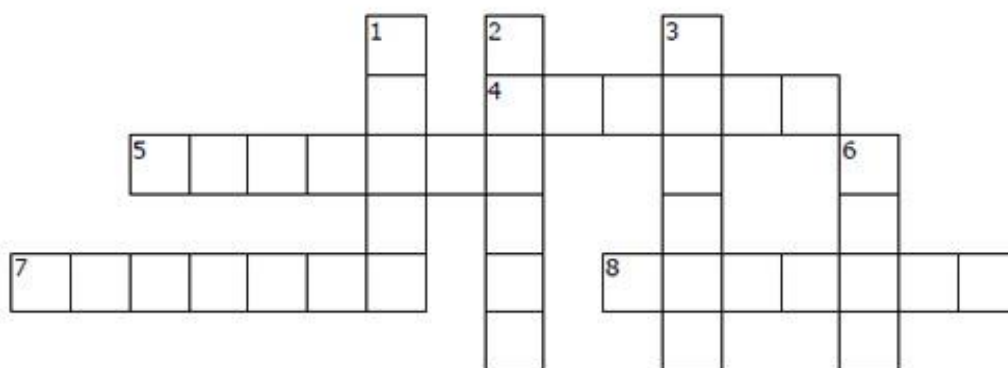
Here is the picture of the Advent wreath again, for you to colour:



A Voice in the Wilderness



In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
Matthew 3:1-2 (NIV)



ACROSS

4. To be sorry for something bad you have done and make a change
5. What John did to people in the Jordan River
7. To get ready for something that is going to happen
8. One who speaks for God, or tells what will happen in the future

DOWN

1. The sounds that are made when people speak or sing
2. To deliver a sermon
3. An area where there is little rain and not many plants
6. The man who preached that Jesus was coming

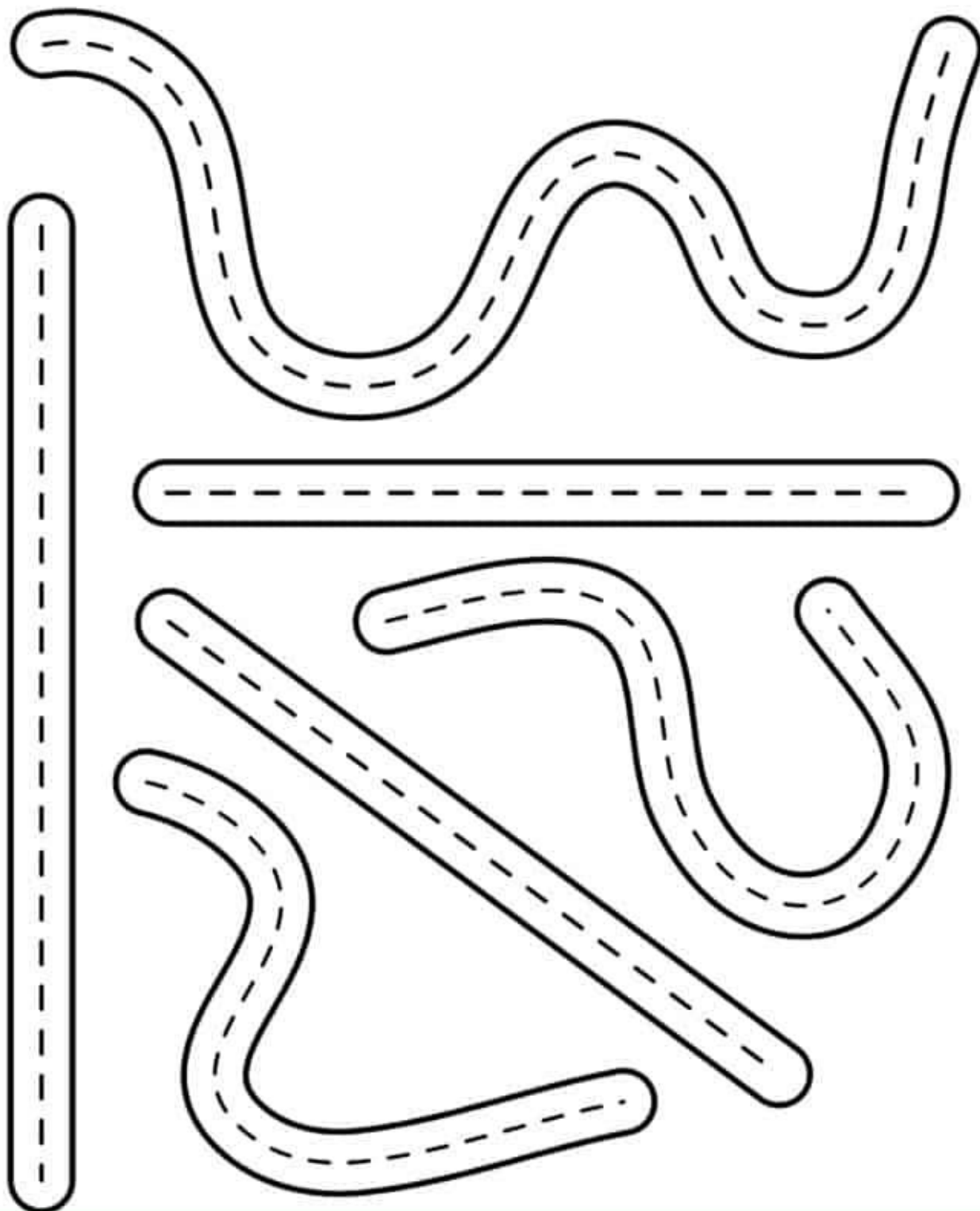
REPENT
JOHN

PREACH
PROPHET

VOICE
DESERT

BAPTIZE
PREPARE

Colour the straight paths green
Colour the curved paths red



John the Baptist

Lived in the _____.

Wore clothing made of

and _____.

Prepared
the way for

_____.



Was _____ months older than
Jesus.

Ate _____

and _____.

If you do not know the answer read Luke 1:26-27, 35-36, 76 and Matthew 3:1, 4 to fill in the blanks.

