



ADVENT WEEK 2

Faith

Mark 1:1-8

GOSPEL READING:

The beginning of the Gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger in front of you to prepare your way before you.

A voice of one that cries in the desert: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. John the Baptist was in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptized by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'After me is coming someone who is more powerful than me, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

REFLECTION:

A voice cries out in the wilderness, the wilderness of our culture, the wilderness of our hearts. The Lord is after our hearts, even in the wilderness.

- What thoughts and/or feelings come up when you read the Gospel passage?
- Relate all your thoughts to Jesus. Ask Him where He wants to focus specifically for this second week of Advent. Stay with Jesus here for a few minutes, listening, waiting upon Him to stir your heart.
- In what areas does your heart need to 'prepare' the way to be able to receive Christ on Christmas?
- When did you last go to confession?
- It's time to make paths straight, to prepare the way, step by step. What step can you take today?

Call to action:

- To whom are you called to be a John the Baptist during this season of Advent?

SONG SUGGESTION:

♪ ['Stand in Your Love' - Bethel Music, Josh Baldwin](#)