

***Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way***

December 6, 2015

Second Sunday of Advent

***Malachi 3:1-4***

***Luke 1:68-79***

***Philippians 1:3-11***

***Luke 3:1-6***



***Fanfare for a King*** Object: Several possibilities: a trumpet, a shofar, or a recording of a fanfare.

(If possible, begin by having someone play a fanfare on the trumpet or a blast on the shofar. If that is not possible, just show the children a trumpet or shofar or play a fanfare on a recording and adapt the sermon to fit your situation.)

Wow! That was exciting, wasn't it? That piece played on the trumpet is called a fanfare. A fanfare is a loud, short piece of music that is usually played on a trumpet to announce the arrival of someone important. For example, a trumpet fanfare is often played to announce the arrival of a king, queen or president.

The trumpet fanfare has been used to announce the coming of a king for many, many years. It was even used in Bible times! The Bible tells us that when Solomon was crowned as the King of Israel they blew the trumpet and shouted, "God save King Solomon." (1 Kings 1:34)

The word fanfare is also sometimes used to describe any showy celebration surrounding a special event. There is always a lot of fanfare surrounding the coming of a king, isn't there? Well, not always. There wasn't much fanfare surrounding the coming of Jesus. There were no trumpets and no one shouting, "God save the king!" The Bible tells us that there was only a man named John who was like a voice calling out in the desert saying, "Prepare the way for the Lord."

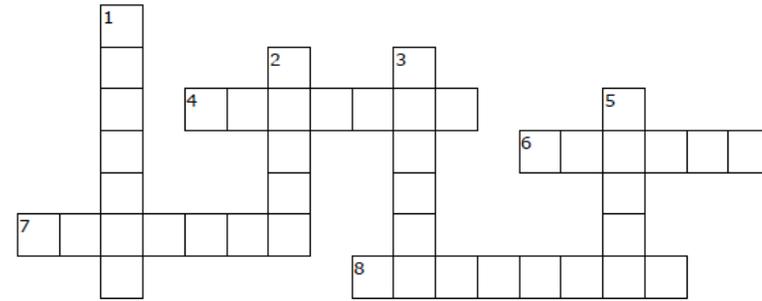
That wasn't much of a fanfare for a king, and it sure wasn't much of a fanfare for the King of Kings. As we look forward to the celebration of his birth, we do it with great fanfare. (Have trumpeter play the fanfare again.)

Heavenly Father, we look forward to celebrating the birthday of our King, Jesus. He is King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and the Prince of Peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia (Luke 3:4, 6)

**Crossword Puzzle**



**ACROSS**

- 4. Having bends, curves, or angles.
- 6. Having a surface free from roughness
- 7. To grant a pardon for sin.
- 8. Having no bends or curves.

**DOWN**

- 1. To make things ore oneself ready.
- 2. What we use to speak.
- 3. To turn away from one's sins.
- 5. Having an irregular, course, or shaggy surface

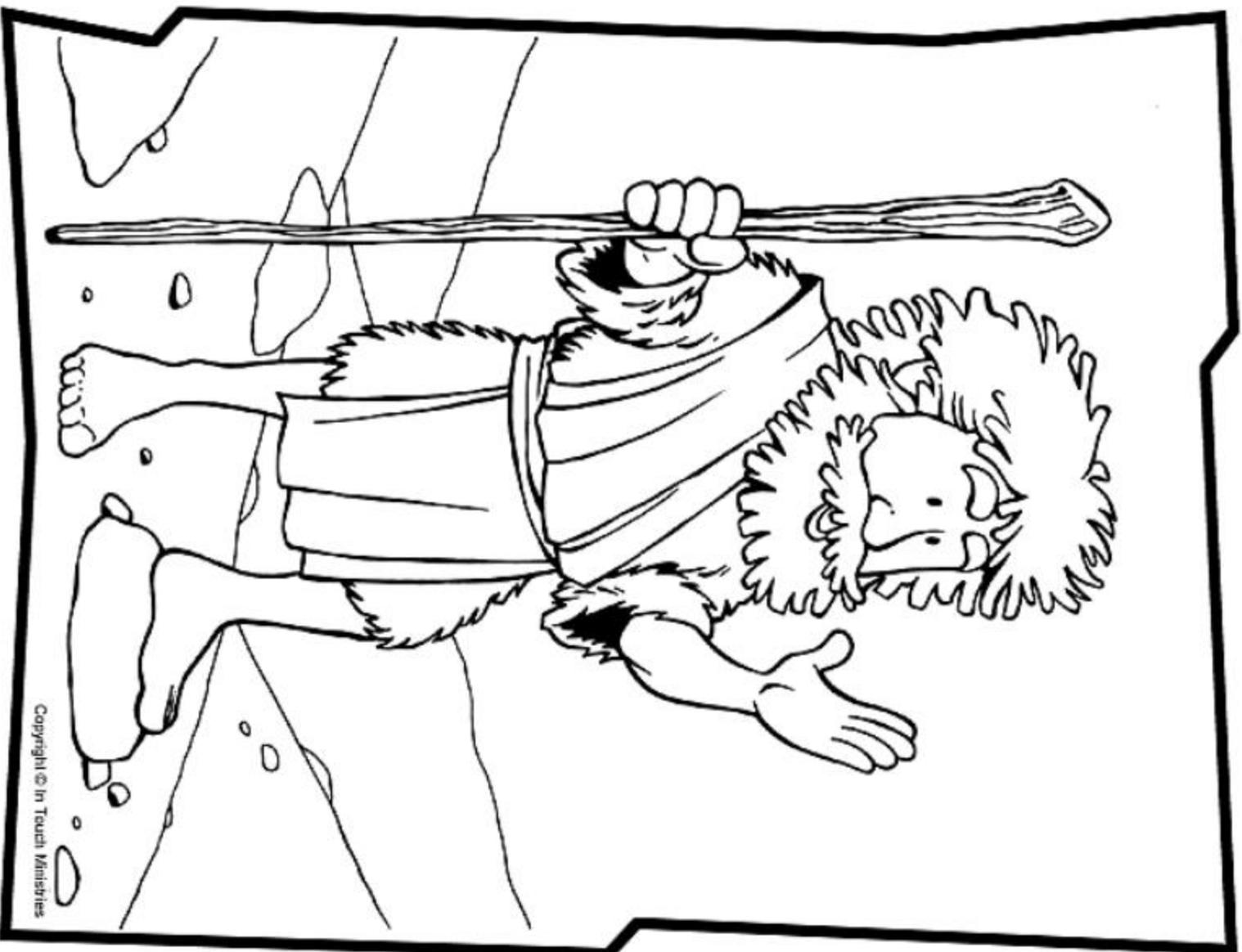
STRAIGHT	VOICE	FORGIVE	PREPARE
REPENT	ROUGH	SMOOTH	CROOKED

**CROWN DECORATING:** Cut a crown out of construction paper and encourage the children to decorate their crown with glitter, sequins and colored markers. Have them write words from today's Bible verses on their crown.

**TRUMPET SOUNDS:** Provide the children with empty paper towel rolls. The children will wrap them with shiny silver or gold paper. Have the children march around a designated area and blow their "trumpets" to announce the good news of Jesus's birth. They can speak words from today's lesson or sing songs.



# JOHN THE BAPTIST



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Matthew 3:3, Mark 1:3, Luke 3:4

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