

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR A

Advent is a season for preparing





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Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. John the Baptist called on people to 'repent' because God's kingdom was near (Matthew 3:2). What does it mean to repent?
- 2. What is one thing about yourself that you would like God's help to change?



## **BIBLE READINGS**

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Matthew 3:1-12	Prepare the way of the Lord
M	Isaiah 40:1-11	A voice crying in the wilderness
Т	John 1:19-28	The testimony of John the Baptist
W	Matthew 12:33-37	A good tree bears good fruit
Т	Isaiah 11:1-10	The branch from Jesse
F	Romans 15:4-13	Accept one another
S	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Prayers for prosperity

# VERSE OF THE WEEK

A messenger is calling out in the desert, "Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight paths for him."

MATTHEW 3:3





#### CREATIVE RESPONSE

Set up a box or empty crib under your Christmas tree.

Each night have a household member place pieces of straw in the crib (or yellow yarn or shredded paper strips) for kind acts done that day.

On Christmas Eve, when the crib is filled with straw, place a nativity figure of the Christ child in the crib.



#### MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for all you have prepared for us to share and eat and enjoy. Help us to prepare the way for you. Amen.



Lord God, make our lives straight paths which lead others towards you. Amen.



### **ACTION RESPONSE**

Is there someone in your church or local community who will not be sharing Christmas with their relatives this year?

Plan to invite them to be part of your Christmas celebrations.



# **BLESSING**

May God give you great joy and peace as you trust in him.