Second Sunday in Advent



Today's Gospel reading is Luke 3:1-6.

(2) Who do we learn about in this reading?

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.

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!

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

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:



JOHN THE BAPTIST



