December 6

**Mark 1:1-8**

1The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.  
  2As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,   
 “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
  who will prepare your way;  
 3the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
  ‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
  make his paths straight,’ ”  
4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”