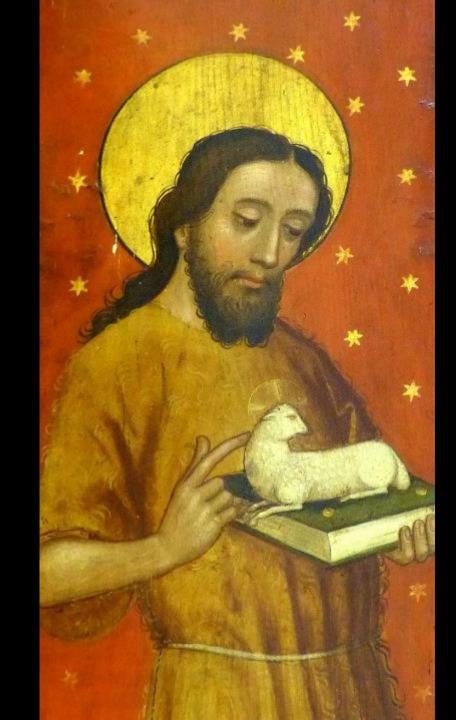


See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me ... indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

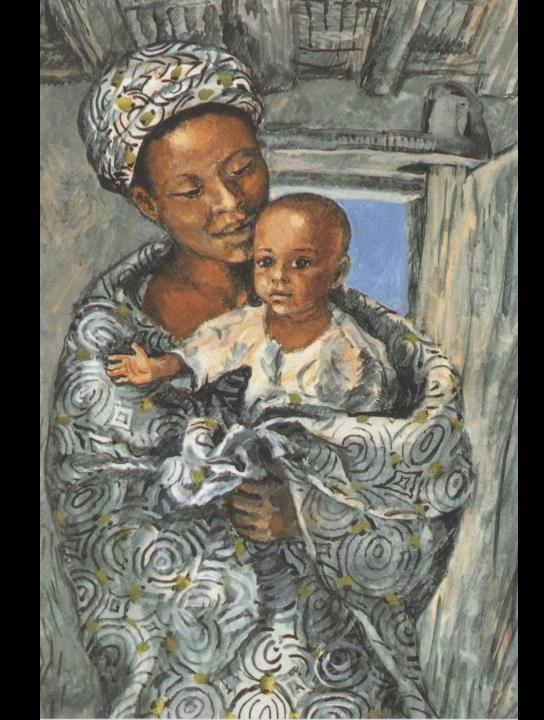
Malachi 3:1ac



John the Baptist

Altar of St. Catherine Church of St. John and St. Martin Schwabach, Germany "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel ...
He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,

Luke 1:68a, 69a



Mary and the Child Jesus

> JESUS MAFA Cameroon

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High ... to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

Luke 1:76a, 77



Christ Child Teaching in the Temple -- JESUS MAFA, Cameroon

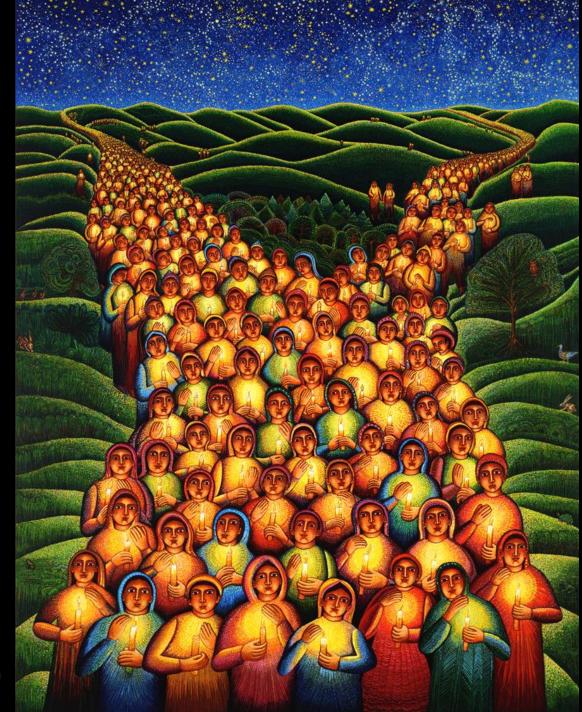
By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

Luke 1:78



to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Luke 1:79



Festival of Lights

John August Swanson

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow ... having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ ...

Philippians 1:9a,11a



Christmas Eve -- Carlton Smith, 1901

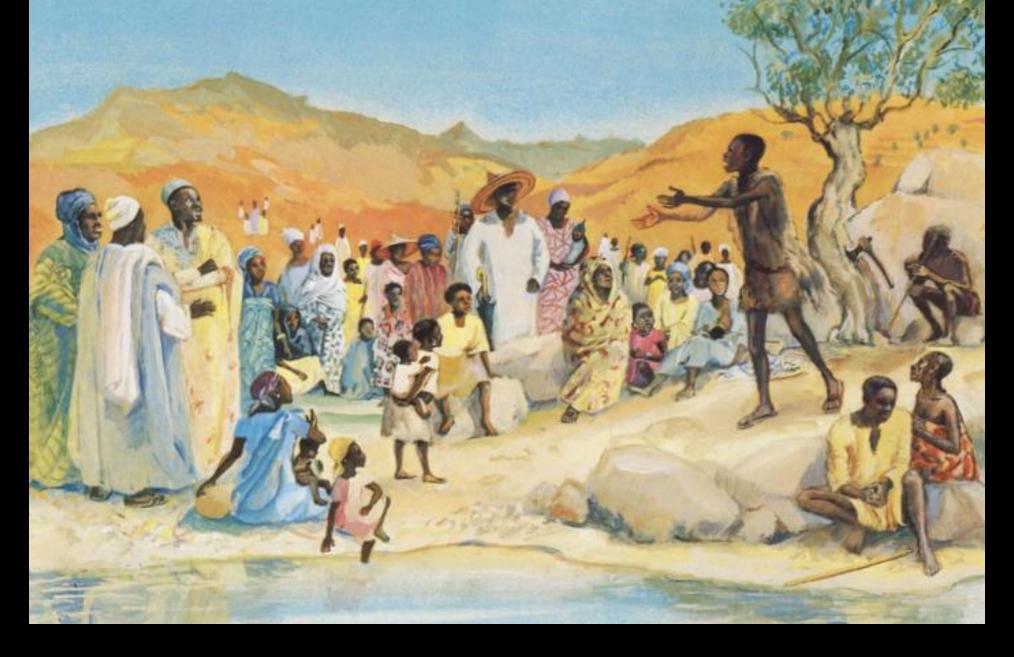
... the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

Luke 3:2

John the Baptist in the Wilderness

Geertgen tot Sint Jans Gemaldegalerie Berlin, Germany He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

Luke 3:3



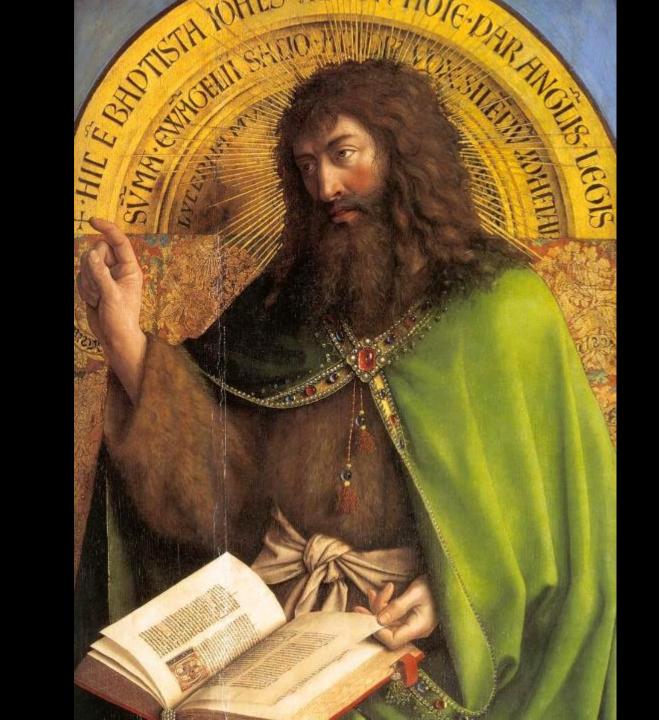
John the Baptist Preaching -- JESUS MAFA, Cameroon

as it is written ...

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Luke 3:4



John the Baptist

Jan van Eyck Ghent Altarpiece St. Bavo Cathedral Ghent, Belgium Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;

St. Christopher and the Christ Child on the Road of Life

Master of Guillebert de Mets Morgan Library New York, NY

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."



Angels Attend Mary and Jesus -- India, c. 1665, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA

Credits

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