January 7, 2024

"A Way Made Ready!" (Mark 1:1-8)

There's always one person missing in nativity scenes:
"Advent" means ""
God continually to us!
Coming to humanity is a of the very of God!
John the Baptist is the, the one who comes before another to the way!
Now it is the, all over again!
God is still creating, a restoration of everything sin has stolen from us and broken in us, a of who we are!
He is unleashing that can redeem everything sin destroyed, making all things!
The new of God springs forth in the person of!
In Jesus, all the promises of God are "!"
The prophets pictured a day when the Lord will send his, and grab that heart of and rip is out!
Then, through the Holy Spirit, the Lord will give a new heart of!
John says, "Jesus is coming to create a new in human hearts! (over)

In order to receive Christ, John invites us to get by coming out to the!
Wilderness is the where people of God get back in with God!
The Lord calls His people into the wilderness so worldly might fade into the rear view mirror!
The Promised Land is, but cannot be experienced until we journey into the!
John invites us to join the "way" of Jesus – the way where we find ourselves by ourselves!
John the Baptist enters the Christmas story to get us for the of Christ!

Let's use the New Year of 2024 to make sure that we are ready!