

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

# Go to the Wilderness!

Matthew 3:1-10; Mark 1:2-6; Luke 3:1-14

♩ = 100

Cm G G7 Cm G Cm Eb A♭M7 A♭ G<sup>7sus</sup> G G/B

1. Go to the wil - der - ness! Hear the voice of God! His  
2. Go to the wil - der - ness! Go con - front your sin. The  
3. Come to the wil - der - ness! Trust your God a - lone. His

Cm G<sup>7sus</sup>/D Cm Eb Fm B♭ Cm G+ G Cm G+G

ser - vant speaks the truth un - tamed, And not for your ap - plause. His  
Word that brings a storm of guilt Will speak His peace with - in. Con -  
might - y breath can fill your life With life be - yond your own. So

Cm G<sup>7sus</sup>/D Cm Eb Cm Fm7 Fm Ab G G+G Cm G<sup>7sus</sup>/D Cm Eb Cm Fm7 G7 G/B

look is rough and un - re - fined. His ways are raw and wild, And  
fess the truth your heart has heard. Re - pent and start to live. The  
come and live the truth un - tamed! Be - gin your life a - gain, For

WORDS: Ken Bible  
MUSIC: Ken Bible, based on a tune from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

JOHN THE BAPTIST  
6.5.8.6.8.6.8.6.

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Cm  $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$  Cm  $\frac{Cm}{Bb}$   $\frac{Fm}{Ab}$  Gm7 Cm G+ G Cm

thro' the fu - ry of his words God calls to you, His child.  
 mer - cy that con - demns your sin Is long - ing to for - give.  
 here you meet the Sov - 'reign God As Fa - ther and as Friend.

TOPICS: Advent; Invitation; Knowing Christ; Repentance & Forgiveness;  
 Word of God

LEAD-IN: God keeps calling His people back to the wilderness. There, away from distractions and other means of comfort and support, His people find their God again. They find Him real and powerful and sufficient for every need.

In the Exodus God led His people through this wilderness. He called them back to it in the exile, when they had so badly forgotten Him. And again, through John the Baptist, God invited His people out to the wilderness and back to Himself.

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LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

## **A Voice in the Wilderness**

While most people,  
    even God's people,  
were preoccupied with the world's celebrities,  
God's living, sovereign, creative word  
    was coming to a man alone in the desert.  
He had none of the world's soft clothing, soft ways, or soft words.  
Everything about him was raw and real.

He was a voice crying in the wilderness,  
    in the world's wildest, most untamed place.  
God had met His people there before.  
He had lead them through this desert for forty years,  
    teaching them,  
    confronting them,  
    purifying them,  
    drawing them to Himself.  
He had isolated them from  
    every other comfort and  
    every other source of supply,  
to show them that He alone was  
    their bread,  
    their security,  
    their truth,  
    their God.

Now, through this Baptizer, He was calling them again.  
He was calling them back out to the wilderness,  
back out to die to their sins and rise to  
    new life,  
    untamed life,  
    pure and all-sufficient life in Himself alone.