

The Scents of Advent
Mark 1:1-8
Illuminate Week 2

“The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

It is written in Isaiah the prophet:

*“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”—*

“a voice of one calling in the desert,

*‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”*

And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: “After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”
— Mark 1:1-8

There are distinctive smells that are attached to Advent.

“Thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing Him. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved.” – 2 Corinthians 2:14-15

The Scents of Advent:

1. The Scent of HOPE.

Sentness: How are you INVITING others to find the HOPE of a fresh start in life?

Response: _____.

2. The Scent of PEACE.

Sentness: Do we carry the aroma of PEACE.

Response: _____.

3. The Scent of JOY.

Sentness: Do we invite others into this experience of the profound JOY of life in Christ?

Response: _____.

4. The Scent of LOVE.

Sentness: What is more SELFLESS than abandonment of one's LIFE as a mother/father to allow the growth and maturing of a child?

Response: _____.

5. The Scent of CHRISTMAS.

Sentness: How do we EXTEND this welcome of CHRIST to our neighbors?

Response: _____.

“But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ’s triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life.” – 2 Corinthians 2:14-16