1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup> As it is written in Isaiah the prophet<sup>1</sup>,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,

who will prepare your way,

<sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

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

<sup>4</sup> John appeared,

baptizing in the wilderness

and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>5</sup> And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him

and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan,

confessing their sins.

<sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair

and wore a leather belt around his waist

and ate locusts and wild honey.

<sup>7</sup> And he preached, saying,

"After me comes he

who is mightier than I,

the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

<sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water,

but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."