

The Rev. Jay Lawlor preaches "Good News for the Struggle" to the people of Saint John's Episcopal Church, Speedway, IN

The Rev. Jay Lawlor preaches his sermon for the Second Sunday of Advent 2017 that Jesus is good news for the struggle against oppression.

INDIANAPOLIS, IN, US, February 13, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [The Rev. Jay Lawlor preached](#) on the Second Sunday of Advent 2017 that "The love of God has the power to transform our lives." He emphasized that Jesus began a movement of love, liberation, and life which is good news in times of struggle.



The Rev. Jay Lawlor preaching

In recounting the narrative from the Gospel of Mark, The Rev. Jay Lawlor pointed out:

"Mark wants all to know Jesus is coming not to void the promises God made to Israel, but to fulfill them – to make them real for all God's people. It is about a new way of living filled with God's love, righteousness, and justice. It is a loving, liberating, life-giving movement. A movement rooted in reconciliation with God and neighbor. A movement – led by Jesus – of transforming power."

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John came out of the wilderness to make way for the good news of God in Jesus. [...] And Jesus is good news for the struggle.”

The Rev. Jay Lawlor

The Rev. Lawlor emphasized that the beginning of the good news comes from the wilderness – from a place of hardship and struggle. John the Baptist is setting the stage for Jesus. He is readying the people for Jesus and a movement of transformation. The Rev. Lawlor also draws on observations from biblical scholar Reza Aslan on the role of the John the Baptist as a leader who helps prepare the ministry of Jesus.

"Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit – the very breath of God – to empower his movement of love, liberation, and life. It may seem we are in the wilderness – a place of struggle. But John came out of the wilderness to make way for the good news of God in Jesus. The good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. And Jesus is good news for the struggle," said the Rev. Jay Lawlor in concluding his sermon.

The full transcript of the sermon is available at <https://www.therevjaylawlor.com/good-news-struggle-sermon-rev-jay-lawlor-2-advent-dec-10-2017/>

The Rev. Jay Lawlor
“Good News for the Struggle”
2 Advent, Year B, December 10, 2017
St. John’s Episcopal Church – Speedway, IN

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