Luke 3 begins with John the Baptist telling the people to prepare the way for Messiah. John does not suggest we prepare for a “meek and mild” savior. Instead he describes a bold Messiah who will clean out and burn the chaff and collect the good harvest.That seems quite different than the Jesus we think of who loves the little children and gently prods and teaches his followers with parables. I think probably the Jesus we know is all of those things. He burns the chaff with relentless fire when that is called for (remember the scene in the temple and the fig tree that did not have fruit) and gently teaches us when that is what we need. How do we prepare during this advent? John essentially says- shape up, do what is right, and clean up your act. The chapter ends with Joseph’s genealogy which ends with “...son of Adam, son of God.”No matter the rest of our list of ancestors, this reminds us that each of our genealogies have the same basis: child of God.Dear God, thank you for your reminder, through Jesus, that we are all your children and loved by you. Amen