#### KIDS CORNER GROWING HEARTS OF FAITH

One Lord, One faith, One baptism (Ephesians 4:5)



#### Hey Kids!

On May 19, we celebrated **Pentecost** – the Holy Spirit coming to Jesus' disciples. God's Word tell us:

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be [not actually!] tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues<sup>[a]</sup> [languages] as the Spirit enabled them" (Acts 2: 2-5).

That would have been a sight to see! Because it was Pentecost, there were many people from other lands, who spoke different languages, who had come to Jerusalem to celebrate.

<sup>5</sup> "Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. <sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: 'Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,<sup>[a] 10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!'" (Acts 2: 5-11).

Jesus was keeping a promise made to them from the book of Joel written a long time ago.

<sup>17</sup> "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy" (Acts 2: 17-18).

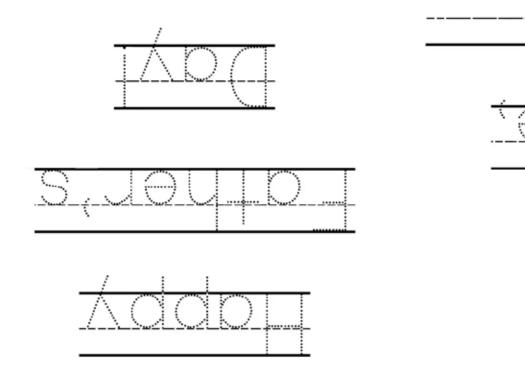
They were promised that the Helper, the Holy Spirit, would be given to them so they could share the Gospel story with everyone throughout the whole world, not just in the Jerusalem area. This marks the time of the **birth of the Church** and why we continue to celebrate this birthday every year to this day! The Church is not just a building but it's all of God's believers, right from the very beginning of time to when Jesus comes again. This includes us today and all the other people who believe in Him! In fact, Pentecost Season (the Time of the Church) is SO important that our May/June to November Divine Church Services are centred around hearing about how and where the disciples went preaching God's Word and learning about how quickly the Church grew. God sent Jesus to save us AND He provided a way for us to hear about His amazing plan! Thank you, God!

We have so many things to thank God for! June 16 is Father's Day when we give thanks for our dads. Let's all find a special way to share God's love by doing something special for them. On these pages, you'll find posters or a card you can make for your dad.

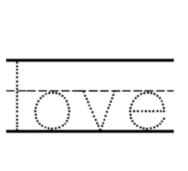
Don't forget to check for this year's Pentecost activity sheets at III.ca. (Scroll down to Lectionary Learning support in the highlighted purple box). There will be a new one every week for all of spring, summer and into fall! Last year's sheets for the month of June are found in this handout.

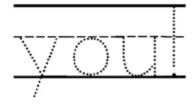
God bless your learning!

Mrs. Denise Timm for the Board of Christian Education and Youth



As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him. Psalm 103:13





Joshua 24:15



# A DHERING

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# As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

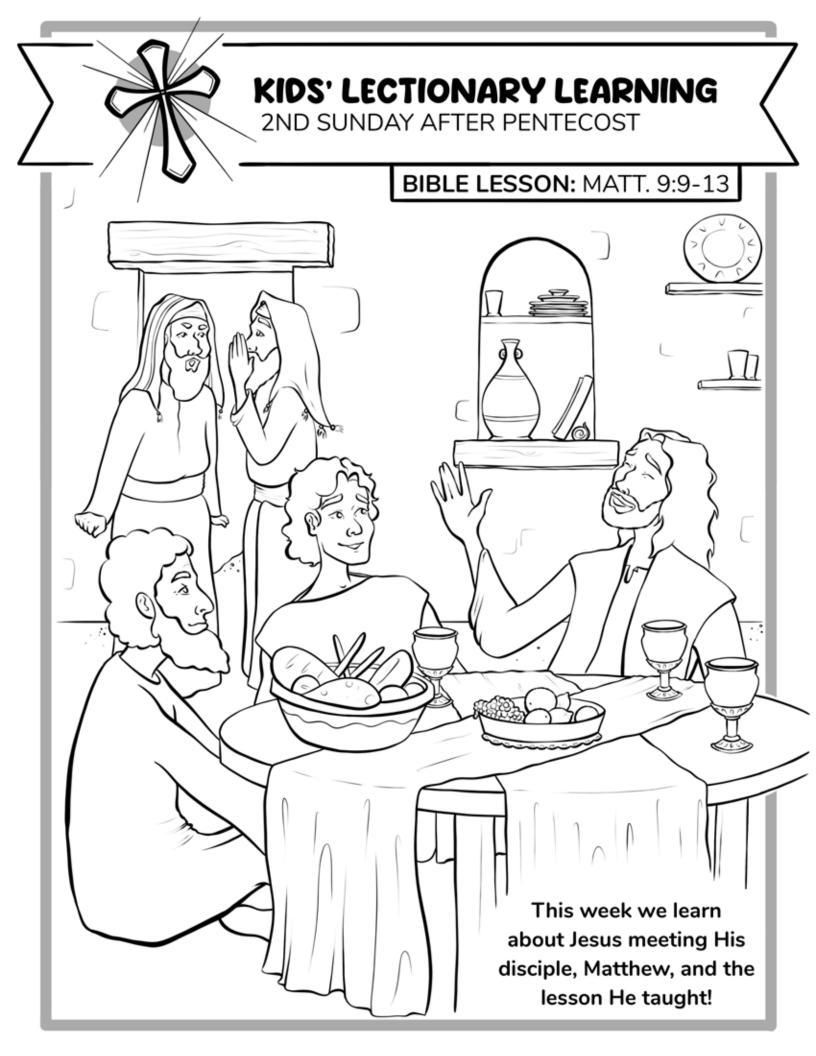
R IGHTEOUSNESS

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14

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KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING						LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE									
WORD SEARCH	S	Ι	В	В	R	М	Ν	Y	G	Е	J	С	т	R	т
( Can you find these )	S	Т	Κ	Н	S	Х	С	Т	М	Υ	V	Н	Q	V	U
words from our bible	S	Т	G	Н	Е	W	Ζ	Н	Т	0	0	В	Х	А	Т
lesson today?	Υ	Ρ	S	Н	L	J	Е	S	U	S	Т	Ρ	W	W	L
	С	Е	U	U	В	S	D	G	Κ	Q	С	А	Ρ	Q	Т
CALL	0	G	0	Х	А	Е	Ν	Υ	С	R	Е	Μ	С	Е	Е
FOLLOW	Ν	С	Е	Κ	Т	L	R	Υ	Υ	Ι	L	Y	А	Ρ	С
JESUS	S	Ρ	Т	Т	V	Ρ	А	U	М	Ι	А	С	М	н	Υ
LEARN	А	В	Н	М	Ρ	Ι	Е	L	Е	0	Н	Х	А	К	Ι
MATTHEW	С	Т	G	А	С	С	L	Υ	G	Е	W	Е	Ζ	Ζ	D
MERCY	R	Q	Т	М	R	S	D	н	R	С	S	Υ	J	S	Т
PHARISEES	Т	Е	R	Ζ	Κ	Т	Ν	Ρ	W	0	L	L	0	F	0
PHYSICIAN	F	Т	С	U	Х	D	S	А	S	R	Е	Ν	Ν	Т	S
RECLINED	Т	L	Т	L	F	L	W	Е	М	Н	S	Т	С	К	Q
RIGHTEOUS	С	Ν	Ι	L	Ι	Х	Ρ	Н	Е	R	U	L	Ρ	D	L
SACRIFICE	Е	Т	S	L	Ζ	Ν	С	Υ	R	S	U	D	0	М	М
SICK	Е	Υ	Q	S	А	V	Е	W	Е	L	L	V	Ν	К	0
SINNERS	В	М	W	V	С	0	Q	D	н	J	т	С	А	L	L
TABLE	В	А	D	Ζ	D	W	Е	Н	Т	Т	А	М	Y	Y	G
TAX BOOTH TEACHER	Т	В	Ν	А	I	С	Ι	S	Y	Н	Ρ	J	W	М	U
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"Go and learn what this means:

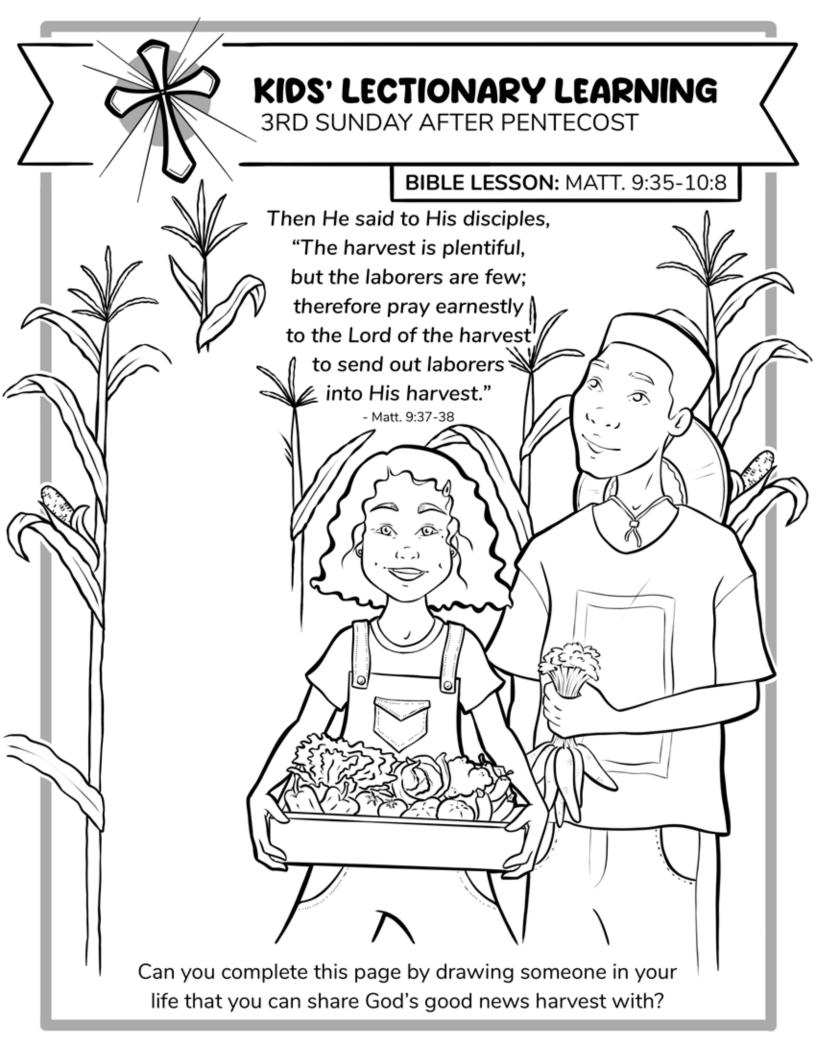
'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'

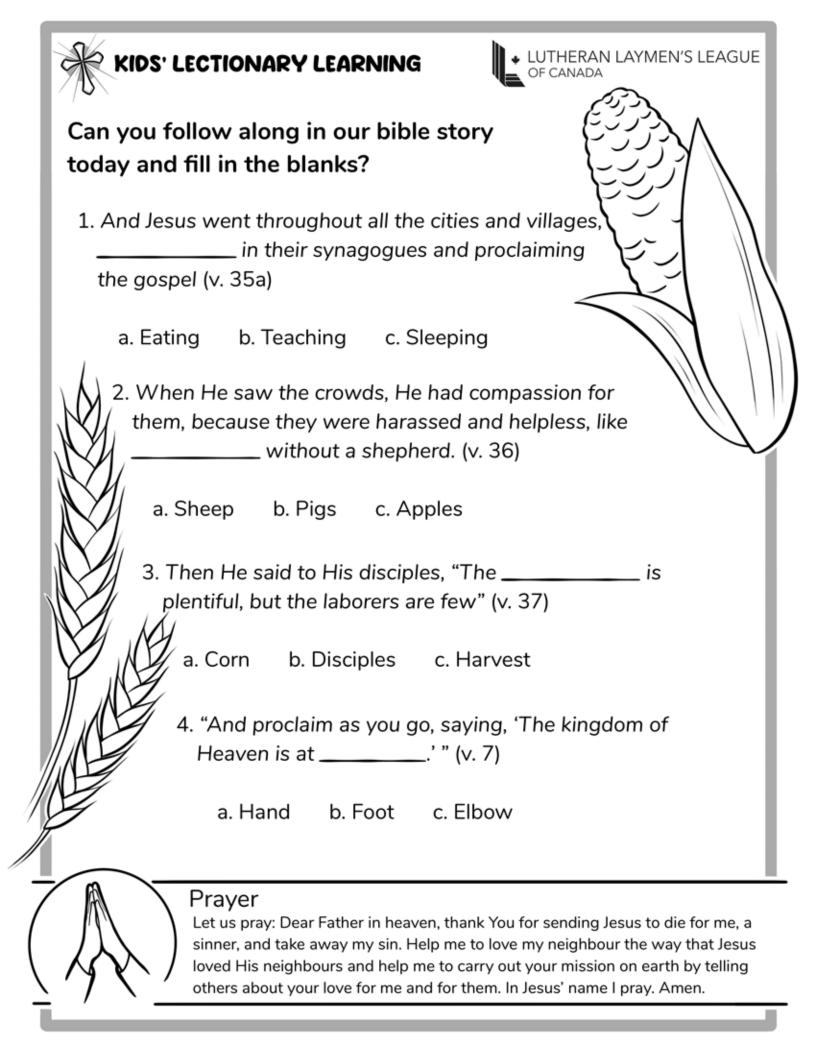
For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

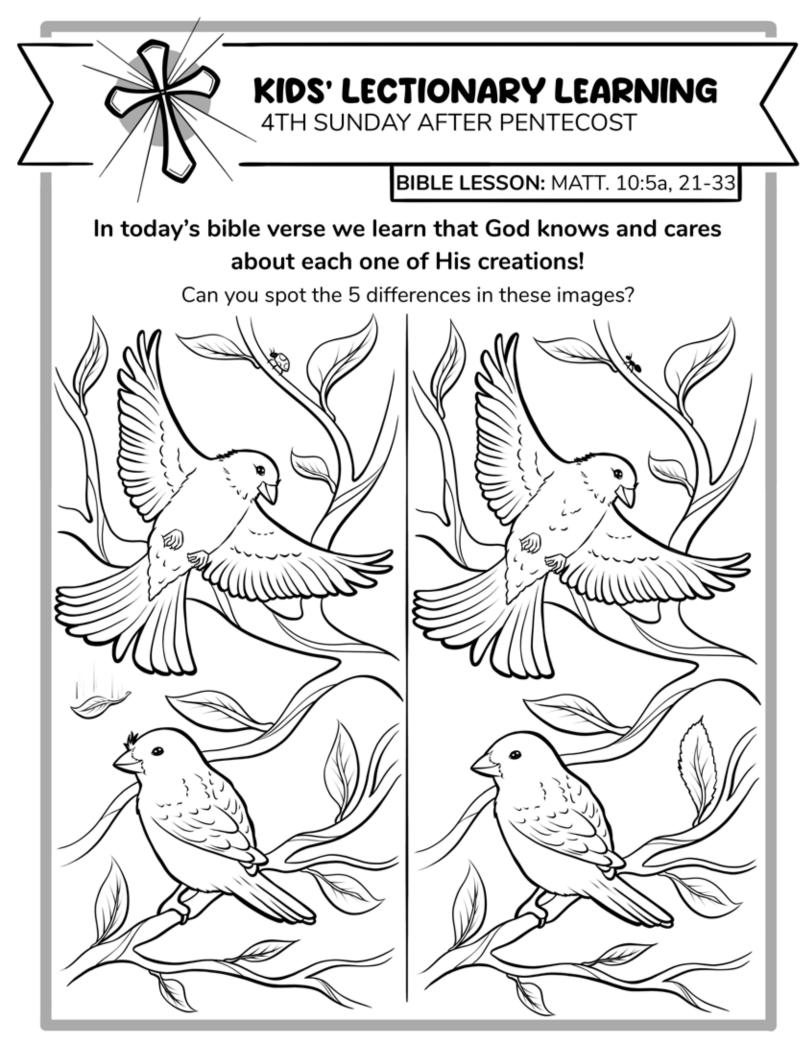
- Matthew 9:13

#### Prayer

Let us pray together: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to be the sacrifice for us, and for providing for all our needs. Remind us of how Jesus loved His neighbours and taught them about your mercy when they were truly sorry for their sins. Help us to love our neighbours too, and to live lives that honour You. In the name of Jesus our Saviour we pray. Amen.









### SELF-PORTRAIT

God made us all special and different! He knows us better than anyone else! In our story today, Jesus says **"But even the hairs of your head are all numbered."** (v. 30)

Draw yourself in the special way God made you!



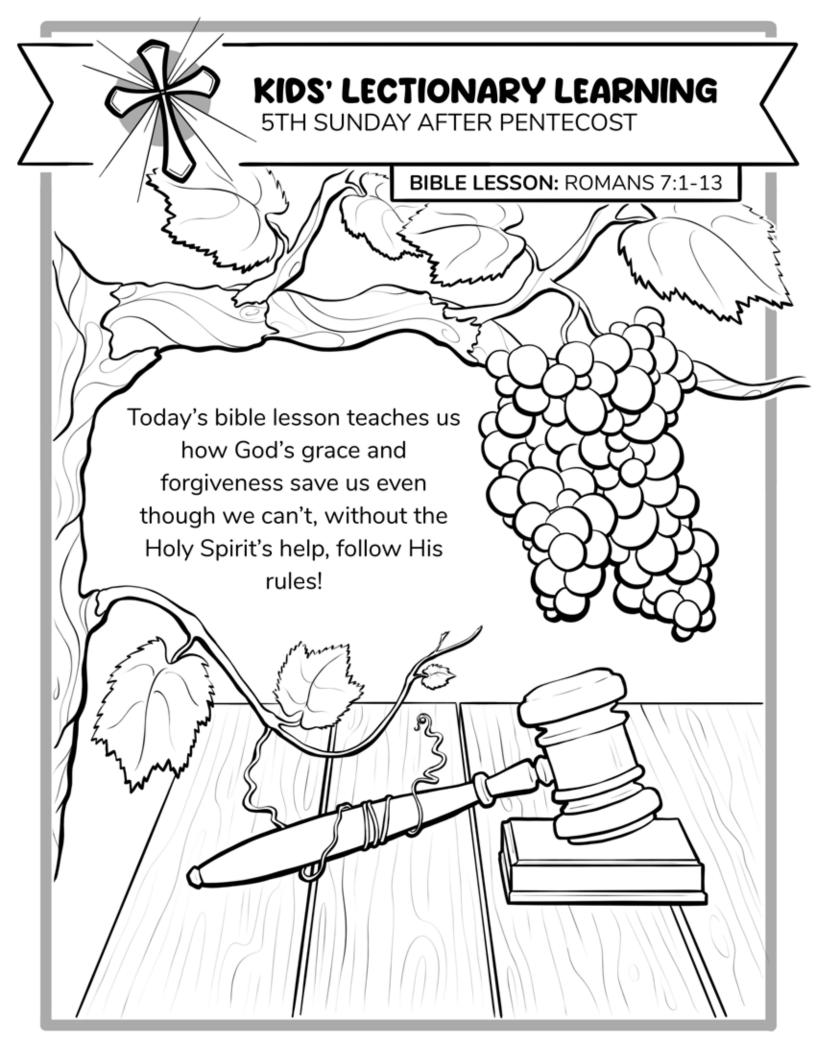
## WORD SEARCH

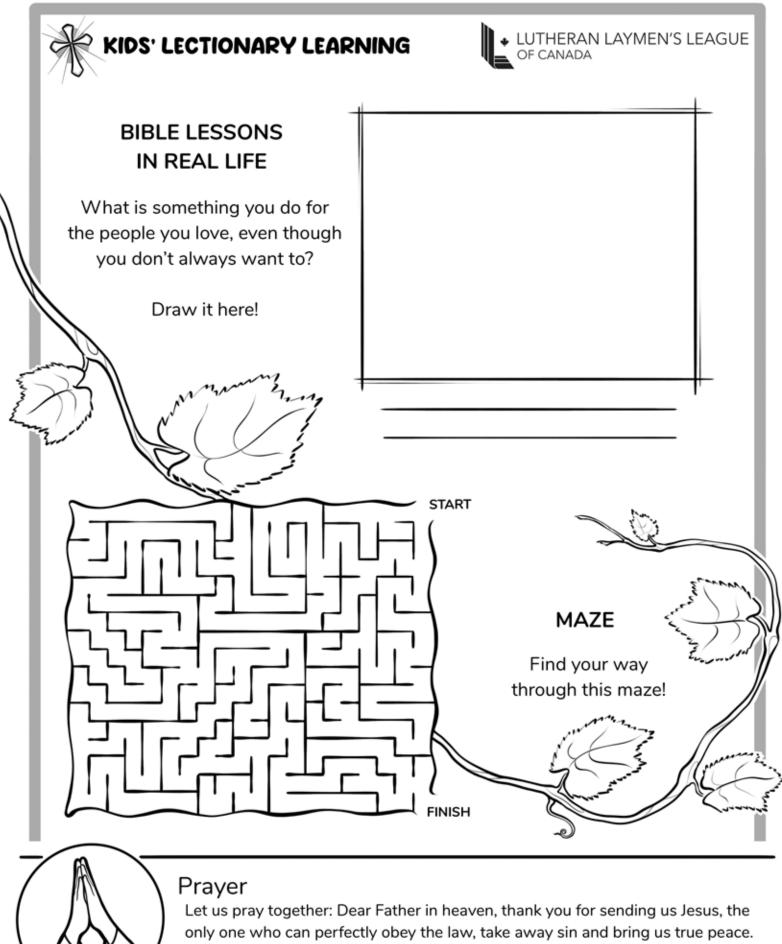
Can you find these	
words from our bible	U B N B V G F S O E L K R U P J G J V J
lesson today?	C Y B W I Q P R B V S J H A H Y P C W K
FATHER	NLNXXALWTOGXSJEDOAVS
FEAR	VUPNRTDCOWSCDNGFNSFO
HAIRS	YONREPGLZZSHHRMEFGRH
HEAVEN	ЅЅОΖХРѴНОDBТКАВΖТREJ
INSTRUCTING	MWEINBLERDWQHIIRSAHG
LIGHT	SNJYWNPSQOWEYGKRVKTK
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Prayer

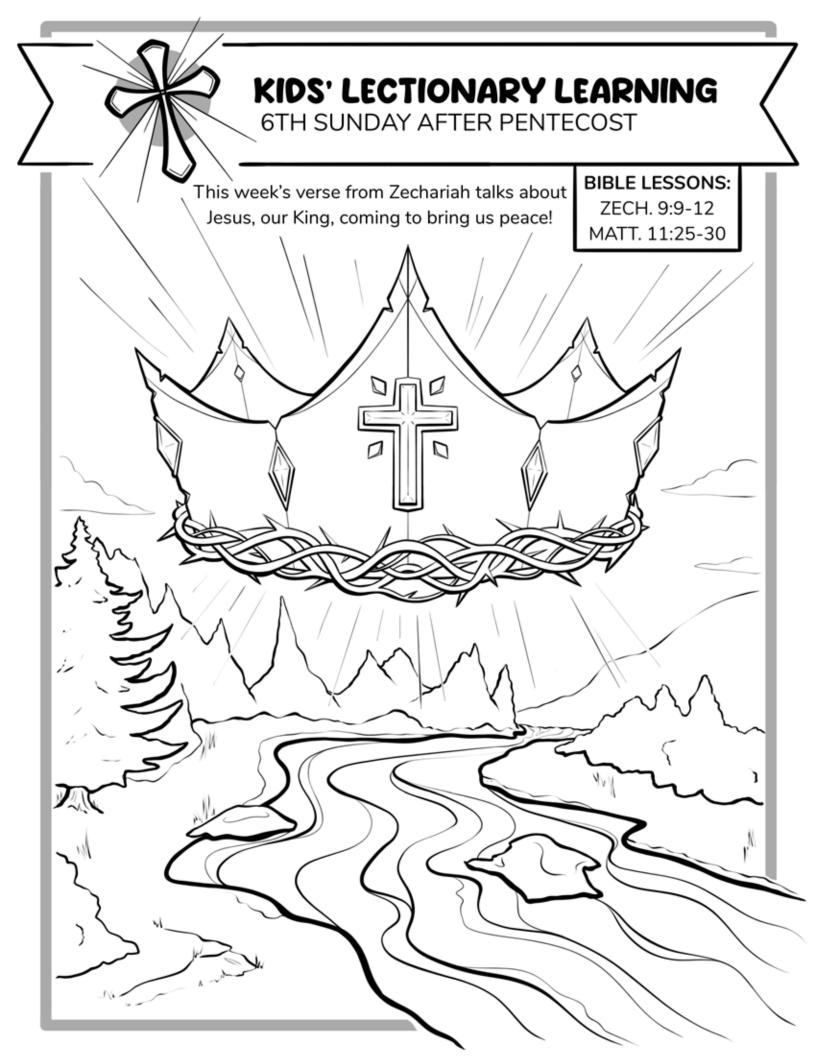
SPARROWS

Let us pray together: Father in heaven, thank You for caring for us and for taking such interest in our lives that You know everything about us. Help us to remember the calling You had for the disciples and the call we have, to continue the work on earth of sharing Your love with others. Help us to be brave so we can talk about You even when others turn against us. In Jesus' Holy name we pray. Amen.





In His name we pray. Amen.

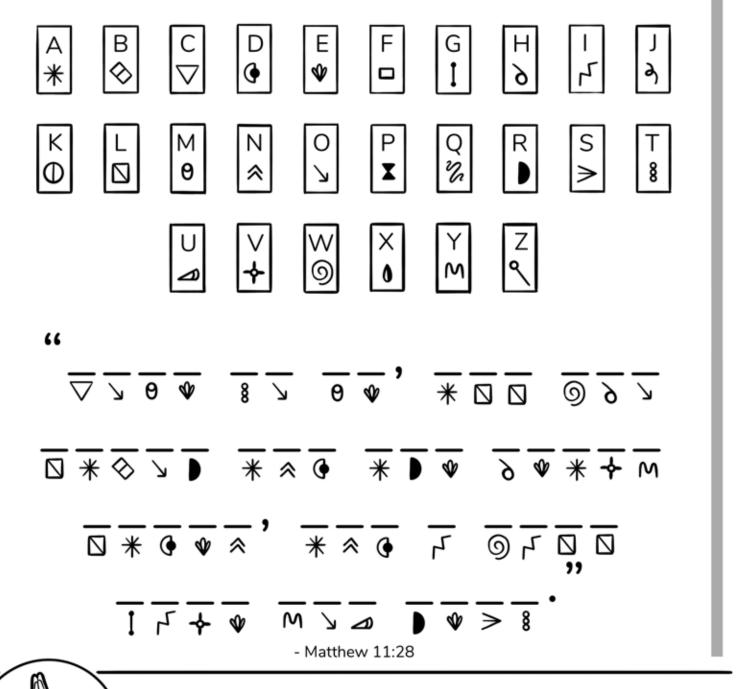






### CRYPTOGRAM

Match the symbols to the letters to see what Jesus says to us in our verse from Matthew this week!



#### Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to bring us peace. Help us to trust in You so that we can let go of our earthly troubles and cling to You with the help of the faith You give us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



**BIBLE LESSONS:** 

MATT. 9:9-13

HOS. 5:15-6:6

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH, 2023

For some people, when we hear today's verse in Matthew, it may bring to mind times when it has been hijacked or taken out of context. People don't want to miss out on the love and comfort that Jesus has for all people, but we are sinners, and it is also tempting to twist things and try and make Jesus fit into our lives the way we want Him to.

Jesus' love is definitely for all people, but the truth about repentance can be hard to hear when you are deeply entrenched in a life that God doesn't want for us.

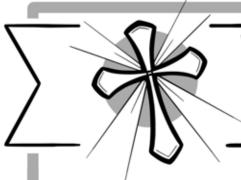
When Jesus called Matthew to follow Him, and then spent time talking and eating with other tax collectors He wasn't conforming to their ways but was encouraging them to stop their dishonesty and hear the good news of mercy and salvation.

The Pharisees had trouble understanding the love that Jesus was showing to men who were known to take advantage of their position and steal from people. He instructed the Pharisees to go back and read what they bragged about knowing- that He did not need sacrifices and false righteousness but repentance and mercy.

Today's Old Testament lesson from Hosea would be a good review for those Pharisees, and for any of us who believes we are sufficient on our own merit. Hosea reminds the people of Israel of God's desire for steadfast love even when offering sacrifices. Since Jesus came to be God's sacrifice for us, God's desire is for steadfast love for our neighbour as we serve Him. We can find guidance for that type of steadfastness in the beginning of each of the meanings for the Ten Commandments; "We should fear and love God..."

#### Prayer

Let us pray together: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to be the sacrifice for us, and for providing for all our needs. Remind us of how Jesus loved His neighbours and taught them about your mercy when they were truly sorry for their sins. Help us to love our neighbours too, and to live lives that honour You. In the name of Jesus our Saviour we pray. Amen.



**BIBLE LESSONS:** 

ROM. 5:6-15

MATT. 9:35-10:8

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH, 2023

Peace with God Through Faith Romans 5:6-15

In the Epistle lesson in Romans 5: 6-15, St. Paul the Apostle preaches the message that all people are sinners and that Christ died for everyone. Humans would not lay down their life for someone unless they thought that person was righteous — a special kind of person who deserves saving. Paul reminds us that no one is worthy of being saved and that we are all sinful, and yet God loves us even though we are sinners. Since we can't become holy on our own, God chose to show His love for us, by sending His Son to die for us "while we were still sinners".

#### The Twelve Apostles Matthew 9:35-10:8

In today's Gospel message Jesus calls the twelve disciples, and not only gives them the job of sharing the message of God's love with sinners, but also gives them divine authority — to work with — that is the ability to perform miracles and cast out demons.

Matthew is very specific telling us the name of each of the disciples and demonstrating the love, care, and compassion that Jesus has for His disciples and for each of us.

Jesus instructs the disciples on how they are to go about fulfilling their call and tells them that they are to start at home, in their neighbourhood going "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel". Jesus had been living in communities with His Jewish brothers and sisters and saw firsthand how they had fallen away. They were sinners just like everyone else and although there were times where He had spoken out and reprimanded some people, like the Pharisees, He still loved and cared for His people. He wanted to see them saved, so He told the disciples to focus on the locals first.

We know that later He will instruct the disciples on sharing the love of God with all nations, but He wants them first to focus on who they know and where they live.



### (Continued)

Sinners are everywhere, and Jesus wants us to love them the way He loves us even though we are sinners. He wants us to share the message of God's love with the people around us, the same way the disciples did, and the same way Paul did.

Prayer

Let us pray: Dear Father in heaven, thank You for sending Jesus to die for me, a sinner, and take away my sin. Help me to love my neighbour the way that Jesus loved His neighbours and help me to carry out your mission on earth by telling others about your love for me and for them. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Notes:

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2023

BIBLE LESSON: MATT. 10:21-33

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Matthew 10:21-33

In last week's lessons Jesus gave gifts of the Spirit and of Power to the disciples so that they could act on His behalf and continue His mission on earth. Today we learn that despite the blessings given by God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the disciples will be attacked with words and with actions and we will all have difficulties as followers of Christ.

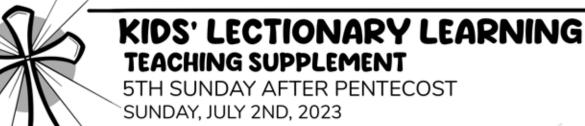
In an excerpt from KFUO radio's broadcast The Strong Word Rev. Joshua Knippa of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Nederland Texas says that in these verses from Matthew: "Jesus makes sure the disciples know what they are getting into. The apostles had a high calling that would involve flogging, persecution, and hatred from others."

We too have a calling and are to continue the work of the disciples by sharing the good news of God's love and there is no guarantee that it will be easy — in fact it will often be hard. In verses 21 and 22 Jesus points out that even family may turn against us.

However, there are words of encouragement and protection mixed in with the caution. Jesus does not discourage the disciples with his warnings but urges them to "proclaim from the roofs" what He has told them. In verses 29 to 31, Jesus provides the reassurance that no one is left to suffer on their own. He reminds us of how well God knows us and how He created us with care, not as an afterthought or without purpose. He knows what will be difficult for us, and what will bring us joy. He knows so much about us that He could tell you the number of hairs on your head (verse 30). No one on earth knows more about us than our Father in heaven. Jesus knows how difficult life is and will be with those who love Him, and He chose to die for us so that our sins would be forgiven and as a perfect Son, speaks up for us to God the Father (verse 32).

#### Prayer

Let us pray together: Father in heaven, thank You for caring for us and for taking such interest in our lives that You know everything about us. Help us to remember the calling You had for the disciples and the call we have, to continue the work on earth of sharing Your love with others. Help us to be brave so we can talk about You even when others turn against us. In Jesus' Holy name we pray. Amen.



In the Gospel lesson today, Matthew shares Jesus' words to us about the eternal rewards in heaven. In verse 39 Jesus tells us that putting too much emphasis on the things of earth is dangerous. He is not telling us that we should not be happy in our life on earth, because God placed us here and provided it for our enjoyment. He is saying that we can be assured of a wonderful home waiting for us once we arrive in heaven. BIBLE LESSONS: ROMANS 7:1-13 MATT. 10:34-42

Like last week's Gospel lesson from Matthew, Jesus is once again warning us that life on earth will be challenging, and that while many people will join us in following Him, we will also face difficulties, some even from within our own family.

We will fail repeatedly to put Jesus first and to follow Him, even to our intentions, but thankfully, what we are unable to do on our own, Jesus has already done for us. He perfectly followed the path that our heavenly Father put in front of Him, making it possible for us to have peace. This peace is something we could never achieve on our own and so that is why using the hymnal and liturgy the pastor uses in worship will bless us with the "peace that passes all human understanding".

In today's Epistle reading Paul is sharing with the Romans that same message of peace. He tells us that through Christ's death we are freed from the mirror of the law that on its own would show us our sins but was not able to give us power to stop sinning. Only God has that power and sent His Son Jesus to pay the penalty for us so that we would be forgiven, free and have peace.

What a comfort to know that we are loved so much! God knows our weakness; He knows that we are sinful and cannot follow the law perfectly. Jesus was sent to be with us, take care of our sins, and tell us why He was here and what he was doing so that we would know God's love and have peace.

Even in today's Old Testament lesson we hear Jeremiah's prophecies about God's gift of Jesus being the only one who can bring true peace.

#### Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in heaven, thank you for sending us Jesus, the only one who can perfectly obey the law, take away sin and bring us true peace. In His name we pray. Amen.



**BIBLE LESSONS:** 

ZECH. 9:9-12

MATT. 11:25-30

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JULY 9TH, 2023

Zechariah 9: 9-12 and Matthew 11: 25-30

In our Old Testament reading today, Zechariah is telling the people that a great ruler will come and bring peace. "I will cut off the chariot" and both the war horse and battle bow will be cut off also, and He will "speak peace to the nations".

You and I are also included in Zechariah's prophesy when he says that "His rule shall be from sea to sea" and "to the ends of the earth". It is our role in sharing the Gospel (the Good News about Jesus' death and resurrection) with others that he is talking about here; how the message and love of Christ will reach all nations, first through the disciples' teaching and then to those whom their followers witnessed to and so on. God's message of Grace, Love and Forgiveness is being shared right now in remote parts of foreign lands and in the small places of Canada like Warman Saskatchewan, Fisherville Ontario and Osoyoos, British Columbia! Zechariah foretold that God's kingdom and also His peace would not be limited by geography but flow through His people everywhere.

In the Gospel lesson Matthew relays how Jesus would work through the faith of children to share the good news of Jesus with everyone, and how it was God's will that we all have faith like children rather than relying on earthly wisdom.

Again, in verses 28-30 we are reassured that there is peace through Christ – and that by clinging in faith to Christ and letting go of our earthly burdens we can be comforted. There is no one who puts something down more quickly and confidently than a child who has been carrying something heavy. God wants us to drop our heavy load quickly and trust in Him with the same eager trust as a child so that we can have that peace which only He can provide.

#### Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to bring us peace. Help us to trust in You so that we can let go of our earthly troubles and cling to You with the help of the faith You give us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen