



The Spirit of St. Paul's

APRIL 2025

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES

On April 20th the more somber and penitential nature of the season of Lent will give way to the resounding “Alleluias!” of Easter Sunday. We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus that gives us proof that God has fulfilled His promise of salvation for the world. This promise goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden when after the fall into sin, God promised that Eve’s offspring would crush the serpent’s head—bringing an end to sin and death forever. This first promise of the Gospel in Holy Scripture (Genesis 3:15) points forward specifically to Eve’s descendant, Jesus, who was sent into this world as the Second Adam. Jesus is referred to as the Second Adam because he undoes the mess that the first Adam made by his rebellion against God. St. Paul teaches this in his letter to the Romans: *“Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. Now the law*

came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 5:18-21).

Jesus accomplished our salvation not by destroying our enemies with force and might, but by humbly offering his life as the sacrifice and payment required to atone for the sin of the whole world. Jesus prophesied this about

Himself when He taught His disciples, *“The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised”* (Luke 9:22). During the season of Lent we focus on the suffering, rejection, and death that Jesus faced on our behalf. On Easter we celebrate that on the third day He was raised.

The hope and joy of our salvation rest securely on Jesus through His sin-forgiving and
continued next page



Reminders

- Please remember that, because we have a number of members with allergies to nuts, any foods brought to church events should be nut-free.
- Also, several have allergies to fragrances. Please consider them when choosing toiletries and whether or not to wear perfumes.
- LWMLC mites and society offerings may be put in the offering plate in an envelope separate from your church offering, mailed to the church or given to society treasurer, Marion Hollinger. Please make any cheques payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church but mark them clearly as being for LWMLC. Indicate the amount for mites and the amount for society funds.

Classifieds

Something to sell or give away? Need something? Services to offer to fellow members? Try The Spirit Classifieds first. No cost. Leave your ads at the church office or give them to the editor.

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Scriptures, continued
 death-defeating resurrection. In his letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul said, *“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve”* (1 Corinthians 15:3-5).

When St. Paul repeats the words “in accordance with the Scriptures” he is emphasizing that Jesus fulfilled what was repeatedly promised in the Old Testament about the promised Messiah. This is also true when we confess in the Nicene Creed “And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures”—it means that we

confess with St. Paul that Jesus rose just as the ancient prophecies in Holy Scripture said He would. St. Paul proclaims, *“But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep”* (1 Corinthians 15:20). Jesus’ resurrection is a fact that was attested to when He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve, and then to hundreds more.

Through His suffering, death, and resurrection Jesus has won for you forgiveness and has secured your resurrection to life everlasting. Now we live in joy, peace, and hope.

*God’s blessings,
 Pastor Keith*



Lenten Worship for 2025

On Ash Wednesday (March 5) pancakes will be served at St. Paul’s starting at 5:15 p.m. (actually a Shrove Tuesday tradition reinvented) and worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. Included in the service will be the imposition of ashes.

Following Wednesday services will move from congregation to congregation with a joint service on Maundy Thursday at St. Paul’s.

Date	Service	Location
Wed., March 5, 2025	Ash Wednesday	Home Congregation
Wed., March 12, 2025	Lent 1	Faith
Wed., March 19, 2025	Lent 2	Grace
Wed., March 26, 2025	Lent 3	St, John's, Warman
Wed., April 2, 2025	Lent 4	Grace
Wed., April 9, 2025	Lent 5	St. Paul's Bergheim
Thurs., April 17, 2025	Maundy Thursday	St. Paul's, Saskatoon
Fri., April 18, 2025	Good Friday	Home Congregation

STEWARDSHIP

BLESSINGS – ALREADY OURS IN CHRIST

“Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out” (Deuteronomy 28:3-6).

This is God’s promise to the Israelites as they stood beyond the Jordan outside of the Promised Land. He promises to bless His people. He will make them prosper, whether they are in the city or the field. He will make their work to prosper, whether from the ground or their wombs, their flocks or their herds. He will make them prosper in all things, whether upon their coming in or their going out.

But there’s a catch. He would do this for Israel only *“if you*

obey the voice of the Lord your God” (Deuteronomy 28:2b). If they did that, He would cause that *“all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you”* (Deuteronomy 28:2a).

If they didn’t obey the voice of the Lord, if they didn’t keep the commandments of the Lord and walk in His ways (Deuteronomy 28:9), they would be met with curse and woe. The blessings would be replaced with curses. Everything that the Lord promised to prosper and bless would be cursed and fail.

Thanks be to God that our Lord Jesus Christ has come into our flesh, fulfilled the law for us—in our place and for our benefit; died for us—and is risen from the dead for us—in our place and for our benefit.

By this we have justification before God. We are forgiven, clean, holy, and righteous. The blessing of God is promised to us

in Christ Jesus. It depends upon His work and not ours.

All this is ours in Holy Baptism. For in Holy Baptism, God claims us as His own, makes us His children, His heirs, His holy people. And so it is that the work of our hands and its fruit is holy because we are holy in Christ. It is pressed into His service, and thereby it becomes a blessing to us and to our neighbour.

For this great gift, our reception of the blessings of God because of Christ Jesus our Lord, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is not in order to receive blessings but because in Christ we already have.

It is with this in mind that we sit down on the first day of the week and set aside as He has prospered us to give to His church for His work of blessing in our midst (1 Corinthians 16:2).



COME FOR BREAKFAST

Please join us for Easter Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on Easter morning, April 20. The Board of Parish Fellowship will provide breakfast, all you need to bring is yourselves!

Please add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board if you are planning to attend so we are able to plan for numbers. Thanks!

EVANGELISM and PUBLIC RELATIONS

VICTORIOUS!

“From that time [when Peter confessed Him to be ‘the Christ, the Son of the living God’], Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised” (Matthew 16:[16], 21).



These passages taken from Matthew’s gospel point out that, as the time drew closer, Jesus spoke to His disciples on more than one occasion about the events that would soon take place. It is clear that He wanted His closest followers to be prepared for His suffering and death on the cross as well

“As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, ‘The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day.’ And they were greatly distressed” (Matthew 17:22-23).

“And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way He said to them, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief

priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and He will be raised on the third day” (Matthew 20:17-19).

“When Jesus had finished all these sayings [regarding the end times], He said to His disciples, ‘You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified” (Matthew [24 & 25] 26:1-2).

as to anticipate His victorious resurrection and empty tomb three days later.

As we remain in mortal bodies here on earth, we are blessed to hear God speak to us through His Word recorded in the scriptures of the Holy Bible, and we are blessed to be guided into understanding its truth by the power of the Holy Spirit. St. Paul encourages us to rejoice in the victory Jesus has

continued next page

Easter Cross Witness

Once again, our board members encourage those who have Easter crosses to honour Christ and share the Good News of His victorious resurrection by participating in the Easter Cross Witness. Instructions suggest that the plain side of your cross be displayed beginning Palm Sunday (April 13) and throughout the following week, and that your cross be turned to display “He is Risen” on Resurrection Sunday (April 20) and throughout the week that follows.

We regret that we no longer have a supply of new crosses to hand out to new participants or as replacements. However, we encourage everyone to consider other ways of sharing the Good News of Jesus’ resurrection with family, friends, and neighbours!



Victorious, continued
won for us: “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His” (Romans 6:3-5).

St. Paul was also enabled to help us anticipate the ultimate victory we will experience when our mortal bodies put on

immortality: “I tell you this, brothers [and sisters]: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ ‘O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers [and sisters], be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:50-58).

Verla Schmirler
Board of Evangelism
and Public Relations

Scripture passages from the
English Standard Version (ESV).

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MISSION WORK LWMLC MITES SUPPORT

The Christian Mission Committee of LWML–Canada produces webinars related to mission work the organization supports through the collection of “mites.” Most of the grants provided support the mission activities of Lutheran Church–Canada. Speakers from the organizations supported share information and answer questions.

Following the live webinars, videos are prepared for individuals or groups to use at their convenience. Links to these video will be posted online on LWML–Canada’s e-newsletter, *LWML–Canada Update*, published twice monthly or can be found at lutheranwomen.ca.

The first webinar video regarding mission work among Ethiopians in Canada (Oromo Christians) is available at <https://youtu.be/ewcgBiMVFwI>. The second webinar regarding LAMP’s mission work in northern Canada is available at: <https://youtu.be/hCBGaFIULE8>.

The next live webinar is scheduled for June 21 and will focus on our mission in Cambodia and the assistance provided by an LWMLC mission grant to the deaconesses there.

These webinars are open to all.

TAPESTRY – FOR WOMEN, BY WOMEN – HELP THE EDITORS PLAN FOR ITS FUTURE

Are you familiar with *Tapestry*, the magazine published by Lutheran Women’s Missionary League–Canada? The league is seeking input via a survey regarding the future of this magazine by women for women, both regarding content and distribution.

We encourage you to participate in the online survey, whether you are a subscriber or not. While the magazine is of greatest interest to those active in LWMLC, there is much in it for any woman in Lutheran Church–Canada.

For those who have never subscribed to *Tapestry*, here are some samples of the magazine:

Sample 1: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GY0i5eoEEzNO7MIbom9a9sm-gPYCqETg/view?usp=sharing>

Sample 2: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C5WzaUAFaiMCr8de-Zk8_FJ8nSm-WHd2/view?usp=sharing

Answer the online survey, complete and submit by May 31, 2025. We thank you for your input.

LINK for online survey: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenOjRMGMf_RAv55Cn2mdlC1ik4NhP6SXdyCUSj9x_6ysMB6Q/viewform?usp=sharing

EDUCATION

KIDS CORNER

GROWING HEARTS OF FAITH

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

Hi Kids!

Have you ever loved something **so much** you would do anything to keep it? A favourite toy or pet, perhaps? Would you have done the dishes for three weeks to be able to play your favourite video game or agreed to feed the dog for the rest of his life so your parents wouldn't give him away? After a while, how did you do? Did it get harder to do the dishes every night or feed the dog day after day? At the end of one week, did you decide the thing you loved **so very much** wasn't worth it anymore? I know I have given up on some things. They lost their importance to me. I'm afraid I've given up on some people in my life as well, sometimes forever and sometimes just for a while, when they've upset me. I don't think God was very happy when I did this because He loves those people. Did you know God sent Jesus to die for us and for all people so we could be forgiven and go to heaven? And Jesus agreed to do this! He loves everyone **so much!** I'm grateful He doesn't give up on me, even when I continue to disappoint Him. He knew the only way for our sins to be forgiven so



we could live in heaven someday was to take all those sins on the cross with Him and die. If He had just stayed dead though, that wouldn't have helped us. He came back to life, after being victorious over our sins, death and the devil! ALLELUIA! Thank you, Jesus! Come to church on Maundy Thursday on April 17, Good Friday on April 18 and Easter Sunday on April 20, to recognize and celebrate what our Saviour has done for us! See you then!

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



Understanding Lent and Easter for LCC Lutheran Christians

A Simple Explanation for Children

What is Lent?

Lent is a special time for LCC Lutheran Christians that lasts for 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and is a period when Christians prepare their hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter. During Lent, many people choose to give up something they enjoy or try to do something good for others. It's a time to think about Jesus and how much He loves us.

Why is Lent Important?

Lent is important because it helps Christians remember the time when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days to pray and fast. By thinking about Jesus' sacrifice and spending extra time in prayer, Christians grow closer to God.

What is Easter?

Easter is the most joyful and important celebration for LCC Lutheran Christians. It is the day when Christians celebrate Jesus rising from the dead. This event is called the Resurrection, and it shows that Jesus conquered death and offered new life to everyone.

Why is Easter Important?

Easter is important because it reminds Christians that Jesus loves us so much He was willing to die for our sins. But even more amazing, He came back to life! This means that everyone who believes in Jesus can have eternal life and be with Him forever.

How Do LCC Lutheran Christians Celebrate Lent and Easter?

LCC Lutheran Christians have special services and traditions during Lent and Easter. Here are some ways they celebrate:

- **Ash Wednesday:** On the first day of Lent, Christians receive ashes on their forehead as a sign of repentance.
- **Midweek Services:** Many churches have extra services during Lent to help people focus on prayer and reflection.
- **Holy Week:** The last week of Lent includes special days like Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.
- **Palm Sunday:** Christians celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.
- **Maundy Thursday:** This day remembers the Last Supper that Jesus had with His disciples.
- **Good Friday:** The day Jesus died on the cross. Christians have solemn services to remember His sacrifice.
- **Easter Sunday:** This joyful day celebrates Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

Conclusion

Lent and Easter are very special times for LCC Lutheran Christians. They help us remember the love and sacrifice of Jesus and celebrate the hope and new life He gives to everyone. By learning about these important events, children can understand the deep meaning behind the traditions and grow in their faith.

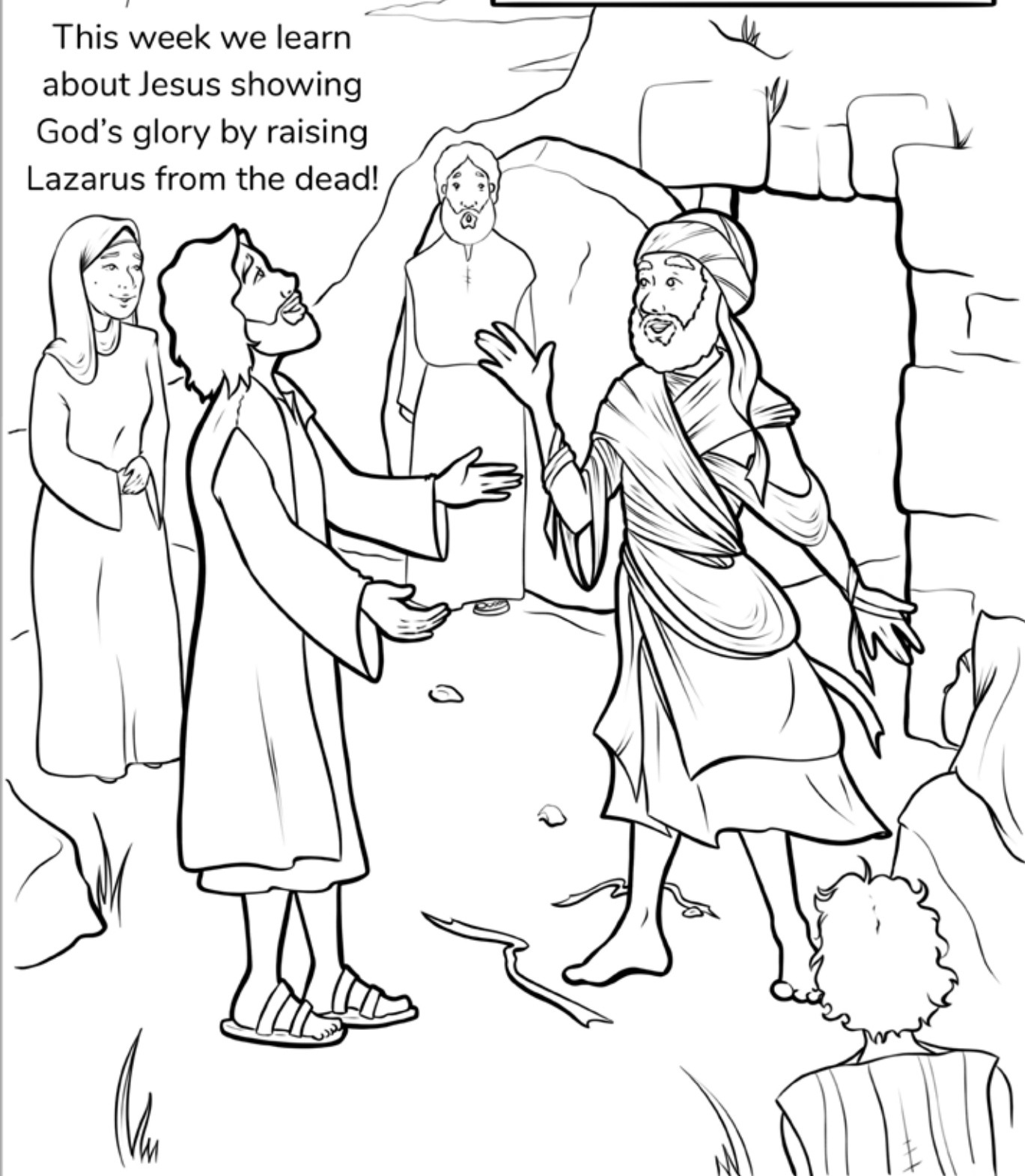


KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

BIBLE LESSON: JOHN 11:1-45

This week we learn about Jesus showing God's glory by raising Lazarus from the dead!





CRYPTOGRAM

Match the symbols to the letters and see what Jesus says to Martha!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
*	◇	▽	☉	☿	□	!	δ	⚡	Ϸ
K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
⊖	▣	⊙	^	↘	⌘	∞	◐	➤	⋮
U	V	W	X	Y	Z				
◁	✦	⊙	◊	♯	⌚				

“ JESUS SAID TO HER, ⚡ * ⊙ ⋮ δ ☿

◐ ☿ ➤ ◁ ◐ ◐ ☿ ▽ ⋮ ⚡ ↘ ^

* ^ ☉ ⋮ δ ☿ ▣ ⚡ □ ☿ ... ”

- John 11:25a



Prayer

O Lord, strengthen me for the days ahead, that I may bear witness to Your glory. Amen.

(The Lutheran Study Bible, 2009)

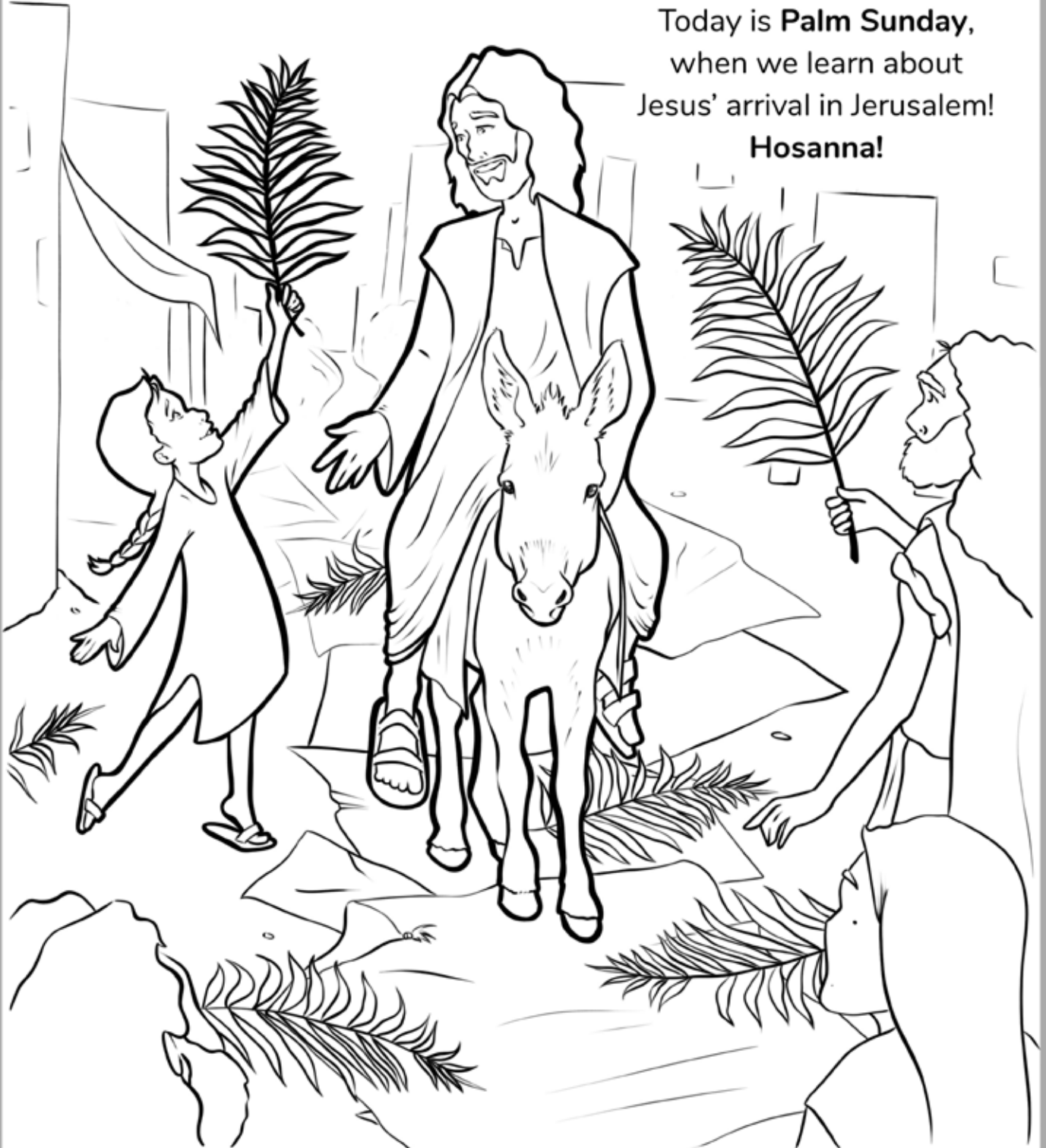


KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING

PALM SUNDAY

BIBLE LESSON: JOHN 12:12-19

Today is **Palm Sunday**,
when we learn about
Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem!
Hosanna!

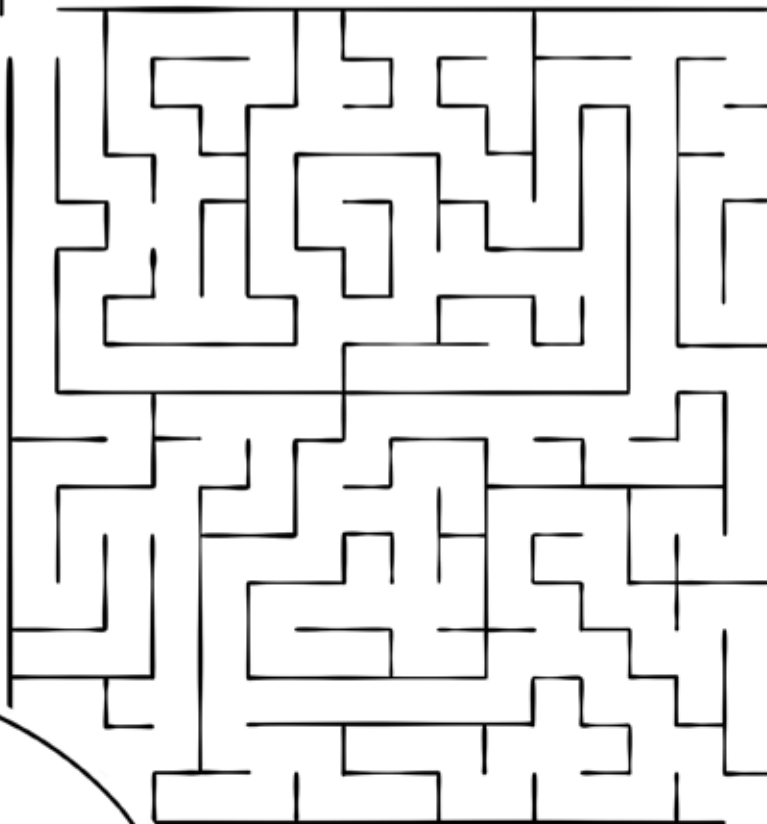




MAZE

Jesus' path to the cross was long and difficult.
Can you find your way through this maze?

START



FINISH

Did You Know . . .

The word "hosanna" means "help" or "save, I pray!"

(The Lutheran Study Bible, 2009)



Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for taking on human form so that You could die for me. Please be with me when my faith is being challenged and remind me that just like Your friends and earthly family, I will always have people who challenge me, but I know You are always with me, therefore I will never be alone! In Your precious name I pray. AMEN!

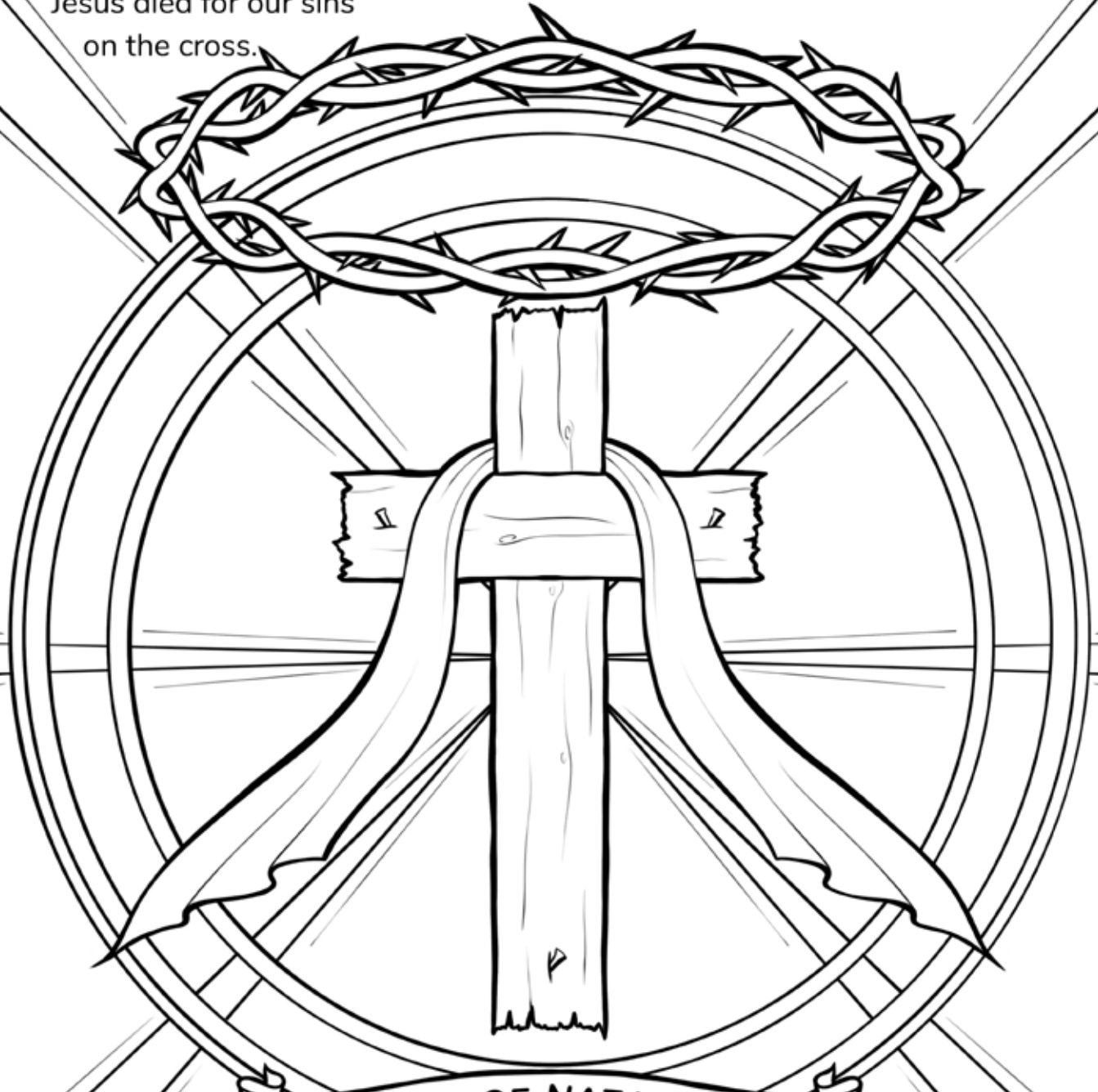


KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING

GOOD FRIDAY

BIBLE LESSON: JOHN 18:1-19:42

Today is Good Friday, the day
Jesus died for our sins
on the cross.



JESUS OF NAZARETH,
THE KING OF THE JEWS

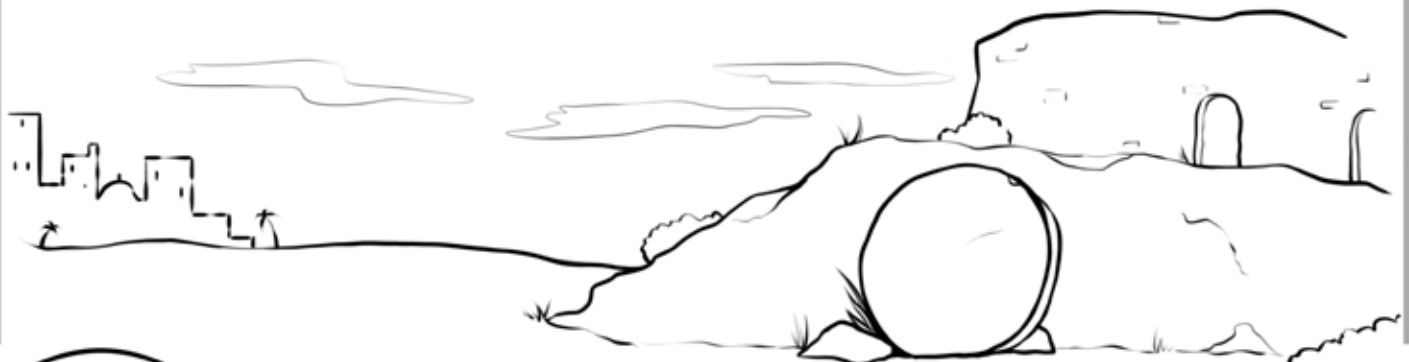


WORD SEARCH

Can you find the following words related to Good Friday?

-
- CROSS
 - CROWN
 - CRUCIFIED
 - FRIDAY
 - GARMENTS
 - GOOD
 - JESUS
 - KING
 - NAILS
 - PILATE
 - SAVIOUR
 - SINS
 - THORNS
 - TOMB
-

M	K	Z	F	H	E	D	M	A	P	D	P	S	U	S
G	Y	R	L	V	N	J	A	A	W	H	T	C	T	J
E	S	K	I	A	R	G	J	L	O	E	T	M	H	J
Y	I	M	I	S	A	A	T	N	W	O	R	C	O	B
G	L	L	I	B	H	R	O	J	C	F	B	D	R	Y
E	S	N	Z	T	E	M	S	E	I	U	G	O	N	K
O	S	A	W	T	T	E	U	Q	B	Q	G	O	S	S
M	F	R	N	M	B	N	S	E	K	S	S	G	Q	C
E	P	H	E	J	J	T	E	N	A	I	Y	Q	L	K
B	E	K	C	V	P	S	J	V	S	V	O	A	D	E
M	N	T	R	I	U	E	I	P	L	K	C	O	J	V
O	V	K	A	A	R	O	D	R	I	R	I	Z	S	T
T	O	G	K	L	U	T	G	L	U	U	M	S	R	Q
H	X	C	N	R	I	X	H	C	R	L	O	H	B	Y
B	I	V	U	I	B	P	I	S	Y	R	S	M	I	B
H	K	X	F	U	K	F	N	H	C	X	Z	N	W	E
Q	I	I	A	V	I	H	I	J	D	B	X	T	U	J
G	F	S	D	E	X	F	R	I	D	A	Y	L	J	F
Z	K	C	D	I	H	A	Z	A	J	X	P	L	K	N
R	P	H	D	Y	R	Y	A	W	M	D	X	E	Y	J



Prayer

Dear Lord, let Your cross bring comfort and peace to me and my family. Amen.

(The Lutheran Study Bible, 2009)



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING
EASTER SUNDAY

BIBLE LESSON: MATT. 28:1-10

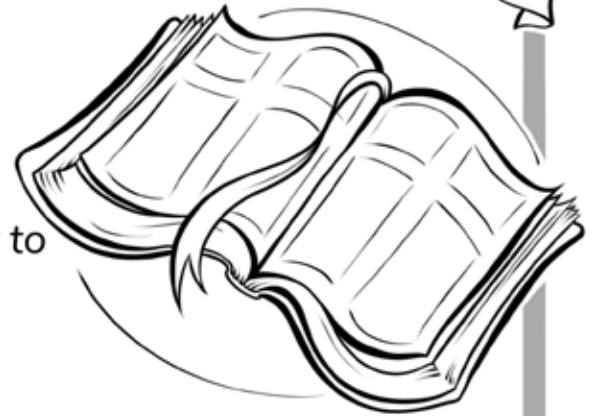
HE IS RISEN!

HE IS RISEN INDEED!
ALLELUIA!





Can you follow along in our bible story today and fill in the blanks?



1. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the _____. (v. 1b)

- a. Cross b. Tomb c. Temple

2. An angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and _____ on it. (v. 2b)

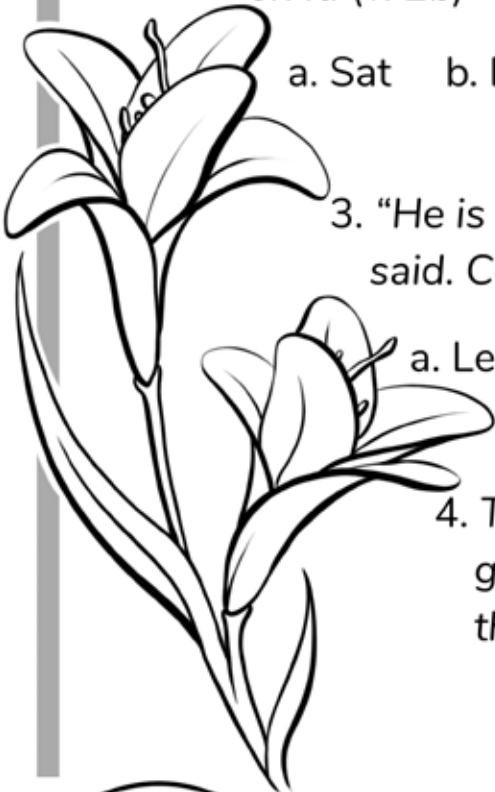
- a. Sat b. Danced c. Slept

3. "He is not here, for He has _____, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay." (v. 6)

- a. Left b. Eaten c. Risen

4. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be _____; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me." (v. 10)

- a. Afraid b. Angry c. Happy

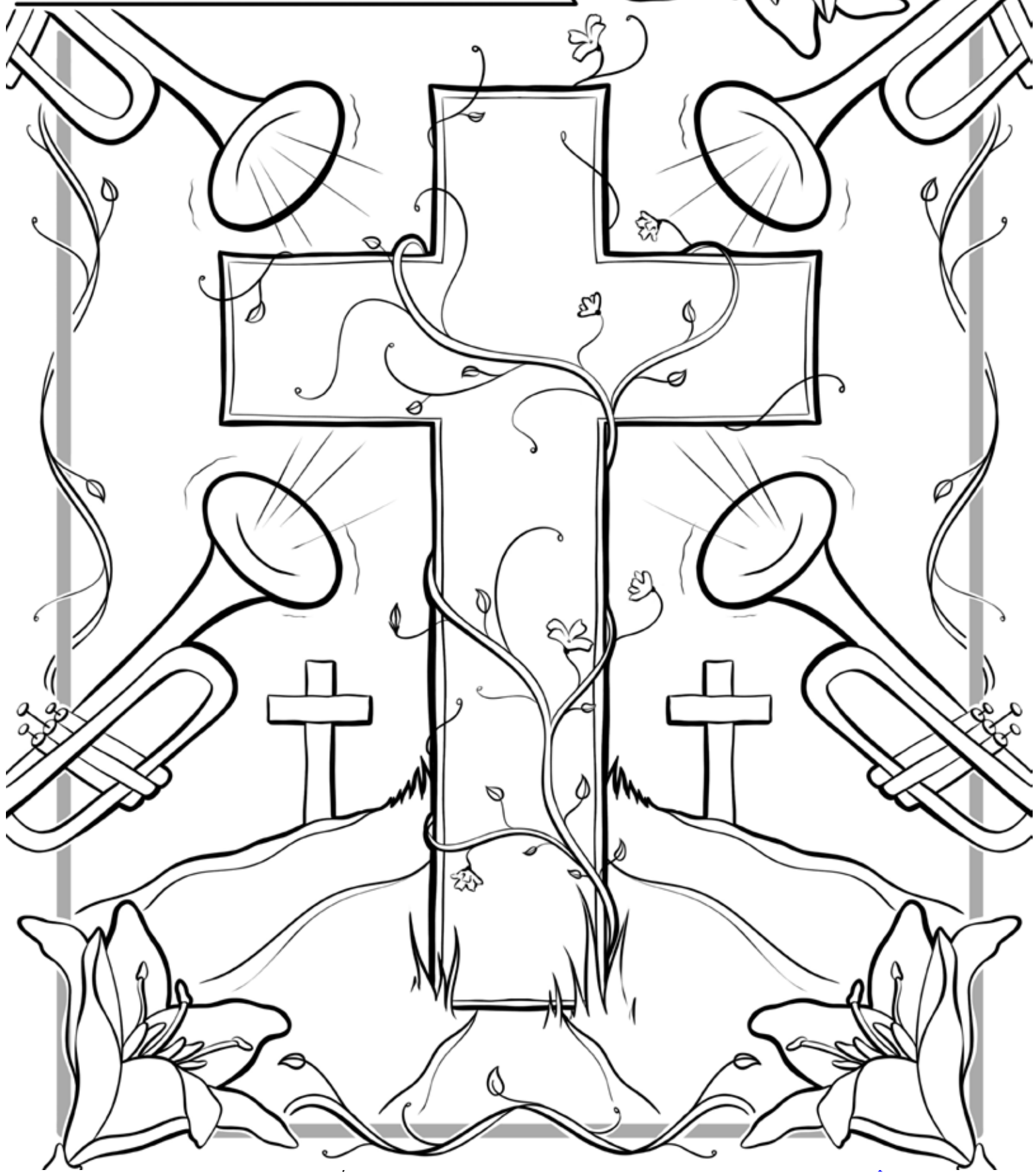


Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for the gift of Your death and resurrection. Please comfort us in our sorrow, just like You did when You found Mary crying at Your empty tomb. Remind us that You rose again, so that we might live with You forever. In Your precious name we pray. Amen.



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING
EASTER SUNDAY





KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

BIBLE LESSON: JOHN 20:19-31

TODAY WE LEARN ABOUT
JESUS APPEARING TO HIS
DISCIPLES AFTER EASTER!

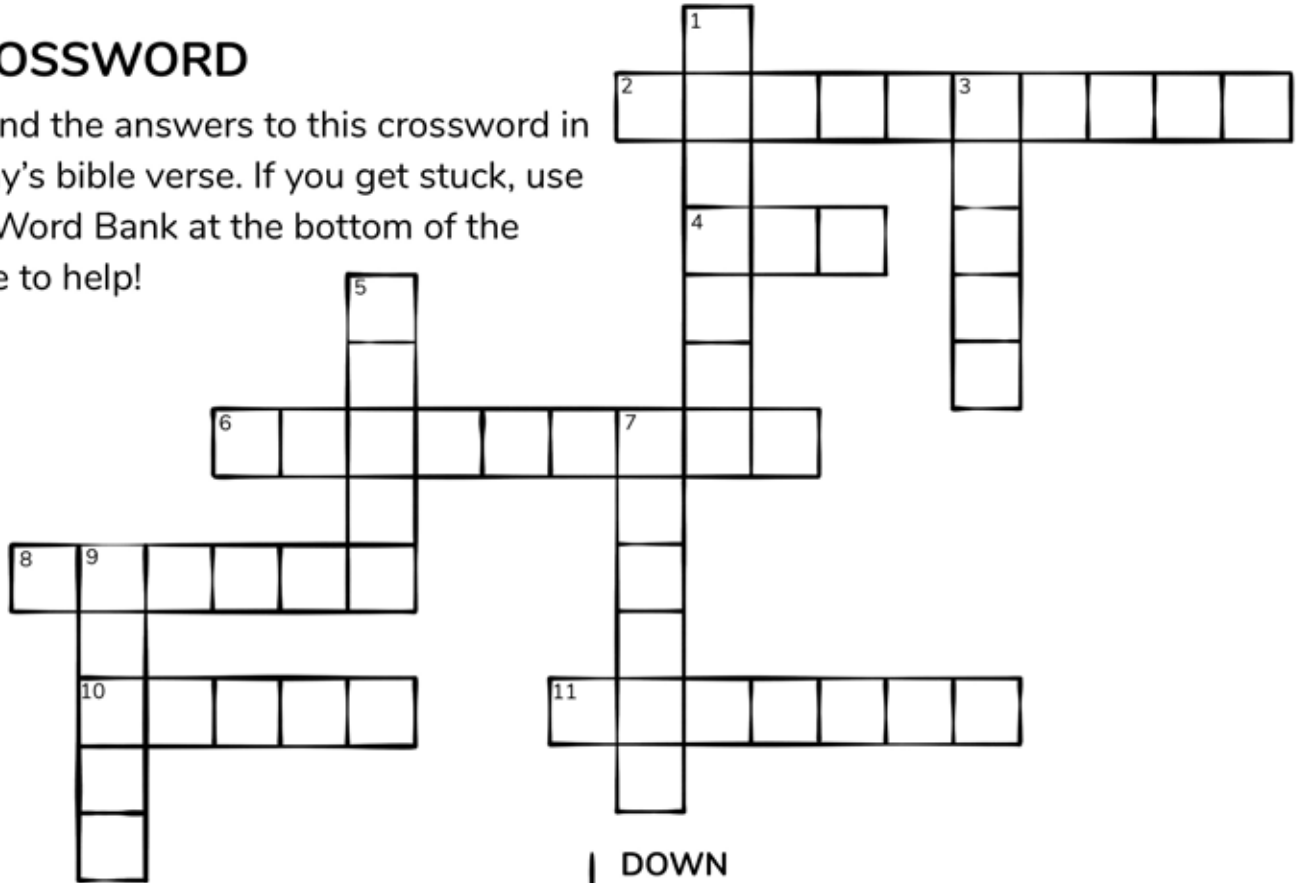


How did the disciples feel when they saw Jesus for
the first time after He had risen?
Draw their faces to show their joy!



CROSSWORD

Find the answers to this crossword in today's bible verse. If you get stuck, use the Word Bank at the bottom of the page to help!



ACROSS

- 2. He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the _____." (v. 22b)
- 4. Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my _____!" (v. 28)
- 6. Then the _____ were glad when they saw the Lord." (v. 20b)
- 8. Now _____, one of the twelve, called the twin . . . (v. 24a)
- 10. ". . . Unless I see in His hands the mark of the _____ . . ." (v. 25)
- 11. "Do not disbelieve, but _____." (v. 27b)

DOWN

- 1. "If you _____ the sins of any, they are forgiven them;" (v. 23a)
- 3. Jesus . . . said, "_____ be with you." (v. 26b)
- 5. _____ came and stood among them. (v. 19)
- 7. Although the doors were _____, Jesus came and stood among them. (v. 26)
- 9. When He had said this, He showed them His _____ and His side. (v. 20)

WORD BANK

- Believe
- Disciples
- Forgive
- God
- Hands
- Holy Spirit
- Jesus
- Locked
- Nails
- Peace
- Thomas



Prayer

Let us pray: Dear Jesus, thank You for becoming a man, understanding our human thoughts, feelings, and pain. Thank You for dying for us, and taking our sin so that we can live with You forever. Amen.