

# The Spirit of St. Paul's

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN www.stpaulslutheran.ca

**JULY 2022** 

#### LWML-Canada, Central District holds historic convention

Three members of St. Paul's Lutheran Women's Missionary League attended the Central District Convention in Regina on the May 27 weekend – Gail Mitchell, Clara Zirk and June Gorgchuk.

Gail participated in the Mission Walk to raise money for Rev. Heide's pilot training for LAMP. On a rainy afternoon, 40 brave souls did their walk around Wascana Lake sporting LAMP stickers on their jackets. Some powered through the entire trail around the lake while others



made a damp, abbreviated walk. So far the Mission Walk has brought in \$7,497 in support of Rev. Heide's pilot training to update his skills to enable him to obtain his license to fly in the northern areas of Canada.

The backpack ingathering that St. Paul's members helped with generous donations was a huge success. Thank you again for your donations. What a blessing you all are! There was an abundance of items donated. As well as the items for the backpacks, 68 Tim Hortons and 38 McDonald's gift cards in \$5 amounts were received. The backpacks will be given to organizations in Regina and Moose Jaw that work with the homeless.

One of the displays at the convention was Concordia Seminary in Edmonton. The seminary was ably represented by Sandy Timm, daughter-in-law of Art and Gerry Timm. Throughout the weekend

Sandy shared the mission of the seminary and provided information about its programs.

Finally, this convention was an historic occasion as it is the last district convention to be held. Districts will take on a new role providing more opportunities and resources for women of Lutheran Church–Canada to gather at events such as seminars and retreats.

Denise Dougherty of Ogema, Sask., will represent the district members on the LWMLC board of directors as our first Vice-President, District Administration.



June Gorgchuck sorts gift cards for back packs (left). Clara Zirk and Sandy Timm by the seminary display. Photos by Gail Mitchell.



#### 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, 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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#### **Pastor**

#### Come unto Me, ye weary



For many of our families, the next couple of months will be a time to rest from work and school and the many other activities that can occupy our time and energy during the year. It is time we can use to rest and relax and to reconnect with family and friends. It is important that we rest, not merely for our tired bodies, but for our weary souls as well. It is for this reason that God has given us the gift of the Sabbath, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labour, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God...For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy" (Exodus.20:8-11). The Sabbath provides us with much needed time for physical rest and spiritual rest in the holy presence of God.

God has promised that one day we will rest from all of our labours in the eternal heavenly Sabbath that is to come. Then we will find our final rest and experience in fullness God's invitation, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). This is something we experience only in part now. Yes, we experience it in our physical rest as we take time to lay down our work and burdens. But more fully we experience the spiritual rest God provides for us in the sacred liturgy, where we truly enter His eternal presence

and peace in this busy and harried world. Jesus invites, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29). The holy rest of God is found in Christ Jesus. In Divine Service He comes to us in His Holy Word and most sacred body and blood. In daily devotion and prayer we listen to Him and speak the prayers and praises of our hearts. Each day in this secular world we stand on sacred ground because we are always in His presence, surrounded by His love.

I pray this summer you find rest physically and spiritually. In God's presence you will find His rest, peace, and life, now and forever.

"Come unto Me, ye weary,
And I will give you rest."
O blessèd voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction,
Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending,

Of love that cannot cease.

LSB 684 v.1 God's blessings, Pastor Keith

#### Evangelism

#### What has God given you to do?

When asked this question your first thought may go to where you are at right now, perhaps you're in school wondering what will come next or you have settled into a career, or you may think about your specific role in your family or your involvement in your church or community.

Sharing my own experience, where I am at right now, I am retired, a widow, a mother, a grandmother, a neighbour, a worker in my church—Board of Evangelism—and a member of LWMLC.

Recently I attended an LWMLC convention at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Regina. If you've had the opportunity to attend conventions, there are usually displays complementing the nature of the convention. The displays here were Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada (LLL-C), Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP) and Concordia Lutheran Seminary (CLS Edmonton).

I spent a lot of time at the CLS display. I knew Sandy Timm who was manning the display and we enjoyed renewing our past relationship from her time at St. Paul's. I also wanted to find out how might I encourage others to consider a vocation in the ministry of the church. So, I asked Sandy for some promotional brochures and anything else that I could bring back to St. Paul's to share with you.

The brochures are on the ushers' table in the narthex—they are a colourful red and can't be missed—along with a few little pastors dressed in black. Besides being cute

these pastors have a purpose, they encourage prayer for your church, pastor and deacon (we do not have the latter at the present time) and a practical function as a USB stick.

There are three different brochures (they only look similar):

- A First Career in Pastoral Ministry
- A Second Career in Pastoral Ministry
- A Career in Diaconal Ministry (Deacons are men and women who are trained to assist pastors.).

Is God calling you into one of these three categories of service or is He nudging you to encourage someone you know who might be suitable to become a pastor or a deacon? Please give this your prayerful consideration.

Pray to the Lord of the Harvest And He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest" (Luke 10: 2 ESV).

If you're unable to pick up a brochure at the church but would

like more information, or need help finding the right option or to arrange a visit please contact:
Concordia Lutheran Seminary 7040 Ada Blvd NW, Edmonton, AB, T5B 4E3, 780-474-1468
recruitment@concordiasem.ab.ca
www.concordiasem.ab.ca

CLS is a theological graduate school of Lutheran Church—Canada, with the vision to form servants for Jesus' sake, a vision to form pastors and deacons who think theologically and act pastorally.

## The message of salvation is for everyone

"How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" (Romans 10: 14-15 ESV)

Clara Zirk for the Board of Evangelism



#### Stewardship

#### New Testament standard of giving

Whenever the topic of stewardship and giving comes up, the conversation inevitably turns to the question: "How much should I give?" Answers will vary because the motive behind such questions vary also.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though as Lutherans, we know that we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus' substitutionary atonement. Yet the natural religion of fallen man is to earn God's favor by what we do.

Take for example the response of our Lord to the rich young ruler who asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus first tells him to keep the commandments. The rich young ruler responds by indicating that all this he has kept from his youth. But Jesus tells him that he lacks one thing: He must sell all that he has and give it to the poor and then follow him. This rich, young ruler went away sad because he was quite wealthy and could not part with his possessions.

Here we see that those who seek to justify themselves by their giving will hear a response that intensifies the duty that God places upon them. Indeed, they will hear a response that makes it impossible to win God's favor by their works.

But to those who genuinely desire to know what their duty is, as Christians, in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God. And we know that the Word of God has been "breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof,

for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16–17).

So, we begin to answer the question, "What should I give?" with the question, "What does the Bible say about how much we should give and to whom

The Old Testament is explicit. The expectation is that the people of God would give a tithe, that is 10 percent, of the first fruits of their labor to support the full-time ministry of the Levites. This is what the Lord gave Moses to teach the people:

"You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion

or inheritance with you.

"At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do."

(Deuteronomy 14:22–29)

This principle of tithing is carried over into the New Testament, though not explicitly by calling it a tithe. St. Paul teaches the Church at Corinth this: We are to give to the church regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (1 Cor. 16:1-2; Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23). And all of this is because the "Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living by the Gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14), just as the Levites did.

This is our New Testament standard. Since Christ became poor for us in order to make us rich in Him – blessing us with the riches of heaven – so we also have been so blessed to follow the example of our Lord and Savior and give of ourselves and the work of our hands to bless others with the same.

If we have been lax in this, let us – like our Lord, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame – likewise begin

continued next page

to work toward this goal of regular giving of a generous proportion of the first fruits of God's giving to us. And let us do so not begrudgingly, but for the joy set before us—with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness, and love—to share the blessings of God with those placed into our care.

Here at St. Paul's, we, too, continue to be blessed by God in the commitment and generosity of our members. While we have ongoing challenges in many ways, we know that God has promised to support us and watch over His people. One area where we are challenged is in our finances. At the end of May 2022, we have recorded a deficit of \$15,201 compared to a deficit last year for the same period of \$14,709. Our giving this year is about \$2,600 higher than it was last year at the end of May, however last year we received federal subsidies of \$5,730 during the first five months of the year which accounts for the increase in our deficit this year. It is unlikely we will qualify for any further subsidies in 2022 so our giving will have to make up for the \$12,000 in subsidies we received last year which we will not receive in 2022.

Our bank balance at the end of May was \$25,515 but if our deficit balances continue to increase, we could be faced with some cash flow challenges. Our bank balance at the end of May is down about \$15,000 from December 31, 2021, due to the deficit we have incurred this year and from the deficit we incurred in 2021. We pray that God will see our needs and provide the resources we require for us to continue our mission and ministry commitments.

Blessings and Peace to you always.

Board of Stewardship

## LuMinHoS



is excited to be able to host

## RatieLu's Cafe

Fundraiser Café including a beverage and dessert

Sunday August 07
2 – 3:30 p.m.
In the dining room at the
Aspira Village at Stonebridge
110 Hunter Road



PO BOX 23019 RPO Market Mall SASKATOON, SK 57J SHJ 306.229.1663/deplain

Special thanks to Aspira Retirement Living for their generous donation of the use of the dining room

#### Education

#### KIDS CORNER GROWING HEARTS OF FAITH

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

Hi Kids!

By the time you read this, you will be starting your summer holidays. Congratulations on finishing another year of school!!

This month is all about Pentecost. In fact, the Pentecost season goes all the way to the end of November, to just before we start Advent again (when we get ready for Jesus' birth). Do you remember from last month what Pentecost is? Let's read parts of Acts 2 from the International Children's Bible to remind us...

Kids' Corner, continued

#### Acts 2

#### The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a noise came from heaven. It sounded like a strong wind blowing. This noise filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw something that looked like flames of fire. The flames were separated and stood over each person there. <sup>4</sup> They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages. The Holy Spirit was giving them the power to speak these languages.

<sup>5</sup> There were some religious Jews staying in Jerusalem who were from every country in the world. 6 When they heard this noise, a crowd came together. They were all surprised, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 7 They were completely amazed at this. They said, "Look! Aren't all these men that we hear speaking from Galilee?[a] 8 But each of us hears them in his own language. How is this possible? We are from different places: 9 Parthia, Media, Elam, Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, 10 Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, the areas of Libya near Cyrene, Rome 11 (both Jews and those who had become Jews), Crete and Arabia. But we hear these men telling in our own languages about the great things God has done!" 12 They were all amazed and confused. They asked each other, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup> But others were making fun of them, saying, "They have had too much wine."

#### Peter Speaks to the People

<sup>22</sup> "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus from Nazareth was a very special man. God clearly

showed this to you by the miracles, wonders, and signs God did through Him. You all know this, because it happened right here among you. <sup>23</sup> Jesus was given to you, and you killed Him. With the help of evil men you nailed Him to a cross. But God knew all this would happen. This was God's plan which He had made long ago. <sup>24</sup> God raised Jesus from death. God set Him free from the pain of death. Death could not hold Him.

<sup>36</sup> "So, all the people of Israel should know this truly: God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ. He is the man you nailed to the cross!" <sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were sick at heart. They asked Peter and the other apostles, "What shall we do?"

<sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, "Change your hearts and lives and be baptized, each one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> This promise is for you. It is also for your children and for all who are far away. It is for everyone the Lord our God calls to Himself."

<sup>40</sup> Peter warned them with many other words. He begged them, "Save yourselves from the evil of today's people!" <sup>41</sup> Then those people who accepted what Peter said were baptized. About 3,000 people were added to the number of believers that day. <sup>42</sup> They spent their time learning the apostles' teaching. And they continued to share, to break bread,[d] and to pray together.

#### The Believers Share

<sup>43</sup> The apostles were doing many miracles and signs. And everyone felt great respect for God. <sup>44</sup> All the believers stayed together. They shared everything. <sup>45</sup> They sold their land and the things they owned.

Then they divided the money and gave it to those people who needed it. <sup>46</sup> The believers met together in the Temple every day. They all had the same purpose. They broke bread in their homes, happy to share their food with joyful hearts. <sup>47</sup> They praised God, and all the people liked them. More and more people were being saved every day; the Lord was adding those people to the group of believers.

Wow! What a day that would have been, hey?! Many people say Pentecost marks the beginning of the Christian church's mission to the world. Paul was one of the missionaries who helped spread the good news of Jesus. (Remember the guy who was persecuting the Christians before God blinded him with a big light?) Did you know that he is the person our church is named after?

Missionaries, like Paul, continue to spread the Gospel all over the world today. If you'd like to learn a little more about what missionaries do these days, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod has provided a neat little online series called "Missions Unpacked, for Kids" at international. lcms.org/missions-unpacked-for-kids. Ask someone in your family to help you collect the supplies for the crafts or you can just watch the videos.

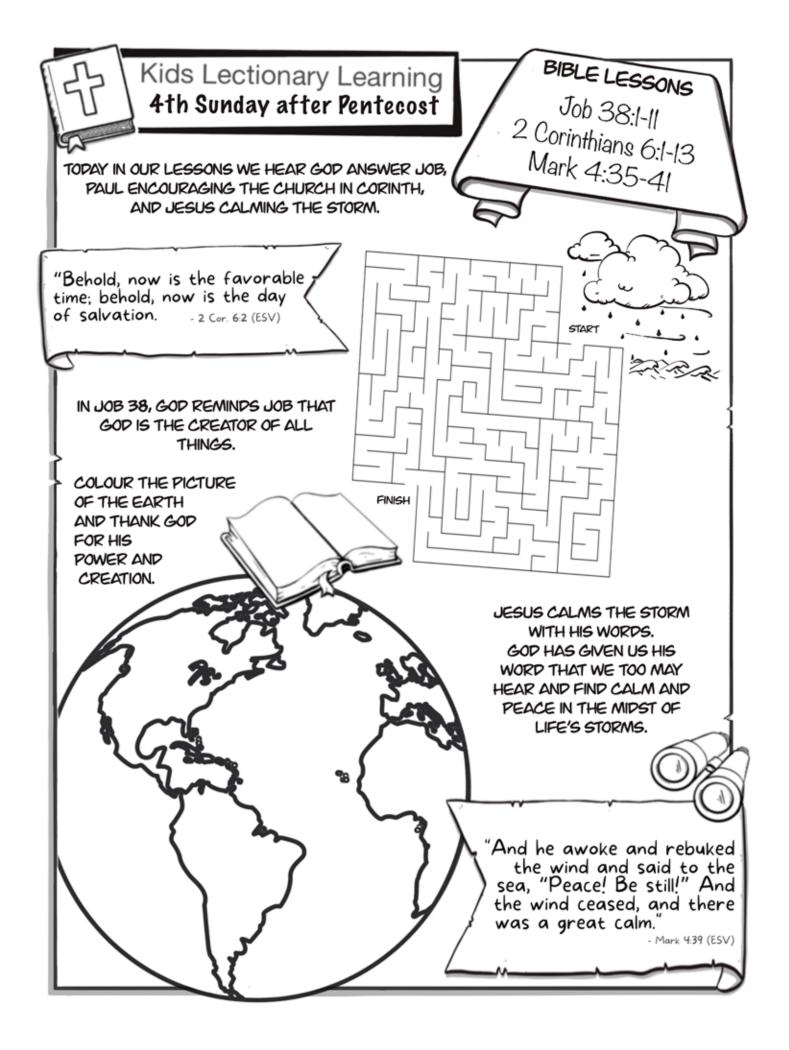
Don't forget to look for Pastor Cooper's July 2021 activity sheets in this newsletter. You can find July 2022 activity sheets at <a href="lll.ca/kids-resources"><u>lll.ca/kids-resources</u></a>.

Enjoy your summer!

Mrs. Denise Timm

Board of Christian Education

and Youth



## Kids Lectionary Learning 5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Today in our gospel reading, we hear of Jesus healing two people: a Woman in a crowd and man named Jairus' daughter. It is amazing to read and know that Jesus heals, and to see how

Bible Lessons

Lamentations 3:22-33

2 Cor. 8:1-9, 13-15; Mark 5:21-43

> Grab your Bibles and lets learn more about God's love, healing, and the many gifts that He gives to us by His Holy Spirit.

generous God is to us.

Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 and hear St. Paul's encouragement to being generous. Then, can you colour Pip the Parrot as he generously gives away his coin?



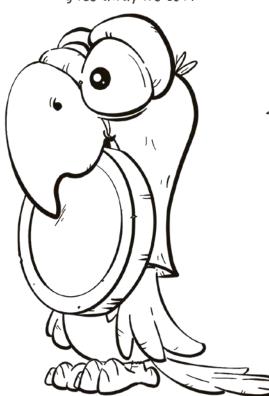
**JESUS** DAUGHTER LIVE WOMAN TOUCHED WELL HEALED FAITH PEACE BELIEVE ARISE BETTER

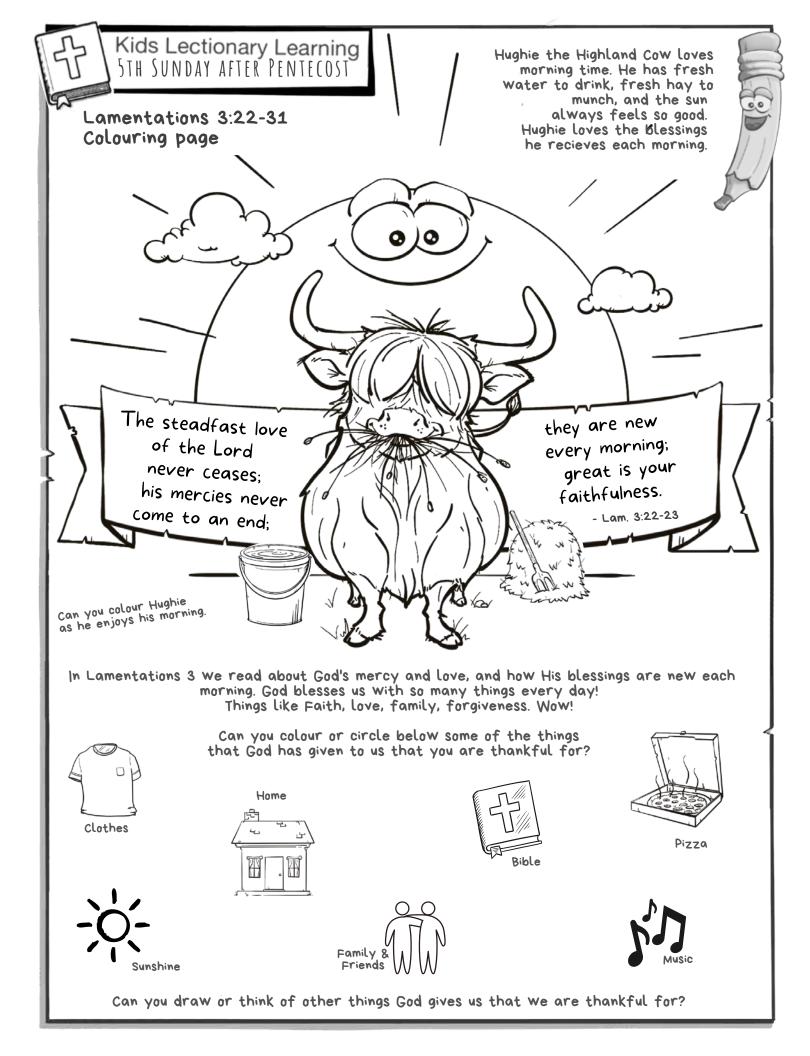
TOUCHEDALP OCSZJGRRIE HEALEDRIVA CWAJASDSEC BELIEVEE WLDAUGHTER OLHSWPFMSG MFAITHPPUX ARWILWZASF NZJVBETTER

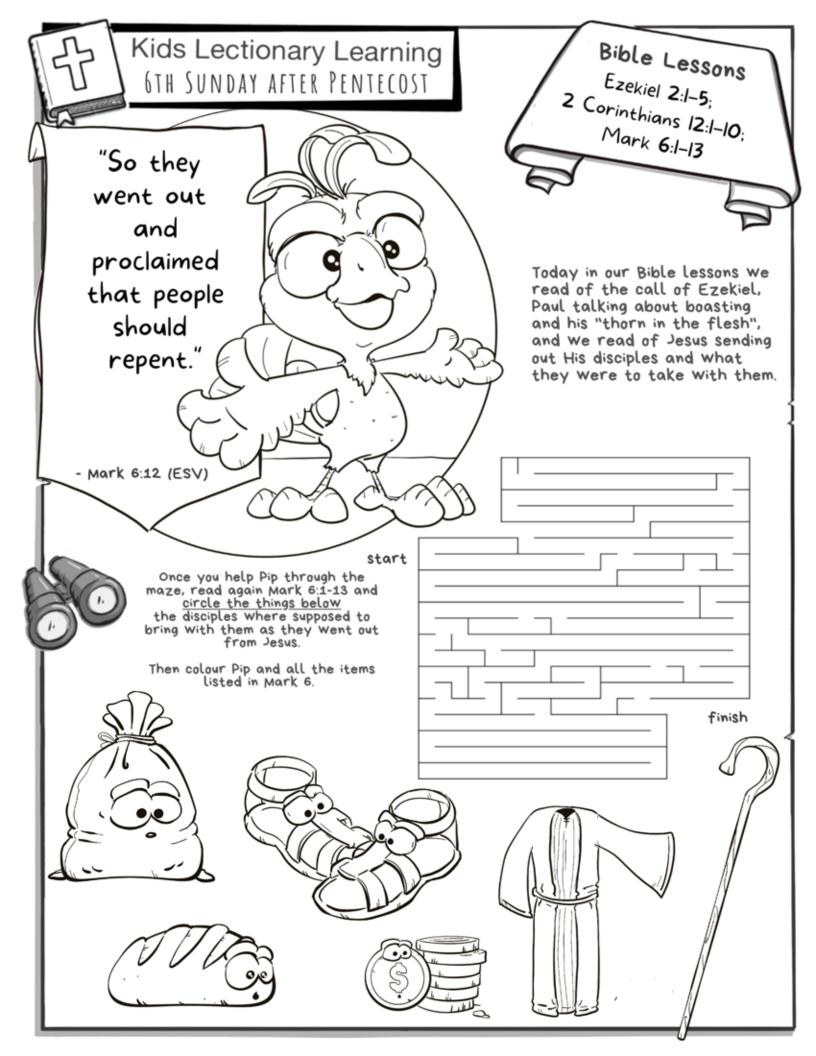
his garments,

I will be made well."

- Mark 5:28 (ESV)







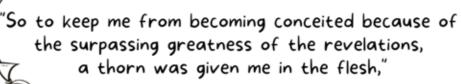
## Kids Lectionary Learning 6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Corinthians 12 Word Search

THORN BOASTING FLESH GAINED PLEADED CHRIST GRACE BODY POWER GOD STRONG TRUTH

MYPAEZUCHF DPLEADEDFL PGSTRONGCE KBOASTINGS TBCHRI HOUMGAINE ODBFWRIZSH RYBSPOWERG NLSTRUTHRO YPGRACEESD

For when I am weak, then I am strong. - 2 Cor. 12:10



- 2 Cor. 12:7

These plants all have sharp

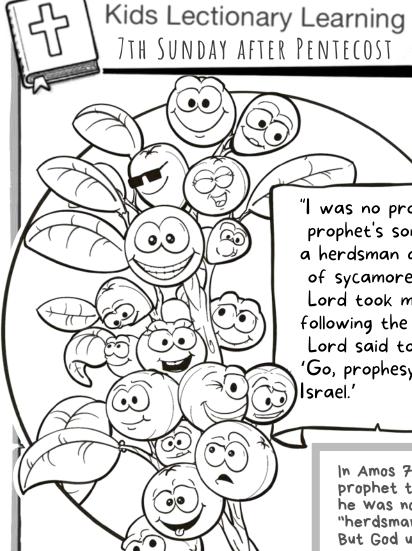
prickles and thorns. Can you colour the plants with prickles as we learn about God's Today We read in 2 Corinthians grace that sustains?



about God's servant Paul had a "thorn" in his "flesh".

Now We don't know exactly what this was, but we do know that Paul prayed it Would go away and when it didn't, Paul knew that God's grace was all he needed.

Thank you Jesus for Your grace.



Bible Lessons
Amos 7:7-15
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

"I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel'

Today in our Bible lessons we learn about Amos, God's prophet to Israel. We listen as Paul tells us of the blessings we have in Jesus Christ, and we learn of the death of John the Baptist.

In Amos 7 We read of Amos Who Was God's prophet to Israel. We see Amos stating that he was not always a prophet but was a simple "herdsman" and "dresser of sycamore figs". But God used Amos to do His amazing Will.

- Amos 7:14 (ESV)

Colour the figs as they grow on the Sycamore branch and as we grow in God's love.

## EPHESIANS 1:3-14 Word Search



BLESSED RICHES
GOD WISDOM
LORD WILL
JESUS GLORY
LOVE SEALED
GRACE PRAISE

"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,"

- Eph. 1:4

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

## Kids Lectionary Learning 7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTE(OST

## Mark 6:14-29 (ESV) CrossWord

#### <u>Across</u>

In Mark 6:14-29
We read the
sad story of
the death of
John the Baptist.

It is sad when we hear of people being hurt or dying. Jesus and His love and forgiveness are given to us freely, even when bad and sad things happen.

 The king was exceedingly \_\_\_\_\_ after having received the request to kill John the Baptist? (Mark 6:26)

3. Who is the king mentioned in Mark 6:1?

#### Down

1. Herodias had a \_\_\_\_\_ against John the Baptist? (Mark 6:19)

start

Hughie the Highland Steer sometimes feels sad when he hears of bad things happening and people being hurt. But God gives us His peace and blessings in Christ even when we are sad and know others are hurt. And we give thanks to God that He is there for His people even in hard and sad times.

finish

"In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,

- Ephesians 1:7

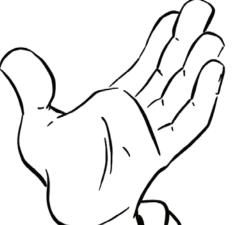
Can you colour Hughie the Highland Steer?

Crossword Answers: 1. grudge 2. sorry 3. Herod

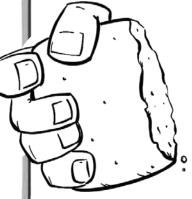


### Kids Lectionary Learning & TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today in our Bible lessons we hear of shepherds, sheep, God's love, and Jesus feeding over 5,000 people. Grab your Bibles and join us this week.

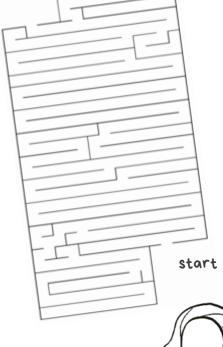


Bible Lessons
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-44



"And they all ate and were satisfied."

- Mark 6:42 (ESV)



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

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Word Search

finish

SHEPHERD
SHEEP
PASTURE
LORD
PEOPLE
FLOCK
GATHER
FOLD
FRUITFUL
RAISE
BRANCH
NAME
RIGHTEOUSNESS



