



# The Spirit of St. Paul's

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

[www.stpaulslutheran.ca](http://www.stpaulslutheran.ca)

MAY 2022

## Evangelism

### Waiting to Hear God Speak

Recently I was going through the red basket on my desk and clearing it of old mail when I came across something from the Canadian Bible Society. The following words jumped out at me: “**There are people still waiting to hear God speak,**” and instantly my mind focused on how many times I have felt like I, too, am waiting for God to speak.

Now I know from the Canadian Bible Society perspective they were drawing attention to the many parts of the world where Christianity is growing and there is a demand for Bibles in the languages of the people with many still waiting to hear God speak in their heart language.

Going back to my immediate focus and thinking about how many times I have felt I am waiting for God to speak to me—a sit-down heart to heart chat to answer all my questions and curiosities. But the more I thought about these words the more I felt God drawing me toward what He really wanted to draw my attention to, that He has already answered them for me. He reminded me that on my bookshelf I have His Word in numerous English translations, from easy reading as in the Good News and Living Bibles to more moderate in the English Standard Version and

New international Version and finally to the New Revised Standard and the King James Versions plus a couple of others.

In all of this, I believe He was saying—you have my Word, my Word does not change; it is the same today, tomorrow and into the future; in it you have all you need to know for this life and the next. I have raised you with it from Sunday school to the present day and you have been lacking in nothing. All that I have wanted you to know about me and the plans I have for you I have written in my book. I have shown my love for you through the work of my Son on the cross and given you new life through His resurrection. I have given you instructions for living in the Ten Commandments and countless words of promise and encouragement in my written Word. I watch over you and protect you. Trust in Me. In 2 Corinthians 12:9, I have said to you, “My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

All you really need to know is the purpose of my book.

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the

Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name”  
(John 20: 31 ESV).

*Clara Zirk for the  
Board of Evangelism*

### Baptized into the kingdom



*On April 17, 2022, Tolan Cooper Dietrich, son of Gordon and Amanda Dietrich, was baptized into God's Kingdom. Gordon is James and Angela Dietrich's son.*

## 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.

Pastor: Rev. Murray Keith  
 Office Secretary: Sandy Harper  
 phone: 306-343-9535  
 e-mail: [stpaulslcc@sasktel.net](mailto:stpaulslcc@sasktel.net)  
 web: [www.stpaulslutheran.ca](http://www.stpaulslutheran.ca)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stpaulslutheran](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulslutheran)  
 Instagram: [www.instagram.com/stpaulslcc](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulslcc)  
 Spirit Editor: Marion Hollinger  
[hollinger@sasktel.net](mailto:hollinger@sasktel.net)

**Next deadline: May 26, 2022**  
**Publication: May 31, 2022**

## Elections coming – two years later than planned

Members of St. Paul's,

The time is here for St. Paul's elections for all positions on the boards and executive.

A key part of this process is asking you, the members to nominate other members of the congregation who have the skills to provide leadership in our congregation. Please look for additional information during

May in your emails and church announcements.

Please also prayerfully consider your own vocation as a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, specifically in supporting our mission by serving on the executive or on one of the boards.

Thank you for your prayers.

*The Nominating Committee*

## Stewardship

### Living Sacrifices

Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church. It includes this, to be sure, but it is not limited to it. Stewardship involves our whole life – everything we have and everything we are.

Let us not, though, fall into the trap of thinking that because we give of ourselves in one area then we can neglect giving in another. Stewardship is not stealing from Peter to pay Paul. It is not a game that we play whereby we justify ourselves in not giving a tenth of our income because we have given in some other way.

This is why our Lord warns: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (Matthew 23:23) We are given to do both – tithe of ourselves and what we have.

And so it is that St. Paul makes his appeal to us: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a

living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2)

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. We are not to have the mind of the world, where we exchange equal weight of this for an equal weight of that and think that we have done what God has required. Our whole life is given over for service in and for the Church of God. This is to be done in thanksgiving for what God in Christ has accomplished for us. This is our spiritual worship, the reasonable response to what He has done for us. Not one for the other but all in all.

But what does this look like? St. Paul never lays down a general principle without also giving us some practical application of what shape that principle is to take concretely. He gives the general principle that our bodies are to

*continued next page*

*Living Sacrifices, continued*

be living sacrifices to God. And, after admonishing those who have been given particular gifts of grace to serve the church, St. Paul then speaks generally of what is expected of all. He says:

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honour. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality” (Romans 12:9–13).

This is what it looks like to present your bodies as living sacrifices. This is how we live out the grace of God here in time.

Let us then heed the apostle’s teaching. Let us present our bodies – everything that we have and everything that we are – as living sacrifices to God, our reasonable response to what God in Christ Jesus accomplished for us by His death and resurrection. Through

this, we have forgiveness of sins, a new life in Christ, and eternal salvation. And through this worship, the grace of God is made manifest in His saints – for the church and the world.

**Here at St. Paul’s...**

The Board of Stewardship received our financial report from our treasurer to the end of March at its meeting on April 18. The results showed we have a deficit for the first three months of 2022 of \$13,239 compared to a deficit at the end of March in 2021 of \$11,078. Our giving this year is virtually the same as last year however in 2021, we received a federal subsidy of \$2,673 which accounts for the difference in our financial results for the first three months of the year. It is unlikely we will qualify for any further subsidies in 2022, so our giving will have to make up for the subsidy funding we have received in the last couple of years. In 2021, we received \$12,000 in federal subsidies which we will not likely receive this year.

We are encouraged by the way members have continued to make

their offerings to the church to support our programs, activities and other costs during this time of COVID. Members continue to leave their offering envelopes at church, some have signed up for the PAR program of automatic monthly giving where funds are taken directly from their bank accounts, and many members have now switched to making their offerings through e-transfers. However, you decide to make your offering, please know that it is much appreciated and much needed during this time when in-person church worship and attendance is getting back to a more normal state.

Our bank balance at March 31, 2022, was \$28,546, which is reasonably healthy. We need, however, to get out of incurring deficits on a monthly basis so as not to put a strain on our cash flow and continue to pay our operating expenses as they come due. We know that with God’s blessings, He will support and sustain us as He has done so lovingly in the past.

*Blessings and joy!*  
Board of Stewardship

## Backpacks part of convention outreach

In June, women from LWML–Canada’s Central District (same area as LCC’s Central Region) will meet in convention in Regina. Traditionally they gather items for those in need in the area where the convention is held.

Three women from St. Paul’s are attending and would welcome donations to help fill the backpacks being provided by Regina societies. Suggested items include: socks, mitts, soap/body wash, deodorant,

shampoo, comb/hairbrush, toothbrush & paste, dental floss, wash cloth, small hand towel, \$5 gift card for Tim Hortons/McDonald’s.

Please put your donations in the box in the narthex by May 22.

PORTALS OF PRAYER booklets are also needed as rural congregations are asking for copies. If you have used copies please give them to Gail or leave them in the box with your other donations.



## A rockin' good time

The members of an LWMLC group in Calgary gathered at the church one morning in November for some good fellowship while painting prayer rocks for their Sunday school children. Each rock was hand-delivered along with the Rock Prayer and a bookmark.



Above: the prayer rocks; right the finished packages.

## The Sparrow's Nest

The sparrow's nest,  
God's haven of rest.

An insignificant little bird  
No monetary value yet precious -  
In the eyes of the Lord.

We are the sparrows, you and I,  
Sheltered by His robe of  
righteousness  
Till we fly away with Him on high.

It matters not where we rest  
He is our Rock, our Redeemer—  
In Him, we've been blest.

The Lord resides with us.  
We are His channel of love.  
To bless in the name of Jesus.

At the foot of His throne  
God, whose eye is on the sparrow  
Promises an everlasting home.

*—Irene Warpula, LWMLC member,  
Thunder Bay, Ont.*

### NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR:

In 2002. When I learned that our last name, Varpula (there is no 'w' in the Finnish language), is derived from Varpunen which is "sparrow" in English. I equated that to the Bible passage that speaks of God as our refuge and resting place. Glory be to God from whom all blessings flow!

This item and "The Sparrow's Nest" were part of the twice-monthly blog published by women of LWMLC. You are invited to subscribe at <https://servinginhisstrength.wordpress.com>, and receive your copy via email.



## Education

### KIDS CORNER GROWING HEARTS OF FAITH

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

Hey Kids!!! Guess what?! We're not finished celebrating Easter! In our church calendar, there's seven more weeks of Easter after Easter Sunday!

What are some other ways of celebrating God's HUGE love for us that you haven't done yet? Jesus rose from the dead after three days AND over 500 people saw Him alive again. No wonder our church celebrates this for two months! At the end of the newsletter (if you download it; if you receive a print copy look in the middle of the newsletter), you'll find the activity sheets from [lll.ca/kids-resources](http://lll.ca/kids-resources) from Easter last year.

For this year's sheets, check the site every week.

This is also the month we celebrate and honour our mothers, on Mother's Day, May 8! Check the back of the newsletter for colouring and activity sheets you can do up nicely to give to your mom. Instead of just colouring the bouquet of flowers, why not try making it 3-D and create paper or fabrics flowers to stick on? Any way you do it, I'm sure your mom will LOVE it!

Have a great month and always remember, Jesus loves you!

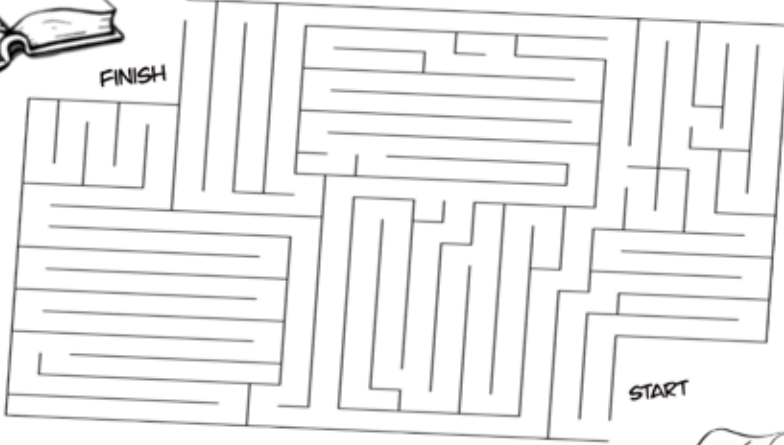
*Mrs. Denise Timm  
For the Board of Christian  
Education and Youth*



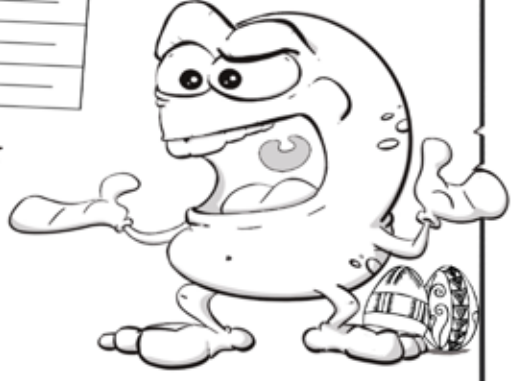
Kids Lectionary Learning  
**3rd Sunday of Easter**

**"Christ is risen"**  
**"He is risen indeed"**

Acts 3:11-21  
 1 John 3:1-7  
 Luke 24:36-49



In our first reading we learn of Peter speaking at Solomon's Portico. Garry the Grub doesn't know what a portico is.

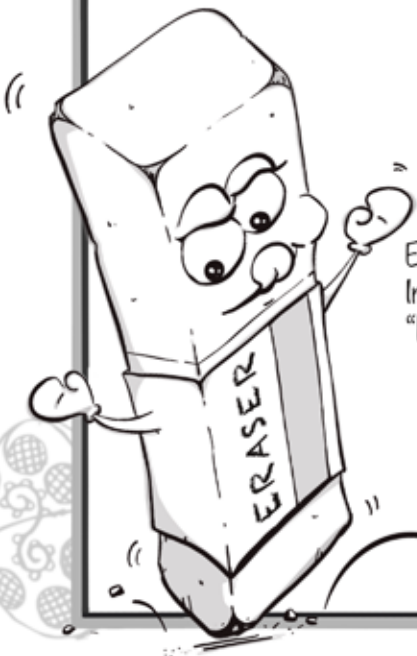


(Solomon Portico was part of the temple, kind of like a porch, that had stone columns on each side, and a roof over it. Turn in your Bible to Acts 3 to read what Peter says at Solomon's Portico)

**WORD SEARCH**

- ISAAC
- JESUS
- FATHERS
- PILATE
- JOHN
- SOLOMON
- ISRAEL
- JACOB
- ABRAHAM
- PROPHETS
- PEOPLE
- PETER
- GOD

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



Ed the eraser loves to get rid of mistakes. In the readings today we hear how Jesus takes away our sins. They are "blotted out", gone! Thank you Jesus for forgiving our sins.

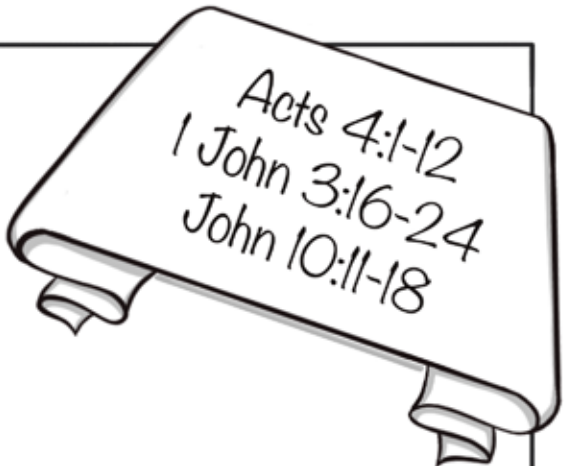


**"Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,"**

- Acts 3:19 (ESV)



Kids Lectionary Learning  
**4th Sunday of Easter**



**"Christ is risen"**  
**"He is risen indeed"**

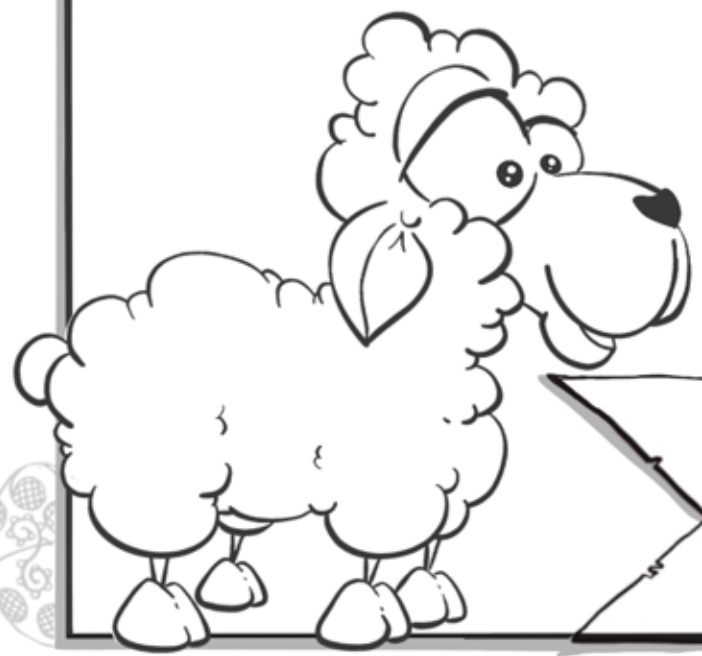
Today we hear from God's Word about His disciples Peter and John before the council, about God's love for us and what it means for us as His children. And we hear of Jesus, who is our Good Shepherd.

Grab your Bibles and let's take a look.

**WORD SEARCH**

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| SHEPHERD | FOLD  |
| JESUS    | FLEES |
| WOLF     | LIFE  |
| SHEEP    | VOICE |
| GOOD     | FLOCK |

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



*I am the good shepherd.  
 The good shepherd lays down  
 His life for the sheep."*

- John 10:11 (ESV)

"Beloved, let us  
love one another,  
for love is from God,"  
- 1 John 4:7 (ESV)



## Kids Lectionary Learning 5th Sunday of Easter

IN OUR FIRST READING FROM ACTS 8, WE READ OF  
AN ANGEL TELLING PHILIP TO GO TO A CERTAIN  
ROAD AND HE COMES TO A MAN FROM ETHIOPIA.

THIS MAN IS READING THE SCRIPTURES AND PHILIP  
HELPS HIM AND EXPLAINS WHAT HE IS READING.  
THIS MAN IS AMAZED AND EXCITED, BELIEVING IN JESUS  
CHRIST, AND HE ASKS PHILIP TO BAPTIZE HIM IN THE  
WATER NEARBY.



"AND THEY BOTH WENT DOWN INTO THE WATER,  
PHILIP AND THE EUNICE, AND HE BAPTIZED HIM"

- Acts 8:38 (ESV)

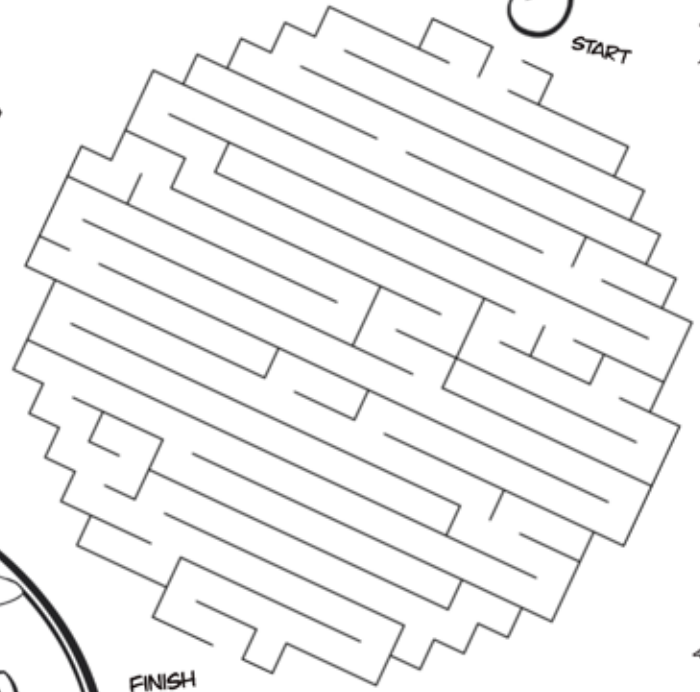
FRED THE FISH NEEDS WATER TO LIVE, AND  
HE LOVES CLEAN WATER FOR SWIMMING.  
GOD HAS GIVEN WATER FOR FISH TO LIVE AND  
HE GIVES US WHAT WE NEED TOO.

GOD HAS GIVEN US HIS SON, HIS HOLY WORD,  
AND THE GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM WITH  
WATER AND THE WORD.

THANK YOU HEAVENLY FATHER  
FOR ALL YOU GIVE TO US.



START



FINISH

CAN YOU COLOUR FRED THE FISH?



"See, here is water!  
What prevents me from  
being baptized?"

- Acts 8:36 (ESV)

# Kids Lectionary Learning 6th Sunday of Easter

"Oh sing to the  
LORD a new song,  
for He has done  
marvellous things!"

- Ps. 98:1 (ESV)



## 1 John 5:1-2 Word Scramble

UNSCRAMBLE THE WORD ABOVE THE  
BLANK SPACE TO COMPLETE THE VERSES.

"EVERYONE WHO \_\_\_\_\_ THAT \_\_\_\_\_ IS THE CHRIST

LEEBESVI

EJSSU

NORB

OWH

HAS BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD, AND EVERYONE \_\_\_\_\_ LOVES THE FATHER

OVLES

IMH

\_\_\_\_\_ WHOEVER HAS BEEN BORN OF \_\_\_\_\_.

KNWO

LRNIEHCD

BY THIS WE \_\_\_\_\_ THAT WE LOVE THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD,

OVEL

YEBO

WHEN WE \_\_\_\_\_ GOD AND \_\_\_\_\_ HIS COMMANDMENTS."

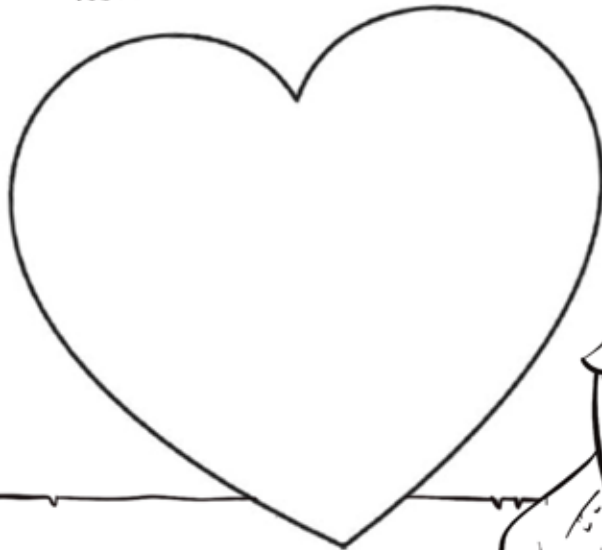
(HINT: TURN TO  
1 JOHN 5:1-2 TO  
HELP UNSCRAMBLE  
THE WORDS)



TODAY IS ALSO MOTHER'S DAY. CAN YOU WRITE OR DRAW SOME THINGS  
YOU ARE THANKFUL YOUR MOTHER OR SOMEONE ELSE DOES FOR YOU?

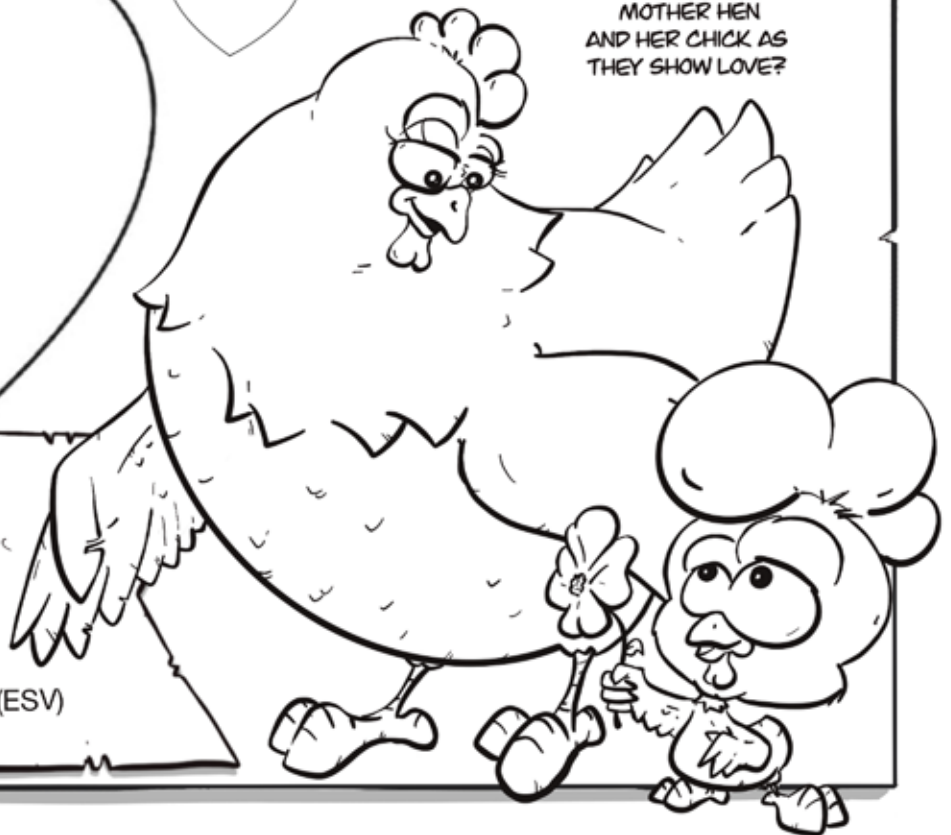
GOD HAS GIVEN US HIS LOVE.  
HE HAS GIVEN PEOPLE IN OUR  
LIVES WHO LOVE US.

CAN YOU COLOUR THE  
MOTHER HEN  
AND HER CHICK AS  
THEY SHOW LOVE?



"As the Father has  
loved me,  
so have I loved you.  
Abide in my love."

- John 15:9 (ESV)

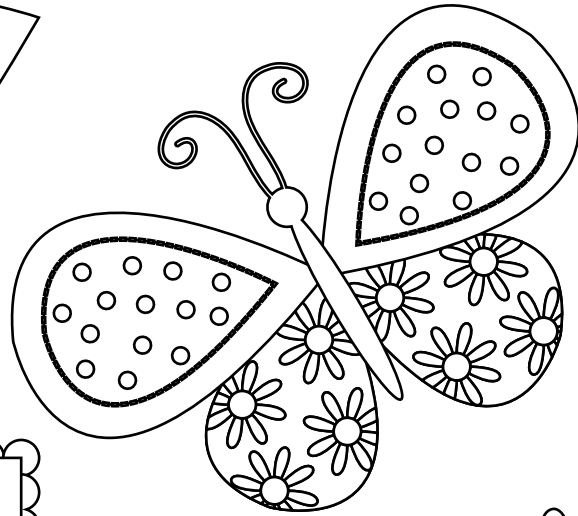




# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

TO THE

Best



# MOM

**MANY WOMEN DO NOBLE THINGS,  
BUT YOU SURPASS THEM ALL.  
PROVERBS 31:29**

# WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Read about these amazing women of the Bible.  
Which one is most like YOUR mom?



**REBEKAH**

**Her Story:** Genesis 24  
**Her Strength:** Service



**DEBORAH**

**Her Story:** Judges 4-5  
**Her Strength:** Wisdom



**HANNAH**

**Her Story:** 1 Samuel 1  
**Her Strength:** Prayer



**ELIZABETH**

**Her Story:** Luke 1  
**Her Strength:** Honor



**MARY** (*Martha's Sister*)

**Her Story:** Luke 10:38-42  
**Her Strength:** Focus



**LYDIA**

**Her Story:** Acts 16:11-15  
**Her Strength:** Generosity



# MY AMAZING MOM

My mom is \_\_\_\_\_ years old. She likes to

wear \_\_\_\_\_. Her favorite food is

\_\_\_\_\_.

We play \_\_\_\_\_ together and like to watch \_\_\_\_\_.

During the day my mom \_\_\_\_\_.

My mom is the best one in our family at

\_\_\_\_\_.

My mom's most amazing quality is \_\_\_\_\_.

She is special to me because

\_\_\_\_\_.

# I LOVE MY AMAZING MOM!



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# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



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