KIDS CORNER GROWING HEARTS OF FAITH

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

Hi Kids!

Put your seat belts on as I give you a quick trip through the upcoming month of May! It starts off with the Ascension of our Lord on May 9. Remember hearing about Jesus ascending into heaven 40 days after He rose from the dead?

Fifty days after Jesus rose, is called Pentecost ("Pente" means fifty). This is the day the disciples received the Holy Spirit through tongues of fire sitting on their heads. Nobody got burned, but they were able to speak in the languages of the countries around them. The people from other countries came and heard them telling them of God's mighty works...in their own language!! This year, we celebrate it on May 19.

In the Old Testament, Pentecost meant something different. Get mom and dad to take a look at the article written by Chad Bird—included in this newsletter—from the 1517 website. It explains that the Old Testament Pentecost was fifty days after the Passover plus many other things!

On May 26, we celebrate the Holy Trinity...Father, Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit. Three Persons, one God. This is difficult, actually impossible, for us humans to understand, but all we need to do is trust God's Word on this.

Oh, let's not forget Mother's Day on May 12! It's easy to understand why God gave us our mothers! Let's remember to thank Him for them when we celebrate and honour them on their special day!

Remember to look for the activity sheets on our church's website as well as at church! The Lutheran Laymen's League site, Ill.ca, also has Pastor Cooper's lectionary learning sheets to check out.

Have fun watching God's beautiful creation come to life this Spring!

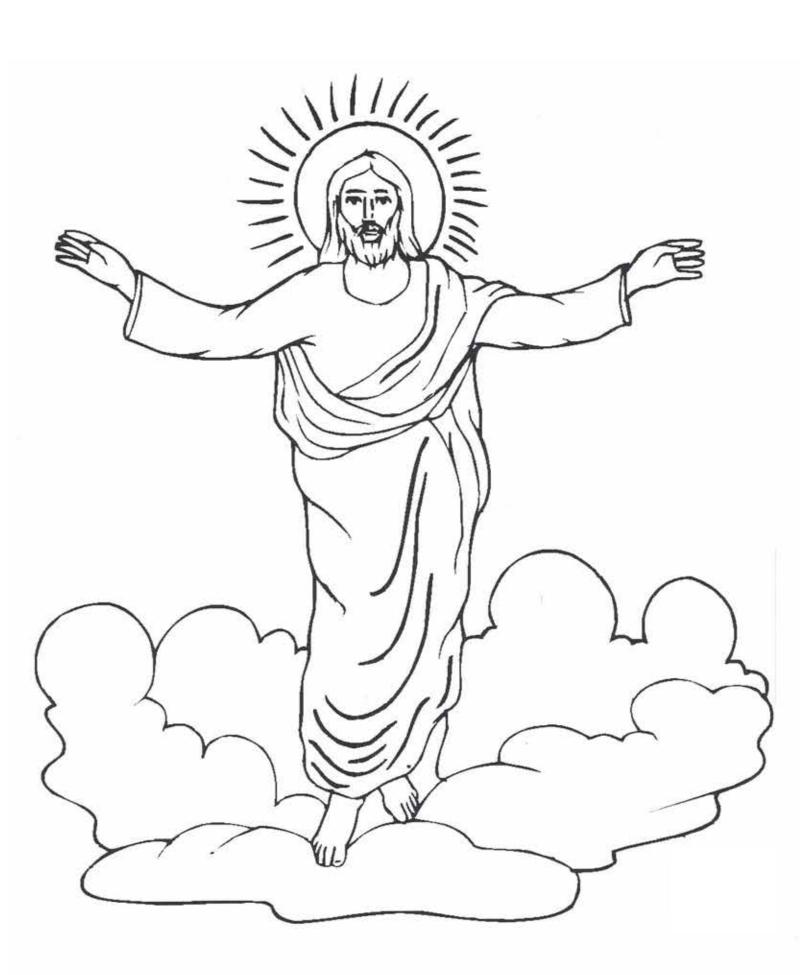
Mrs. Denise Timm
For the Board of Christian Education and Youth





Happy Mother's Day Color, cut out, and glue together.





The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:44-53



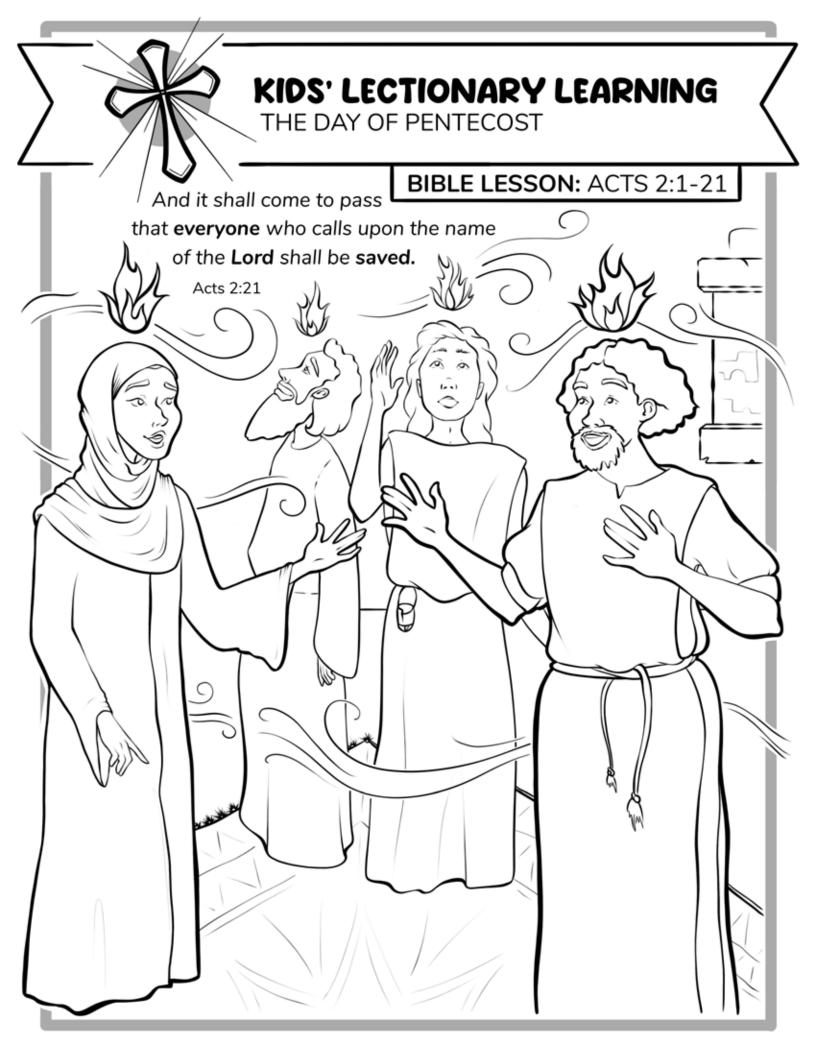
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RISE	REPENT	PROPHETS	TAKEN
SUFFER	PSALMS	OPENED	FORGIVE
HEAVEN	SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED	MOSES
WORSHIPED	BLESSING	UNDERSTAND	MINDS



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"When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. (Luke 24:50-53)





KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING



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

- 1. And suddenly there came from Heaven a sound like a mighty rushing ______. (v. 2a)
 - a. Wind b. Jump c. Crowd
 - 2. And divided tongues as of _____ appeared to them and rested on each one of them. (v. 3)
 - a. Snakes b. Laughter c. Fire
 - 3. And all were ______ and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" (v. 12)
 - a. Scared b. Amazed c. Happy
 - 4. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be ______. (v. 21)
 - a. Saved b. Seen c. Poked



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in Heaven, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to the early Christian church, and to us in the waters of our Baptism. Help us so that we can find the right time and the right words to share with others the news about Jesus' death, resurrection and work done for us in Baptism, so that they might also know You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.









THE GREAT COMMISSION CRYPTOGRAM



Match the symbols to the letters to figure out what Jesus wants all His disciples (including you and me) to do!





















































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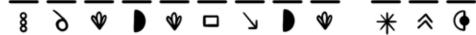


































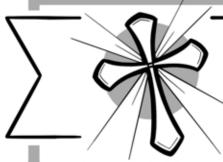


Matthew 28:19a



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in heaven. Thank You for creating us in your image and providing everything we need and even things we don't need but are nice to have. Help us to remember that the Holy Spirit is with us and will help us when we tell others about You and how much You love us. In the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns in heaven with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

THE DAY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28TH, 2023

Read Acts 2: 1-21

BIBLE LESSON: ACTS 2:1-21

God gives His people not just things, but Himself in the Third Person of the Godhead. The promised Baptism with the Spirit was "poured" out showing that the term "baptism" was not limited to immersion in water which some observed as the custom at the time.

The events of Pentecost are unique and miraculous- not something for us to imitate but for us to understand that God's salvation is universal and that He pours out the gift of the Holy Spirit on all kinds of people.

While reading up in my study bible I learned some background about Pentecost that I had not uncovered before. The history around the festival helped clarify what was going on at the time and created a deeper appreciation for the events, how they unfolded, and how we are to live out our lives in Pentecost.

On the morning of Pentecost, famers from around Jerusalem would process into the city with baskets of food leading people into the temple courts. The baskets would be presented to the priests who would then recite prayers in Hebrew. Being from many different countries not all the people understood Hebrew so they would recite their part of the ceremonial prayers not knowing what they were saying, which would have been embarrassing and would have placed an obstacle before them in being fully part of the offering they were giving.

At Pentecost, God provided the ability for all to speak and removed the language barrier, teaching those first Jewish Christians a very important lesson: that all people, of all nations and languages were to be part of God's family.

Today's lesson is not about us speaking in tongues. It is about the Holy Spirit bringing <u>one</u> message to <u>all</u> people, and our call to continue Christ's mission on earth by sharing the Gospel with all people in all nations and in all languages.



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in Heaven, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to the early Christian church, and to us in the waters of our Baptism. Help us so that we can find the right time and the right words to share with others the news about Jesus' death, resurrection and work done for us in Baptism, so that they might also know You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

THE HOLY TRINITY
SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2023

In today's Old Testament lesson, we get to walk through the story of creation. In Seminary we learned about the term "ex nihilo" which means out of nothing. The miraculous thing about creation is that God made everything out of nothing. He said, "Let there be light" and then the light appeared- it was not created or sparked by something else. God made the light, and He was the source Himself.

BIBLE LESSONS:

GEN. 1:1-2:4a

MATT. 28:16-20

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God had a clear purpose, when He created man, woman, land, water, animals, darkness, and light, it didn't all just happen by accident. The account of how He created us and all the things that are provided for us is detailed and deliberate.

When God is finished creating His people and providing everything for them, even an example of how to rest, He doesn't leave or put someone else in charge, He remains with His people and cares for them.

In the Gospel lesson from Matthew Jesus reminds us that God is with us, through the Holy Spirit and that He will continue to be with us. Jesus' arrival on earth was not the end of the care and concern that He had for us when he made us. Jesus' time on earth was the ultimate proof of God's care for us and He confirms that God in three persons will continue to be with us "until the very end of the age".

Before He ascends to heaven, Jesus makes it clear that God cares for all people and wants His followers to continue the work He started, by sharing everything they know and all that He taught them. This call to share His teaching extends to all of us who read His words.



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in heaven. Thank You for creating us in your image and providing everything we need and even things we don't need but are nice to have. Help us to remember that the Holy Spirit is with us and will help us when we tell others about You and how much You love us. In the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns in heaven with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.