



The Spirit of St. Paul's

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

www.stpaulslutheran.ca

NOVEMBER 2022

Pastor's Corner

"Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow" (Psalm 51:7).

I was reminded of this verse from King David's psalm when I woke up to the snowfall in Saskatoon yesterday. The white blanket of snow that covered everything was pure and peaceful and it's no wonder David used this picture to describe what God has done for us by covering us in Christ's righteousness.

In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul teaches, "For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:22). "All" includes you and me. It also includes King David. We read in the Old Testament that God called and worked through David in many ways to fulfill His plan of salvation and we are thankful for everything that God accomplished through him. But David was a sinful man who repeatedly fell short of God's glory. The prophet Nathan confronted David with the sin and evil he committed with Bathsheba and thankfully God's Law brought David to repent. He recognized that he was dead in his trespasses and cried out, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my

iniquity and cleanse me from my sin!" (Psalm 51:1-2).

David knows that God is the only one who can forgive and cleanse him of his sin so he pleads for God to purge him with hyssop. It is noteworthy that hyssop is a plant with bushy branches that was used to apply blood on the doorposts at Passover and was used for other rites of purification. Looking forward to the promised Messiah who would purge the sin of the entire world, David trusted in God's promise that he shall be clean and whiter than snow in the blood of the Lamb. The same

righteousness of Christ that covers King David's sin also covers ours. In Christ we are cleansed of our sin and we are made whiter than snow. This winter, as we see the snow falling and covering everything with a blanket of white, we are reminded of God's mercy and promise of eternal life.

Oh, how blest it is to know:

Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow

By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:

Jesus sinners doth receive.

(LSB #609, v. 5)

*God's blessings,
Pastor Keith*



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.

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PARADOXICALLY LUTHERAN



Tuesday evenings

(SK Time): 7:00-9:00 pm (Nov 1) and 8:00-10:00 pm (Nov 8, 15, 22)

Concordia Lutheran Seminary of Edmonton, Alberta (CLS):

Website: <https://www.concordiasem.ab.ca/home>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ConcordiaLutheranSem>

Join Dr. Gimbel on Tuesday evenings in person on campus (God willing) OR online November 1, 8, 15, and 22 for an intriguing exploration of the marvelous and mysterious doctrinal core of our Lutheran paradoxes, as we celebrate being Paradoxically Lutheran.

The Scriptures are our source and norm for doctrine and belief.

There is a clear teaching about the Trinity, the needs of humanity, and God's plan of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. Our finite minds love to have a clear answer to these core doctrines. However,

there are many parts of Scripture that sound as if God is saying two oppositional truths. While other systems of belief try to explain how one is right and the other wrong, Lutherans recognize there are many times where God speaks truths that form a paradox: opposing truths that are simultaneously true.

This Fall Quest series will explore what it means to grapple with these paradoxical truths that God presents in His word.

The seminary looks forward to having you join them.

Classifieds

Potatoes for sale \$2/lb (or free to anyone in need). Call Donna Rauckman at 306-281-7313.

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.



Adding to God's family



Above: Ben Jonathan Jurgens, new member in God's family, shown with his grandparents, was baptized September 29, 2022.

Right: Nikolas Edward Sakowski was baptized into God's family on Saturday, October 15, 2022. Nikolas is the son of Fraser & Cheryl Sakowski.

Evangelism

Proclaiming the Good News

As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (2 Timothy 4:5 ESV)

During our online Tuesday morning Bible study on October 11, as we studied these words of St. Paul to Timothy, Pastor Keith pointed out that the full meaning of the word "evangelism" is "the act of proclaiming the Gospel Good News." His words caused me to realize that my desire to share the good news of Jesus Christ has influenced the way in which I use the gifts and abilities God has given me.

Then [Jesus] said to [His disciples], "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:44-49 ESV).

In the same way as Jesus instructed His disciples to await the power of the Holy Spirit before beginning their ministry beyond Jerusalem, He has inspired and guided me throughout every endeavour, especially those that have led me outside my comfort zone.

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proclaiming, continued

For a number of years, anyone who receives an email message from me has had opportunity to view the Scripture passage that appears beneath my signature line. Only our dear Lord knows what impact this practice has had in the past and will continue to have in the future. All I know is that it is a comfortable way for me to share the “good news” with people I may never meet face to face. Recently, I began thinking of the passage as my personal “lawn sign,” to be read and contemplated by everyone who sees it. For the same reasons that the words displayed on our church lawn sign are changed, I also change the verse I include. Currently it is John 8:12 (ESV): *[Jesus said] “I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”* I pray it blesses others as much as it blesses me!

As our congregation moves forward in a world that so desperately needs to hear the gospel message, I encourage you to give our Lord thanks for the ways in which He has guided your efforts in the past and trust Him to lead you through new opportunities in the days and years ahead.

*Peace in Christ,
Verla Schmirler
for Board of Evangelism*



Stewardship

What makes for a cheerful giver?

St. Paul wrote to the Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those

who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It’s the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

At St. Paul’s we continue to be cheerful givers in response to God’s many blessings to us. We thank God for continuing to bless us through the difficult challenges we have faced over the past several years with COVID and the resulting attendance and giving setbacks. And yet we give thanks for the health and comforts we have enjoyed.

As we get closer to the end of our fiscal year we look at our financial situation to date and think about how we will end the year. Recently our treasurer shared our year-to-date financial statement to the end of August which showed we have spent \$20,000 more than we have taken in by way of offerings. This compares to a deficit at the end of August 2021, of \$12,679. Our offerings are about the same as they were last year, however, in the same period last year, we received \$10,400 in federal subsidies as part of support programs in place.

When we set our 2022 budget last fall, we knew we would have challenges because these subsidy programs were coming to an end. Notwithstanding we set a challenging budget knowing that God would be there with us and for us. We still expect to end the

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Stewardship, continued
year with a small deficit, perhaps in the range of about \$10,000. Here's how we reached that amount. We spend about \$20,000 per month so that will increase our expenditures from September to December by about \$80,000. Looking at the last

three years – 2019, 2020 and 2021, our average donations were about \$90,000 over that time frame. Based on those projections we should be able to recover about \$10,000 to make up some of the current shortfall.

We are confident that with God's blessings we will achieve those goals to allow us to set a 2023 budget and end the year with some additional success knowing that we have done so with a cheerful heart.

God's blessings as we enjoy and celebrate this Advent season.

Board of Stewardship

Education

KIDS CORNER GROWING HEARTS OF FAITH

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

Hello Kids!

Welcome to a busy November in our church! As if school doesn't keep you busy enough, hey?

First, we have ALL SAINTS DAY on November 6, when we light a candle during Church Service for every person in our congregation who has died and gone to live with Jesus in the last year. Perhaps Pastor Keith will light a candle for someone you know. This is a way we can remember them. Actually, all of us who believe in Jesus are saints, even if we're still living!

The third Sunday, November 20, is the LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR, which is just before...

...November 27, the fourth Sunday of November. This is the FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT and the start of waiting for Jesus' birthday!

The Lutheran Laymen's League website has changed a little, so when

you go to lll.ca, scroll down to the purple section that says, "Prospering In A Pandemic" and click on 'Kids Lectionary Learning Pages' to find this month's new activity sheets. Last year's sheets are at the end of this newsletter.

I started reading Arch books after church on Sunday in the library to whoever wants to listen. It usually takes about 10 minutes. I hope you get a chance to join us soon too! (I will be away November 6, but Lisa Poier will be there to read to you. Just check for her in the library at the back of the church).

Have a great month!

*Mrs. Denise Timm
for St. Paul's Sunday School*



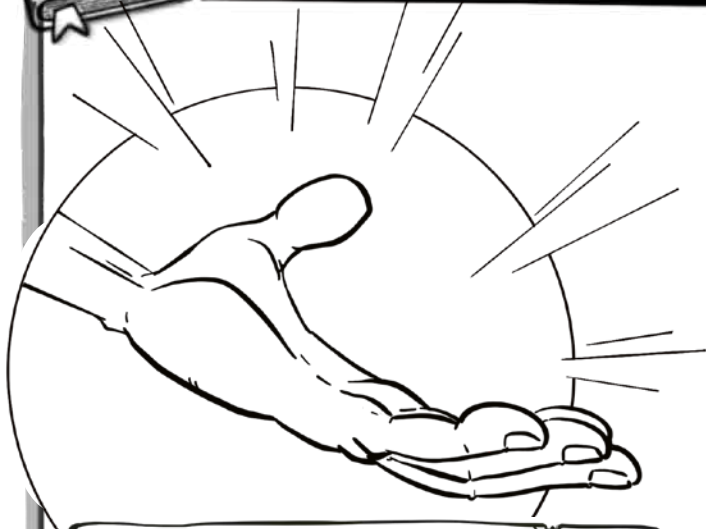


Kids Lectionary Learning

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Bible Lessons

Jeremiah 31:7-9;
Hebrews 7:23-28;
Mark 10:46-52



"Go your way;
your faith has
made you well."

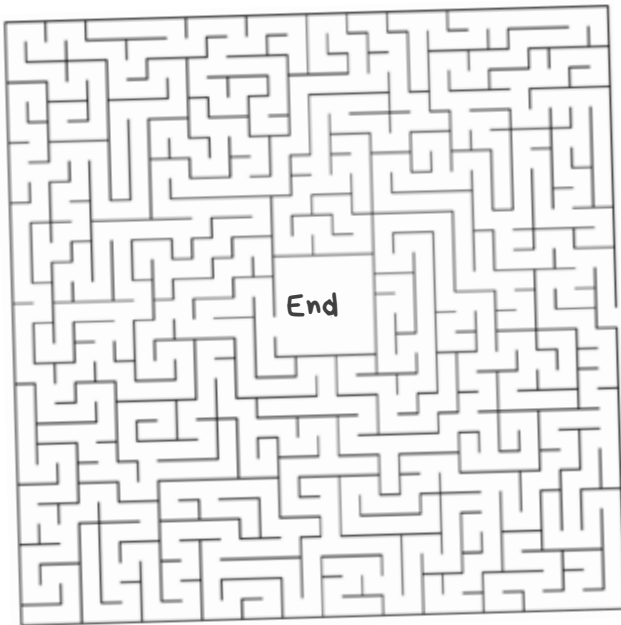
- Mark 10:52 (ESV)

Today we read about Jesus, our High Priest, in the book of Hebrews. Jeremiah 31 tells us of God calling and saving His people. And in Mark 10 we read of a really awesome healing for a man named Bartimaeus.

Grab your Bibles and lets go!

When Jesus calls Bartimaeus he jumps up and goes to Jesus. Jesus heals Bartimaeus and gives him sight.

Can you colour Bartimaeus as he leaps up to go to Jesus?



Start

End

"And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus."

- Mark 10:50





Kids Lectionary Learning

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"Jesus, Son of David,
have mercy on me!"

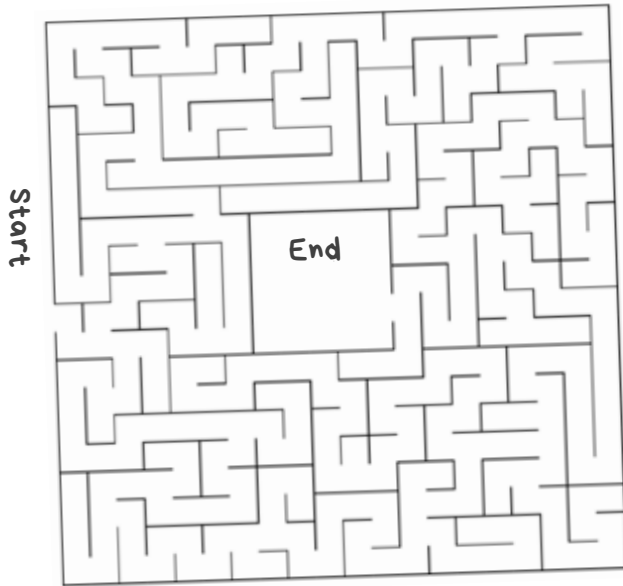
- Mark 10:47 (ESV)

Word Search

Read Jeremiah 31:7-9 and
then find the words from that
passage in the Word Search below

SING
GLADNESS
RAISE
PRAISE
GATHER
EARTH

BLIND
LAME
MERCY
WATER
PATH
LORD



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

Bip the Bird loves to sing and
make a happy, joyful noise.
In our first reading, we also hear of
singing and shouting for gladness.

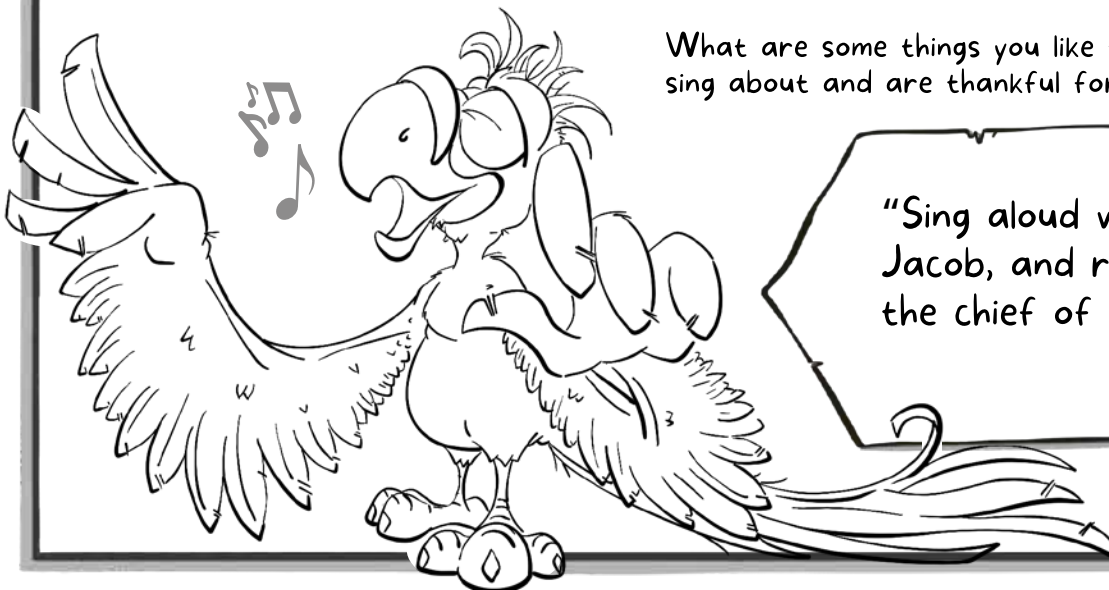
Can you colour Bip as he sings?

What are some things you like to
sing about and are thankful for?



"Sing aloud with gladness for
Jacob, and raise shouts for
the chief of the nations"

- Jeremiah 31:7 (ESV)





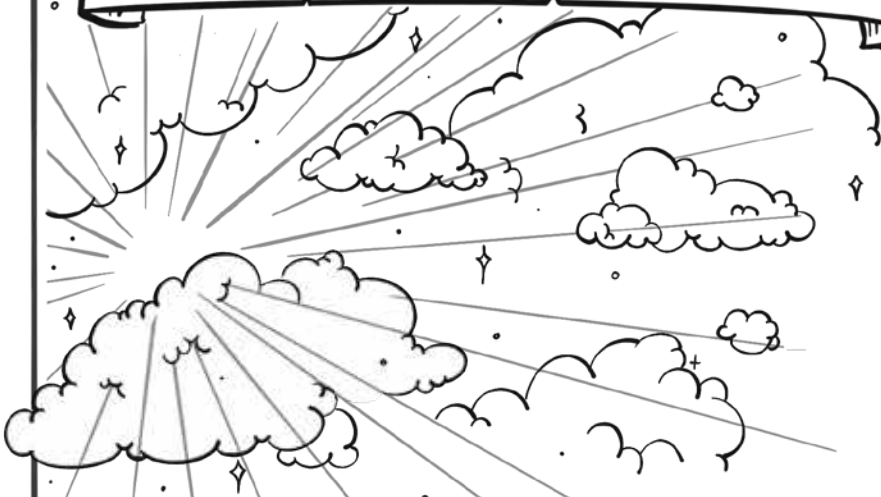
Kids Lectionary Learning 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Bible Lessons

Daniel 12:1-3
Hebrews 10:11-25
Mark 13:1-13

"And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above"

- Daniel 12:3b



Grab your Bibles as we hear and learn of Jesus and His love, warnings, and grace.

"But be on your guard."

- Mark 13:9



Can you colour Lil' Lou as he stands on guard?

WORD SEARCH

FIND THESE WORDS
FROM MARK 13:1-13

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| TEMPLE | NATION |
| LOOK | GUARD |
| BUILDINGS | GOSPEL |
| STONE | SAY |
| DOWN | SPIRIT |
| MOUNT | SAVED |

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



Kids Lectionary Learning 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"Let us hold fast the confession
of our hope without wavering,
for he who promised is faithful."

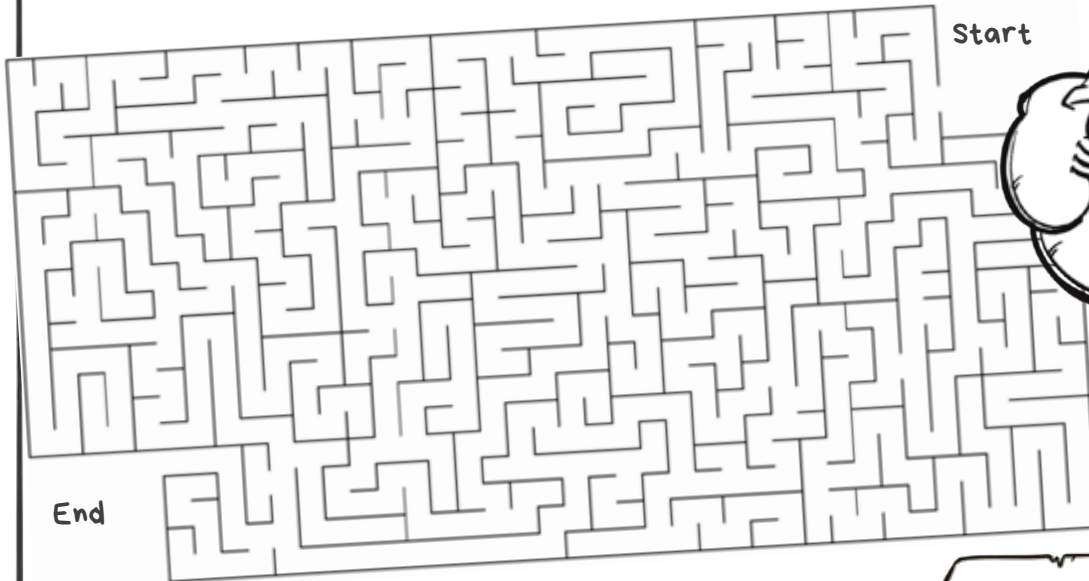
- Hebrews 10:23



"HOLD FAST"

Colour
Lil' Kay
as she
holds tight
to the
monkey bars.

What else
can you hold
tight too?



Start

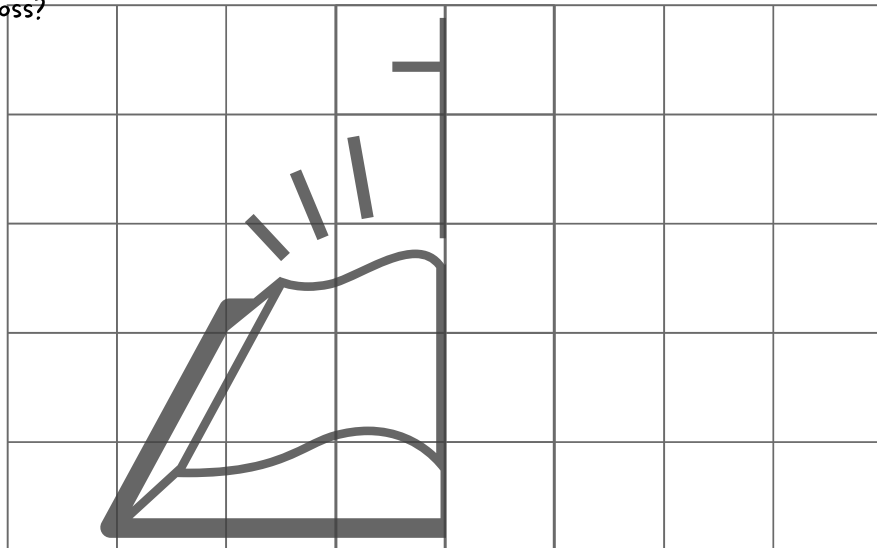
End

"And let us consider
how to stir up one another
to love and good works,"

- Hebrews 10:24

"THE BOOK"

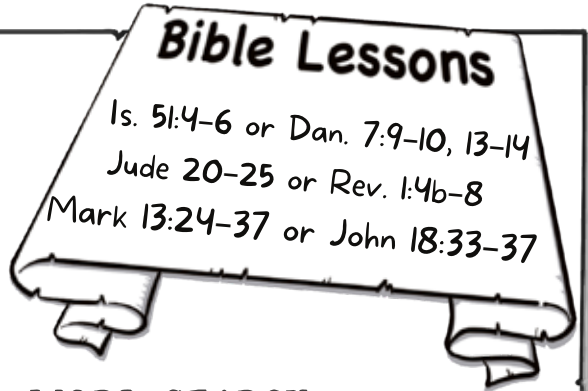
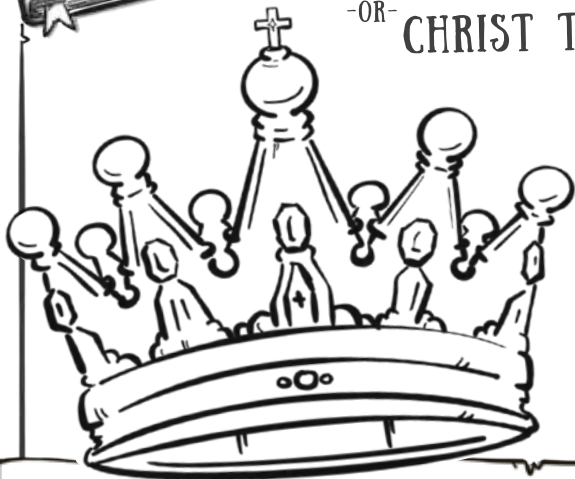
Using the grid can you draw the other
half of this picture of the Bible and
cross?





Kids Lectionary Learning
 LAST SUNDAY ^{OF} THE CHURCH YEAR

-OR- CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



Bible Lessons

Is. 51:4-6 or Dan. 7:9-10, 13-14
 Jude 20-25 or Rev. 1:4b-8
 Mark 13:24-37 or John 18:33-37

WORD SEARCH

- | | | |
|-------|--------|---------|
| SIGNS | EARTH | AWAKE |
| SUN | SON | PRAYING |
| MOON | FIG | GOD |
| STARS | HEAVEN | NEAR |

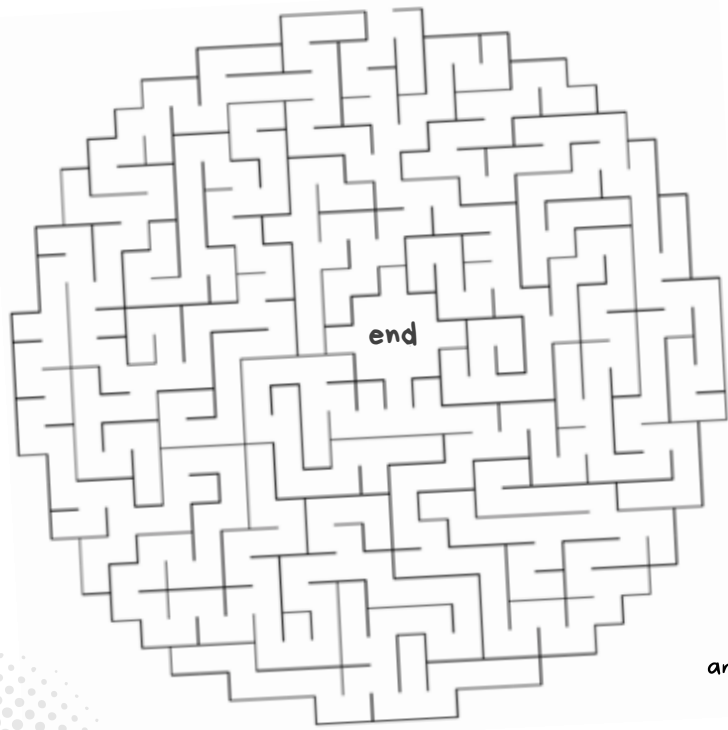
"For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

- John 18:37

Grab your Bibles as let's hear together of God's grace and faithfulness and as we come to the end of the Church Year.

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

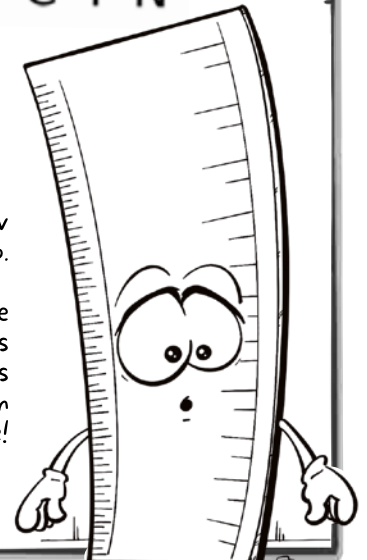
start



end

Rob the Ruler knows how hard it can be to measure up.

We are blessed and give thanks to God that in all things God is faithful to His promises and He promises to always be with us. We don't face things alone!



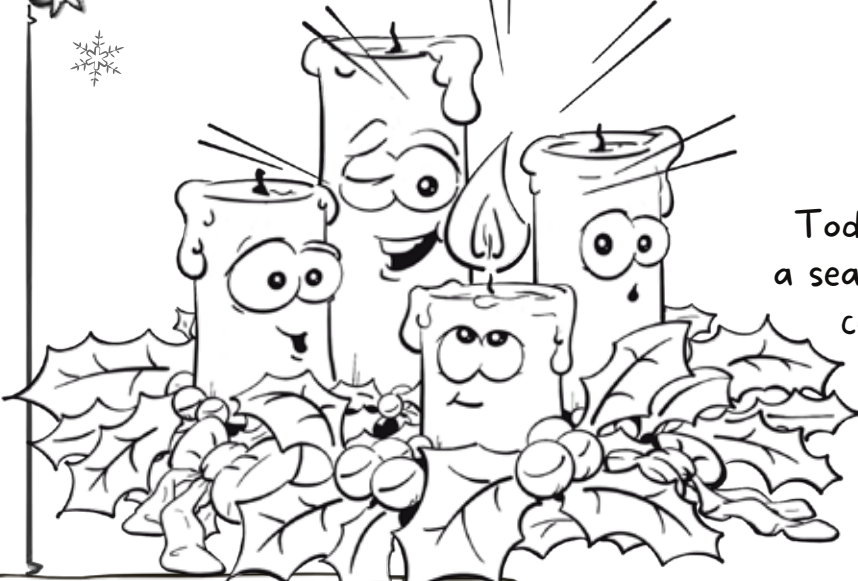


Kids Lectionary Learning FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Bible Lessons

Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 19:28-40 or
Luke 21:25-36



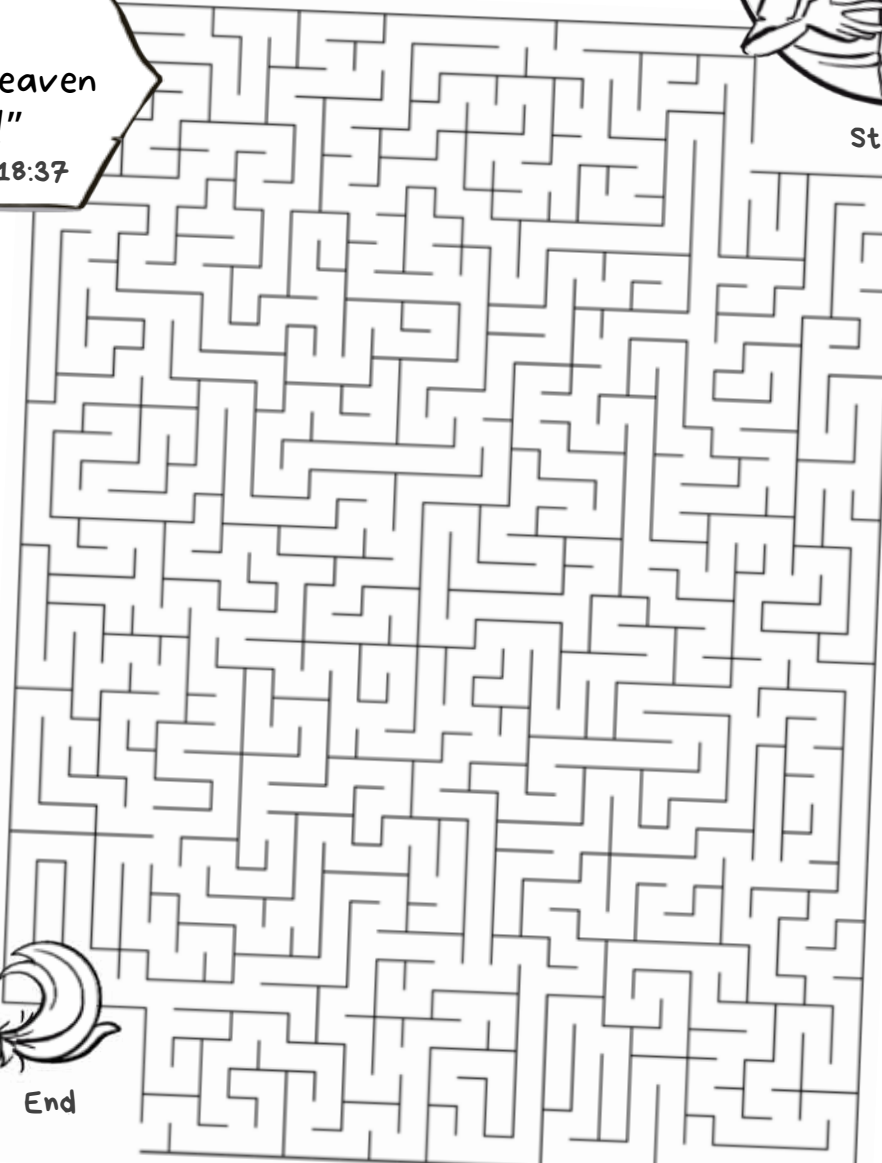
Today is the First Sunday in Advent,
a season of waiting and celebrating the
coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.



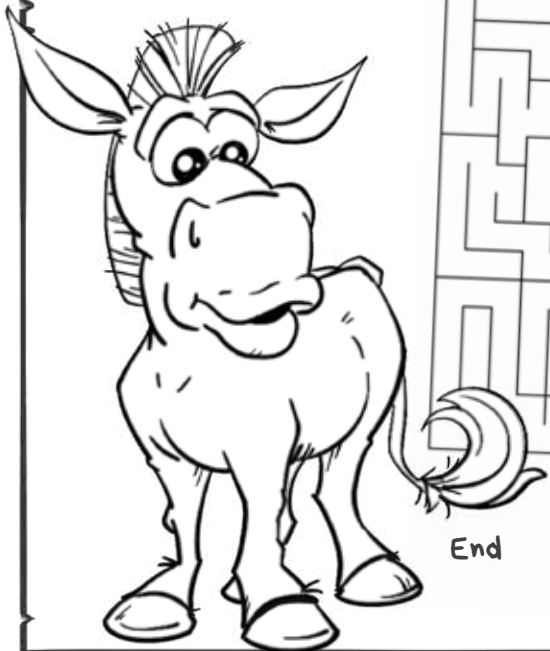
Start

"Blessed is the King
who comes in the name
of the Lord! Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest!"

- John 18:37



Help the disciples by
solving the maze and
finding the colt from
Luke 19:28-40



End





Kids Lectionary Learning FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Can you colour Pete the Pencil as he holds his olive tree branch?



"In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."
- Jeremiah 33:15

WORD SEARCH

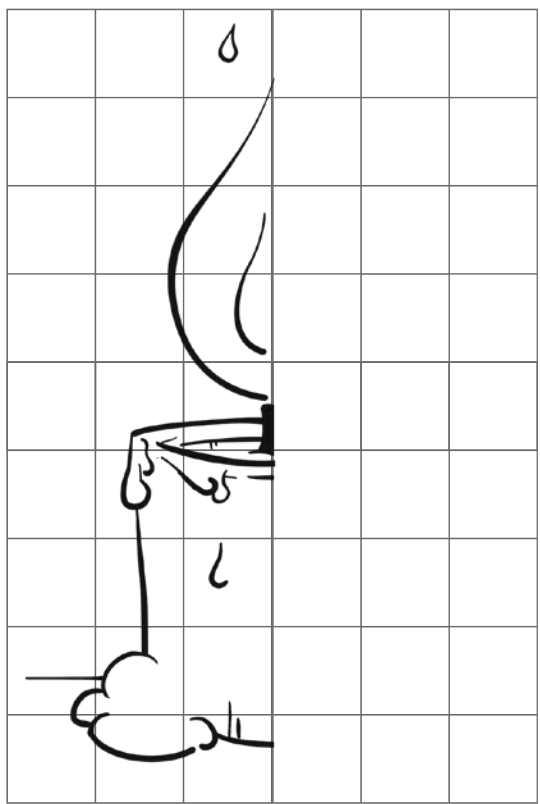
- DAVID
- BRANCH
- FULFILL
- SAVED
- DWELL
- JUSTICE
- RIGHTEOUSNESS
- DAYS
- COMING
- LORD
- ISRAEL
- JUDAH

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

Using the grid above can you draw the other half of this advent candle?

In Jeremiah 33 we read how God "will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David" (Jer. 33:15)

Jesus is our righteous branch, the one whom God promised and who came from heaven, and who comes to us by His Word and Sacrament.



"and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all"
- 1 Thess. 3:12

