



“One body in Christ, Growing, Living, and Sharing
God’s Love.”



FROM OUR PASTOR

We are overlooking a beautiful lake. Out the window, on the other side of the lake is a cross. Large enough that it can be seen from across the lake. Looking through the windows of the chapel at this Bible Camp, I always feel a peace that pervades every fiber of my being. The sight of the water, the sound of children singing good old gospel songs, and the early morning sun present me with a moment I’d like to carry with me forever! But, all too soon, camp is over and it is time to head back to the busy-ness of life.

I can’t help but think that those kinds of moments are just what Sabbath rest is all about. Those moments that can fill you up—even though years have passed since you were in them. Moments when that thin veil between heaven and earth seems to be lifted just enough to get a glimpse of the certainty of God’s peace and love for you.

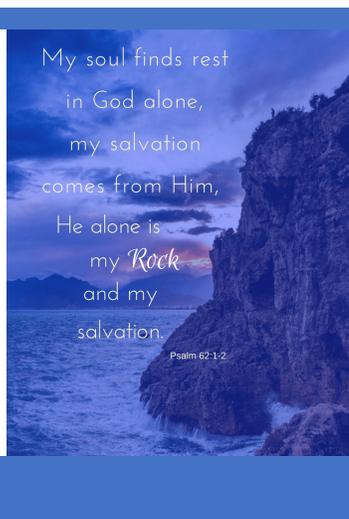
Where are you finding those glimpses? What fills you with the certainty of God’s presence? Where are you finding moments of Sabbath rest? Certainly, it is my hope that you find some of that every Sunday/Wednesday during the worship and devotional times we are offering through St. John. But, where else?

Have you stopped long enough today to be thankful? Have you looked to the Bible or at your Bible app on your phone recently? We need moments of encouragement. We need places that bring us the hope of Christ--the certainty that no matter what...God is near.

How about the home altar you were invited to set up way back in March, when we started having worship on line? Does it need some refreshing? Refocusing?



Jesus says: "Come to me". All who are heavily burdened and in need of rest: "Come to me", Jesus says. "Come and know peace". Sabbath rest/peace is like a deep breath. It isn't only for Sundays. God surrounds us with all kinds of moments of Sabbath. Search them out. Make them a habit. Let them be a way through the wilderness. Let them surround you and hold you. See "5 steps to building a strong foundation in Faith" later in this newsletter.



Our God is our foundation. He is our rock. God's love knows no bounds and reaches no limit: and it is for you! May the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding, hold you secure this day and always. Amen. --Pastor K

The **LORD** is **my rock**, **my** fortress and **my** deliverer; **my God** is **my rock**, in whom I take refuge. He is **my** shield and the horn of **my** salvation, **my** stronghold. Psalm 18

OUR SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEKEND

August 23rd / The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

- **Isaiah 51:1-6**

The enduring foundation of God's salvation for us

- **Psalm 138**

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)

- **Romans 12:1-8**

One body in Christ, with gifts that differ to use in service of the Gospel

- **Matthew 16:13-20**

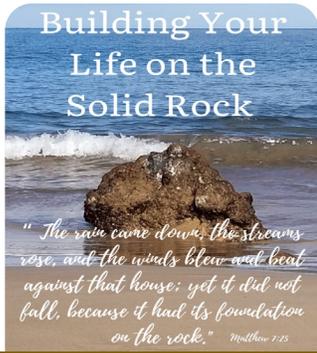
The profession of Peter's faith: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

DRIVE IN WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN—THIS WEEKEND AT 10 AM—HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

2ND & 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Some things to know: out of our love for each other, we will maintain physical distancing that health professionals are telling us is so important. We love you and want to see you, but please, if you have any COVID-19 symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, etc.) worship online via our Facebook Page: [St. John Facebook Page](#)

Drive-in Worship at St. John on August 23rd at 10 AM!



5 Steps to Building a Strong Foundation in Faith

1. Surround yourself with a solid Christian community [like St. John!]
2. Move forward in hope. God's people are hope-filled people.
3. Create a new routine and habit [or strengthen an old one] that involves spending time in God's word and in prayer.
4. Find a mentor or someone to share accountability with.
5. Serve others & share with others how your faith informs your life.

The Walkers
IN CONCERT



PLACE: ZIMMERMAN CIVIC BUILDING (OUTDOORS)
25850 Main St, Zimmerman, MN 55398

TIME: 5:00PM **DATE:** SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND

Sponsored by Restoring Lives Community Church

Bring an umbrella for shade from the sun! Bring a lawn chair! Invite others! Near Lion's Park

Take some time, in the midst of your demand-filled week to be reminded of God's Peace.



G.P.S.---"God's Peace Surrounds" is Pastor Kari's mid-week devotion for you. Join on St. John's Facebook Page-- www.facebook.com/greenchurch1897 Wednesdays at 7 pm.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for Sue, Margaret, Glenice
- Please continue to pray for Joey Sanborn's family & friends during their sorrow and grief.
- Please pray for a young person dealing with depression. Prayers to ward off suicidal thoughts.
- Please pray for a young man dealing with anxiety.
- Please continue to pray for our teachers, students, leaders, and other school workers as they face an uncertain year with many complexities.
- Please pray for patience, kindness, and compassion to reign in all our hearts, homes, and communities.

Email your prayer requests to: churchoffice@green-church.org

with the subject line: Prayer Request

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION UPDATE

We plan to begin Sunday School and Confirmation the first week in October.

We know that this year will be different than most, so we want to be sure to give families grace & space! We look forward to being back together. Until then, we are working on several different ways of delivering content before October and will be sharing opportunities for growing our faith at home available to you.



AND



Last Spring, because of COVID19 the worship service for Confirmation was postponed until **Reformation Sunday, October 25th** at 1 PM. We look forward to celebrating with our soon to be 10th Graders and their families at this special worship service.

Your Faith Packets were emailed last Spring--- Remember: **Packets are due September 23rd**. Lost your copy? Let us know, we will email you another copy. Remember---it is a full packet and is too involved to be done the night before it is due!

Important Dates *[subject to change if needed due to COVID precautions]*

September 23rd at 7 pm at SJLC *Parent & Student meeting about the Affirmation of Baptism service [often called Confirmation Day] Faith Packet DUE*

September 30 & October 7, 5:45-7 pm-- *Fall Small Group sessions to finish Faith Statements*

October 21—5:45-6:45 pm--*Rehearsal for Affirmation of Baptism—*

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL



Our COVID19 Safety Plan is on file with the State of Minnesota and we intend to be open for Preschool the week of September 14th. Of course, all safety protocols will be followed. We are enrolling right now. We have a few spaces left! Help us get the word out! Go to <https://www.cornerstonechristianpreschool.org/> for more information or email Lori at ccp@green-church.org

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Congregational giving continues to be strong in 2020, but currently experiencing some shortfalls

- Thank you for all your generosity and continued support of St. John Lutheran Church
- Overview of total offerings of all funds received compared to plan (based on pledges):
 - Offerings through March were slightly ahead of plan and April YTD near break-even
 - May through July results account for the current shortfall
 - Year-to-date (through July) approximately 12% or \$(14,000) below plan
 - Note, compared to last year's figures, YTD results down about \$(19,400)

Church expenses are under planned budget

- Overall expenses incurred continue to be managed within planned budgeted figures

Overall results reflect a current operating deficit

- Through July, net results report deficit of \$(17,200), which is \$(13,300) below plan
- As reflected above, this deficit is largely due to offerings tracking behind plan the past three months

Payroll Protection Program ("PPP") to provide financial flexibility to SJLC

- As highlighted in the June 28th newsletter, this federal government program provided a form of relief to certain organizations, such as not-for-profit organizations (including churches)
 - Provides federally guaranteed loans to cover payroll and other operating expenses
 - Council approved loan application and SJLC received a PPP loan of \$37,400
 - Loan becomes eligible to be forgiven if certain parameters are met:
 - 1) staffing levels maintained and 2) funds used for 'eligible' expenses (e.g. payroll, utilities and mortgage interest) within prescribed time frame
- PPP Flexibility Act subsequently modified original parameters provided within CARES Act
 - Qualified expense threshold decreased from 75% to 60%
 - Covered period extended from eight weeks to 24 weeks (ends December 31st)
- SJLC is tracking favorably
 - Approximately 80% of overall expenses should be classified as qualified expenditures in the eight weeks following receipt of PPP funds. As such, currently within the revised parameters
 - Anticipated 100% forgiveness of loan
 - Council and finance committee to continue tracking and monitoring
- Funds strengthened overall balance sheet position

Please reach out to the Pastor, council, or finance committee members with any questions. For specifics to the above, please contact Matt Mongeau (msmongeau@gmail.com).





ORDER OF WORSHIP
AUGUST 23, 2020 10 AM

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, ZIMMERMAN

“This is the Day the LORD has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!”

JESUS LOVE ME AND JESUS LOVE YOU

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, they are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves you, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, they are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves you, Yes Jesus loves you, Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells me so.

THE BIBLE

The B-I-B-L-E, yes, that's the book for me! I stand alone on the word of God, the B-I-B-L-E!....

I WILL CALL UPON THE LORD

I will call upon the LORD. Who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved by my enemies.

The LORD liveth and blessed be the rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted. The LORD liveth and blessed be the rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Litany (from Psalm 121:1-4, 7-8)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
(2 Corinthians 13:13)

C: And also with you.

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

P: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. *(Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)*

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness for the sake of Jesus our Savior.

C: Almighty God, we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. We do not love you or share your love with others as we should. We put our needs ahead of the needs of others. We listen to your Word but then turn away to follow our own way. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

P: God, in mercy, sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus carried our sins in to the cross. He rose from the dead, and through faith in his name we have the hope and promise of eternal life. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: From where does our help come?

C: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!

Opening Hymn/Song

Rock of Ages

by Paul Baloche

There is no rock
There is no god like our God
No other name worthy of all our praise
The Rock of Salvation that cannot be moved
He's proven Himself to be faithful and true
There is no rock
There is no god like ours

Rock of Ages
Jesus is the Rock
Rock of Ages
Jesus is the Rock
Rock of Ages
Jesus is the Rock
There is no rock
There is no god like ours

Scripture Readings

Psalm: Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your purpose for me.

A reading from the 12th Chapter of the book of Romans:

[Romans 12:1-8]

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader: This is the word of the LORD

C: Thanks be to God!

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th Chapter

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 16th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

A Word for Today

“Rockin It”

Pastor K

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

When he shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless, stand before the throne

Statement of Common Christian Faith

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

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We Offer our Gifts with Thanksgiving

P: Let us pray. God, our Creator,

you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers each prayer will end with: “Lord in your mercy”; please respond: “Hear our prayer.”

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Prayer will end with the following petition—

P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Holy Communion we will all take the bread and the wine together, after the Lord’s Prayer. Pastor will let you know when.

Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Receive Holy Communion

Wait for Pastor to proclaim: “This is the body of Christ, given for you” ---then eat the bread/wafer

Wait for Pastor to proclaim: “This is the blood of Christ, shed for you” ---then drink the wine/juice

Blessing *(Romans 15)*

P: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing. **C: Amen.**

P: May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **C: Amen**

P: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

Benediction

P: May the LORD bless you and keep you. May the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the LORD look upon you with his favor, and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Go forth in Peace, to serve our Lord!

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Sending Song

Blessed be the Rock

Bible Camp Song

I WILL CALL UPON THE LORD

I will call upon the LORD. Who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved by my enemies.

The LORD liveth and blessed be the rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted. The LORD liveth and blessed be the rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted.



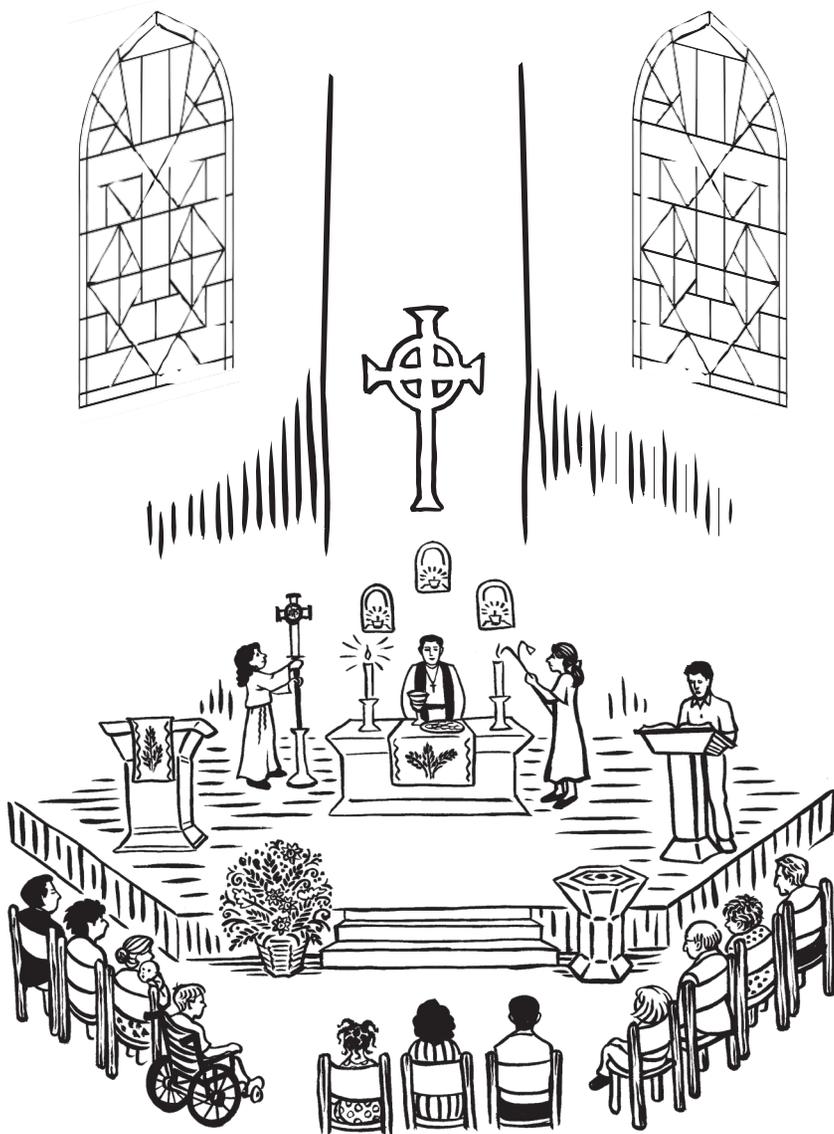
*Thank you to all who have made this Drive-in Worship at St. John possible!
Many hands make the work light and we are grateful for your willingness to help.*

May your week be filled with the sure and certain hope of faith in Christ Jesus, who is our light, our rock, and our LORD.

Next week, our worship services may be found on-line at [St. John Facebook Page](#)

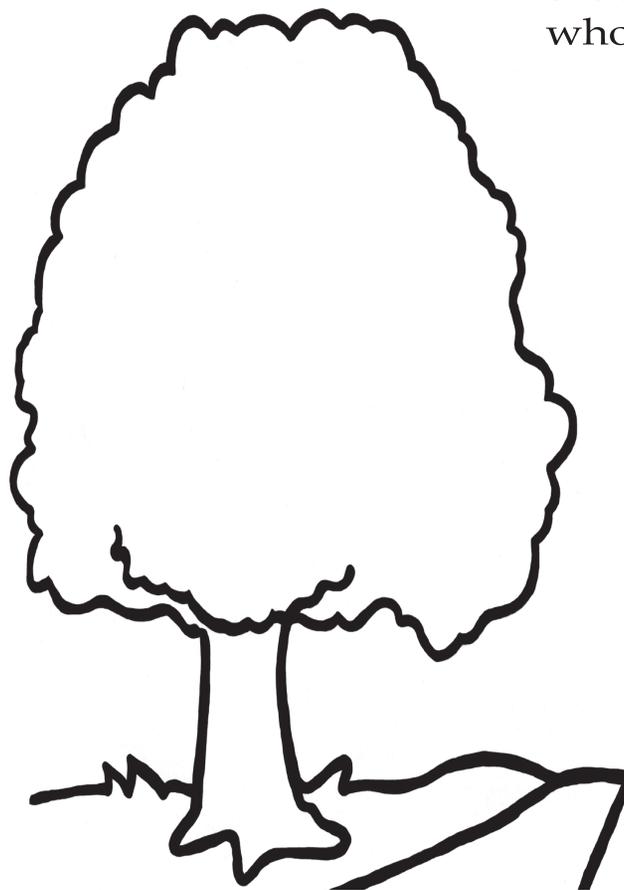
We plan to have Drive-in Worship at St. John on the 2 & 4 Sunday of the month.

There are many people who help during worship.
Color this picture of all the people who help
during worship!



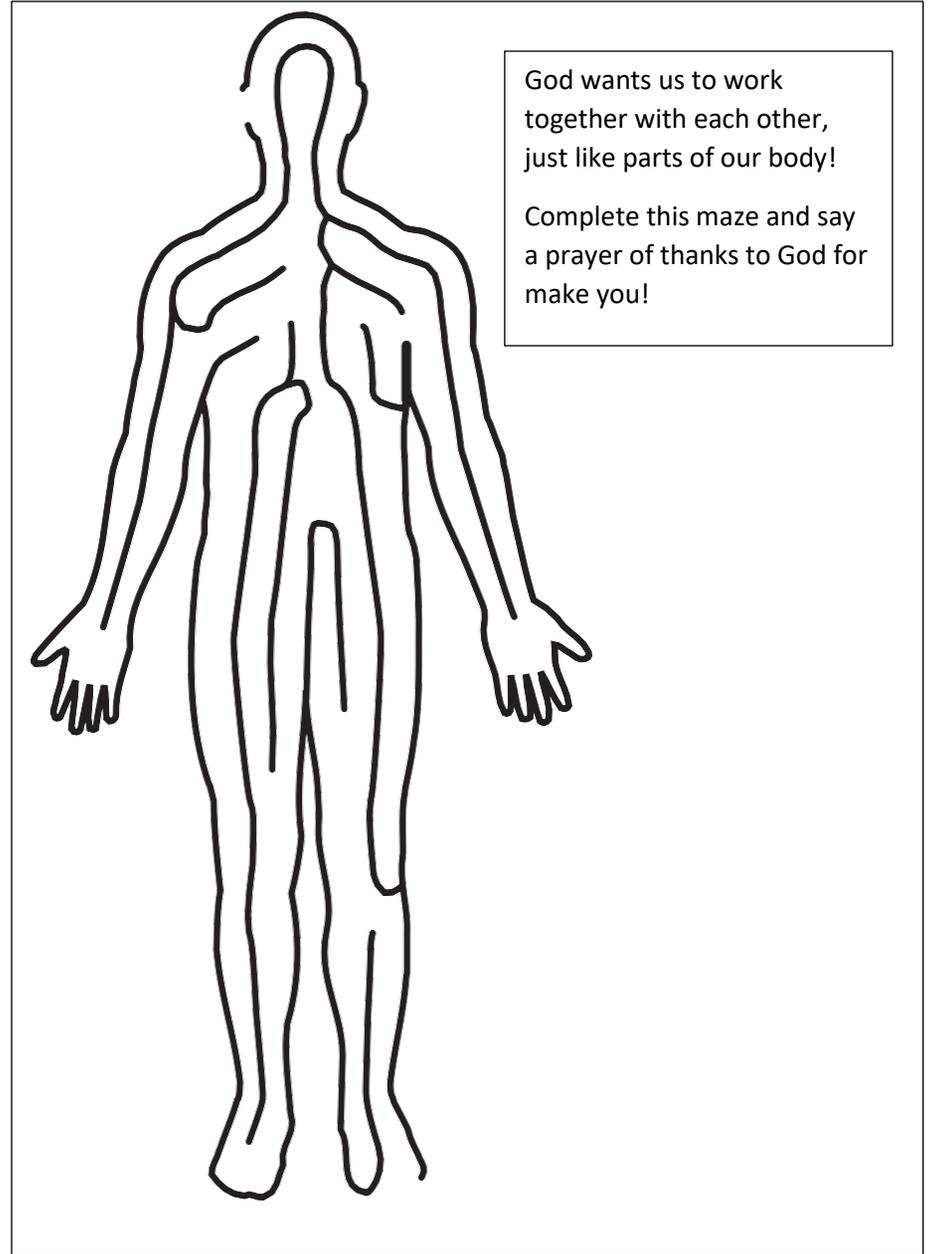
- Today is the **12th Sunday** after Pentecost.
- This season celebrates the **church**.
- The church is a **community** of people who **help each other**.

Inside this tree,
draw the people
who help you!





“You are the one God sent to save the world!”



God wants us to work together with each other, just like parts of our body!

Complete this maze and say a prayer of thanks to God for make you!

Name Game

People who help with worship have names that tell what they do. Draw a line from the picture of each worship helper to the name and description that matches.

The acolyte lights candles and helps the pastor.
The crucifer brings the cross into the worship space.
The lector reads from the Bible.

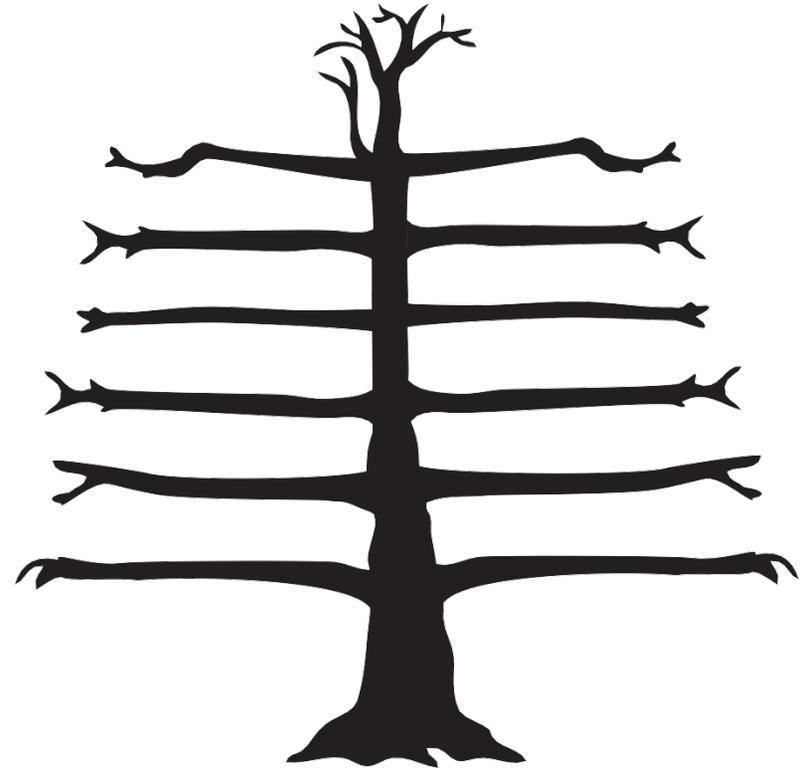


READER

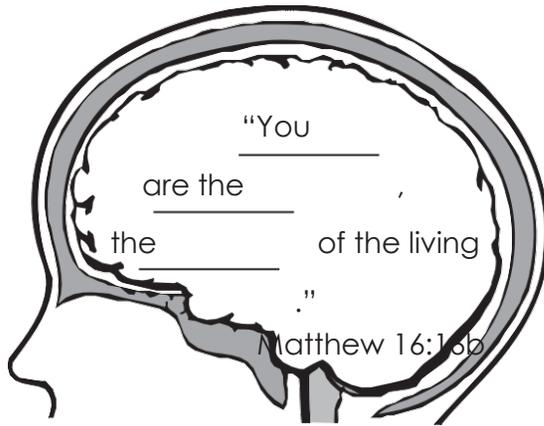
- Today is the **12th** Sunday after Pentecost.
- This season is a **celebration** of the church as a **community**.
- Jesus' followers come together to be **part of the church**.

Church Community

Who is a part of your church community? Write their names in the branches of this tree. Remember that we are all connected!

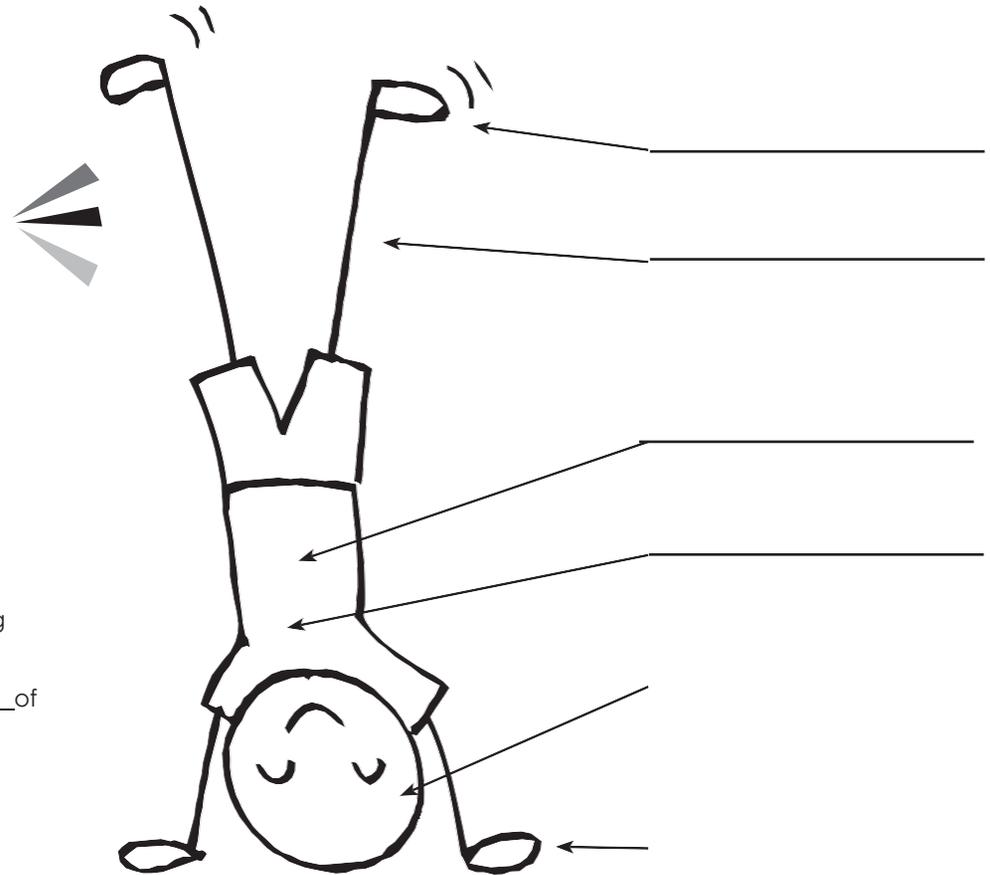


Fill in the blanks to complete this week's memory verse.



Body Builder

In Romans, Paul tells us to work together with each other like the parts of the body. What does each of these body parts do?



Christ Crossword

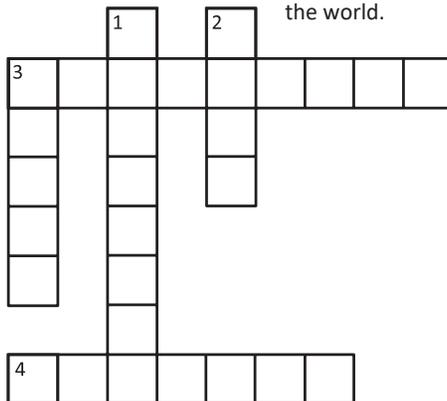
In the Gospel today, Jesus asks "Who do you say that I am?" There are many names for Jesus. Look up the Bible verses to solve the crossword puzzle. Each one contains a name for Jesus!

ACROSS

3. John 1:29: here is the ___ who takes away the sin of the world!
4. Matthew 3:17: This is my Son the _____.

DOWN

1. Matthew 1:23: and they shall name him ___.
2. John 1:1: In the beginning was the ___.
3. John 8:12: I am the _____ of the world.



St. John Lutheran Church

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Email: churchoffice@green-church.org

Website: www.green-church.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/greenchurch1897

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custodian@green-church.org

Deadline for weekly newsletter submissions is 12Noon on Wednesdays, please submit to churchoffice@green-church.org.

Subject line: Newsletter

All links in this newsletter are active.