



Ascension Sunday

May 16, 2021

10:30 AM

Join us for our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/>
or <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ>
Zoom Coffee Hour: URL: <https://zoom.us/j/753360733>

Everyone is welcome. As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

May 16

In-Person Worship Resumes June 6 with worship in the sanctuary at 8:00 and 10:30 AM. Fill out this questionnaire (<https://tinyurl.com/3s49f4nn>) to help with these services.

Altar Flowers: With worship returning to the sanctuary on June 6, altar flowers will resume! Please sign up in the rear entry. The weekly flower cost to the church is \$80. Please give as you are able, online or with a check.

In-Person Services: Our next in-person outdoor service will be **TODAY at 5:00 PM**. On **May 23 at 8:30 AM** there will be an indoor service in Hinman Hall. These services will be offered biweekly and we ask that you RSVP. Masks are required for both indoor and outdoor services.

Information Session for Flexible Seating: A final session will take place in person, **TODAY at 6:00 PM**, following the 5:00 PM Outdoor Service. Come to ask questions and offer feedback as the Congregation Council continues the process of discerning how to move forward.

Cross Roads Fundraiser, 500 Gifts in May: Help Cross Roads recover from the effects of the pandemic and ensure its future ministry through a generous challenge for all gifts made in May. Each gift made by **May 31** will receive an **additional \$200** added to it, up to \$100,000! Click [here](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com/online-donation) (www.crossroadsretreat.com/online-donation) to give and for more information.

ASP Calendar Fundraiser for Youth Missions/Appalachia Service Project has ended. Total up your collection and write a check to St. John's with ASP on the memo line, or visit the church website to give online: Established Funds, Youth Missions, add donation amount and ASP to the comment box. Many thanks for participating in this virtual fundraiser!

Rally for Social Ministry: Help us support five of St. John's hunger and housing ministry partners. Beginning **May 23** for five weeks, we will raise at least \$1,000, supporting a different group each week. If the total goal of \$5000 is raised, the committee will make a \$500 donation. There will be a celebration rally after the 5:00 PM service on **June 27** with music, dancing, fellowship, sandwich-making for Bridges, and a food drive. Join us!

Save the Date for a Farewell & Godspeed for Margaret Sherman: Mark your calendars as we bid farewell to lifelong member Margaret Sherman on **June 6 at 2:00 PM**. Details to follow.

HeartSaver First Aid/CPR/AED is being held at St. John's on **June 19 at 9:00 AM** to teach skills needed to recognize emergencies and give first aid. Contact Jane Bowman at janeb@comcast.net or 908-447-8865.

Final Zoom Children's Time, TODAY at 9:30 AM. Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86580617100>. Look for children's programming to resume in the fall.

Final Evening Prayer: May 19 at 7:00 PM on both our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.

Giving Is Important. We count on your generous offerings to continue to do our robust ministry. Please give generously. You may [give online](#) or mail checks to the church.

Prayer Before Worship

We thank you, almighty God, for the life of Jesus among us, and that he reigns in power for us. Strengthen our hope and bless the work of our hands, that we may live as his body in this world. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

From *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 1*

PRELUDE "Ayre"

By Georg Philipp Telemann (1681–1767)

Evelyn Estava, violin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise



Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
There the glor - ious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
High - est heav'n its Lord re - ceives, Al - le - lu - ia!
See, he lifts his hands a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!



To his throne a - bove the skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates; Al - le - lu - ia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves: Al - le - lu - ia!
See, he shows the prints of love. Al - le - lu - ia!



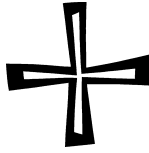
Christ, a - while to mor - tals giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ has con - quered death and sin; Al - le - lu - ia!
Though re - turn - ing to his throne, Al - le - lu - ia!
Hark, his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!



Re - as - cends his na - tive heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
Take the King of glo - ry in. Al - le - lu - ia!
Still he calls the world his own. Al - le - lu - ia!
Bless - ings on his church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams (1781–1821)



APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW 380 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!

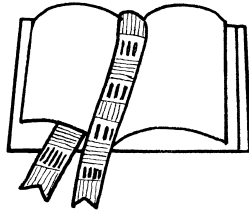
Verse 5

Hal - le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING Acts 1:1–11

[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15–23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL Luke 24:44–53

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel is proclaimed, concluding: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 991 Go to the World



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

NICENE CREED

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission through this congregation. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org.

OFFERING MUSIC Setting of *Llanfair*

Solid Brass Quartet

By Douglas D. Haislip (b. 20th C.)

OFFERTORY This Joyful Eastertide

This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
sprung to life this mor - row. Had Christ, who once was
slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our faith had been in
vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -
ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in believing; and the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 855 Crown Him with Many Crowns

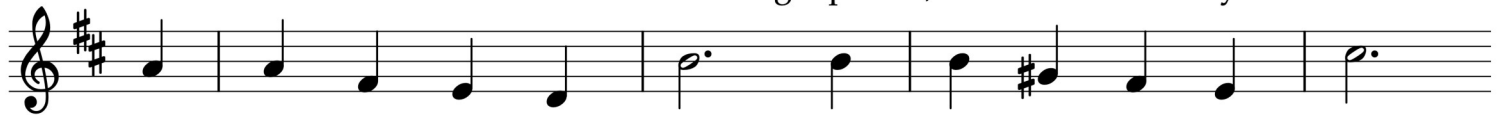
Verses 1, 3–5



1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
3. Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
4. Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
5. Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
but down-ward bend their burn-ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Setting of *Llanfair*

By Benjamin Culli (b. 1975)

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR: URL: <https://zoom.us/j/753360733>

Ministers: The People of St. John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org

dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org

crothman@stjohnssummit.org

wk154linda@gmail.com

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 and *All Creation Sings* copyright © 2020. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #9925-S, OneLicense.net license #A-722032, and/or Church Copyright License #11453771 which provide permission to podcast the music in this service.

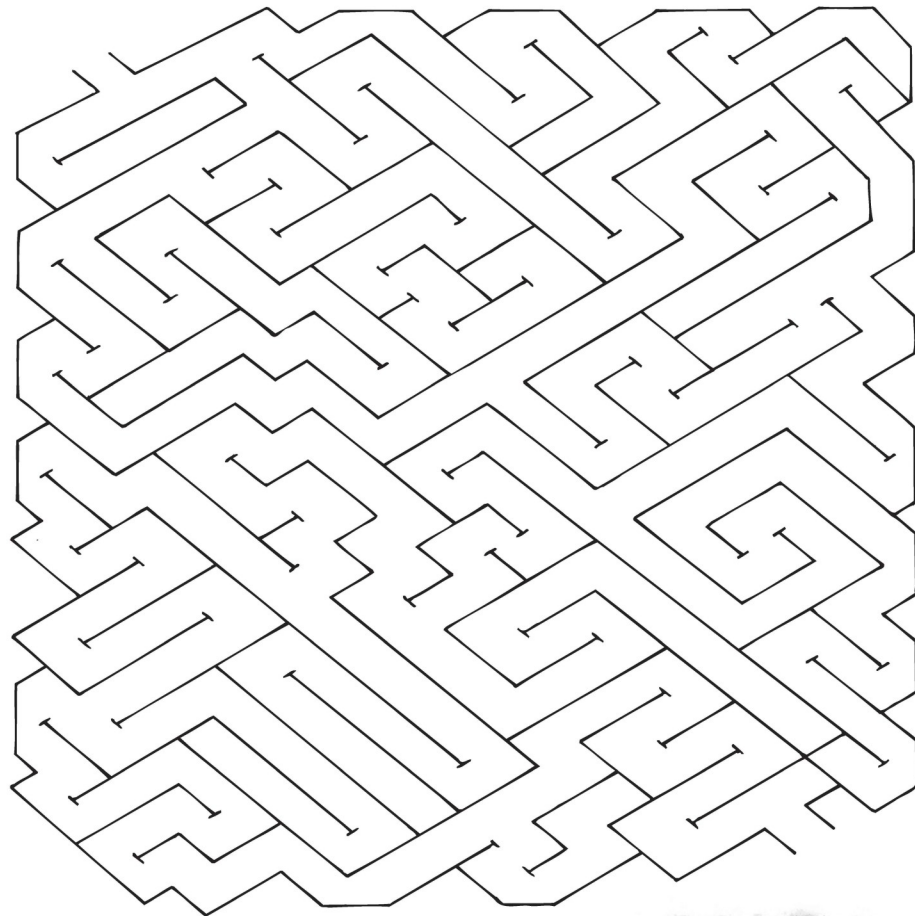
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901
www.stjohnssummit.org
908-273-3846 | Fax: 908-273-9604



- Today is the **7th Sunday** in Easter.
- During Easter, we learn about the members of the **first churches**.
- Easter **calls us to share** the good news!

Long Road Ahead

During the days of the early Christian church, people walked long distances to share the good news of Jesus. As a new disciple, Matthias made many journeys with Jesus' other followers. Help Matthias find his way to the next city.



In the World as One

Jesus wanted his family to work together as one family of God.

Find the number 1 seven times in this picture,
one for each week of the Easter season.



The Book of Acts continues the action from the Gospel of Luke. Acts begins with a brief summary of Luke's Gospel and then introduces the second part of the story. For the writer of Luke, the story doesn't stop with Jesus. He wants to tell everyone about the earliest churches and spread the good news to all.

Did You Know?



Look It Up!

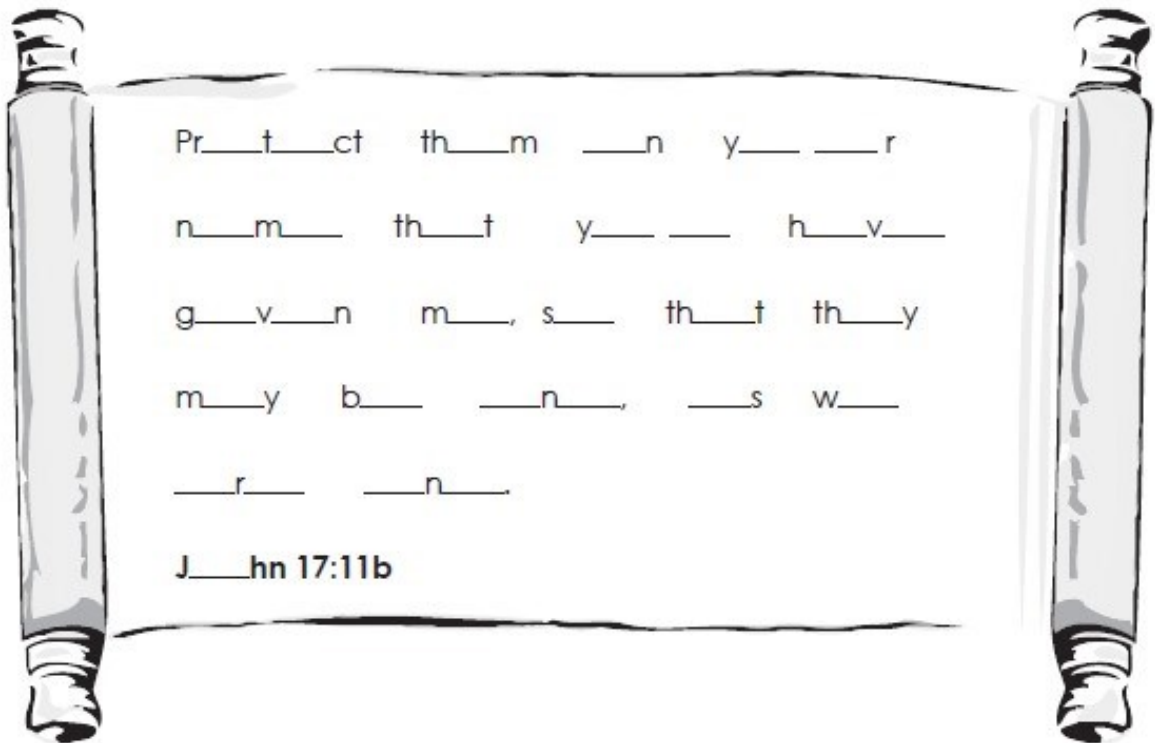
The disciples prayed to God before choosing Matthias in today's story. Read Acts 1:21-26 again. What did the disciples ask God? Write some ideas below.

When you pray, what do you say to God? Write some thoughts below.



The disciples received this letter but all the vowels are missing! Can you figure out where they go?

Memory Verse



Pr__t__ct th__m __n y__ __r
n__m__ th__t y__ __ h__v__
g__v__n m__, s__ th__t th__y
m__y b__ __n__, __s w__
__r __n__

J__hn 17:11b

Easter Words

The Easter season is almost over. Complete the puzzle with words you used this Easter. Then take a look around the worship space. Remember the colors and artwork. Look for big changes next week!

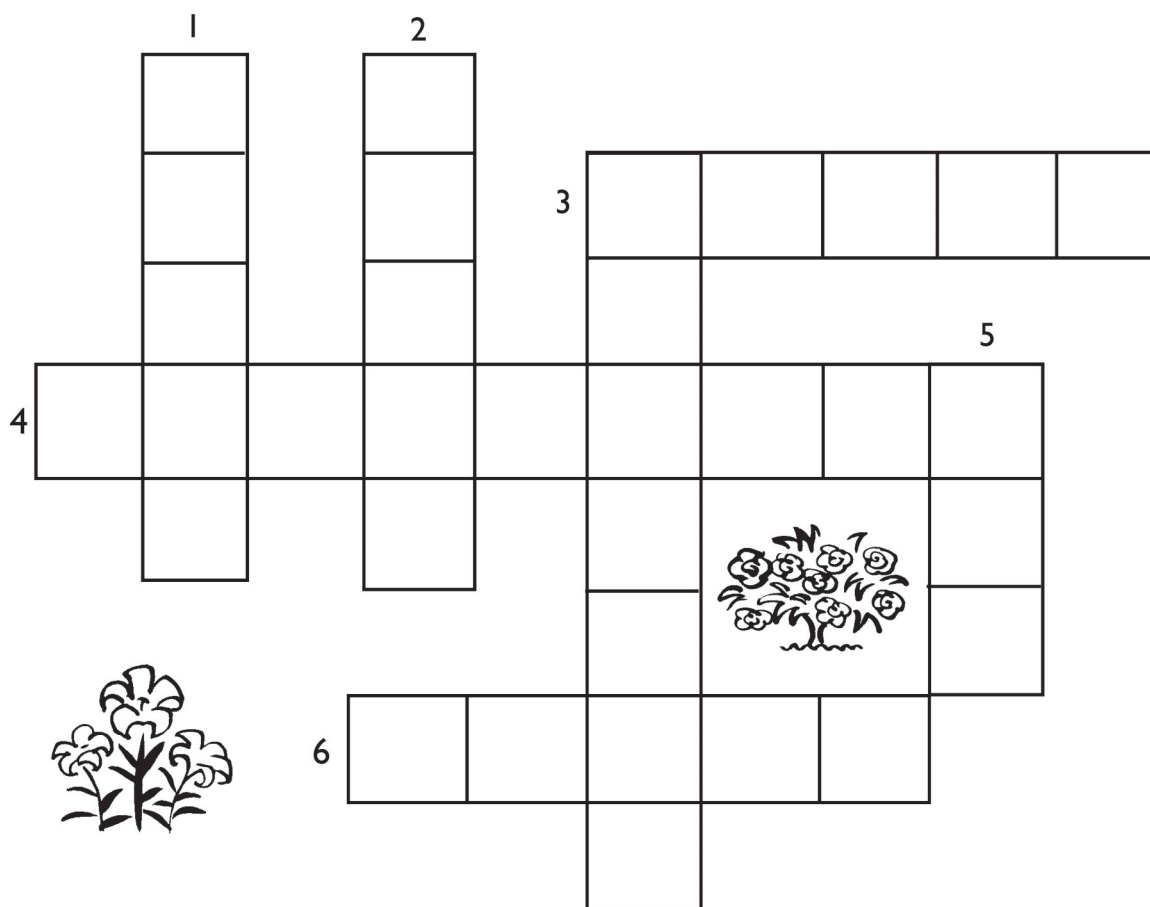
ACROSS

3. Number of days in the season of Easter.
4. A symbol of Jesus' new life.
6. Jesus _____ all people.



DOWN

1. God's Son.
2. The church color for Easter.
3. Jesus died on the cross to _____ our sins.
5. Jesus loves _____ !



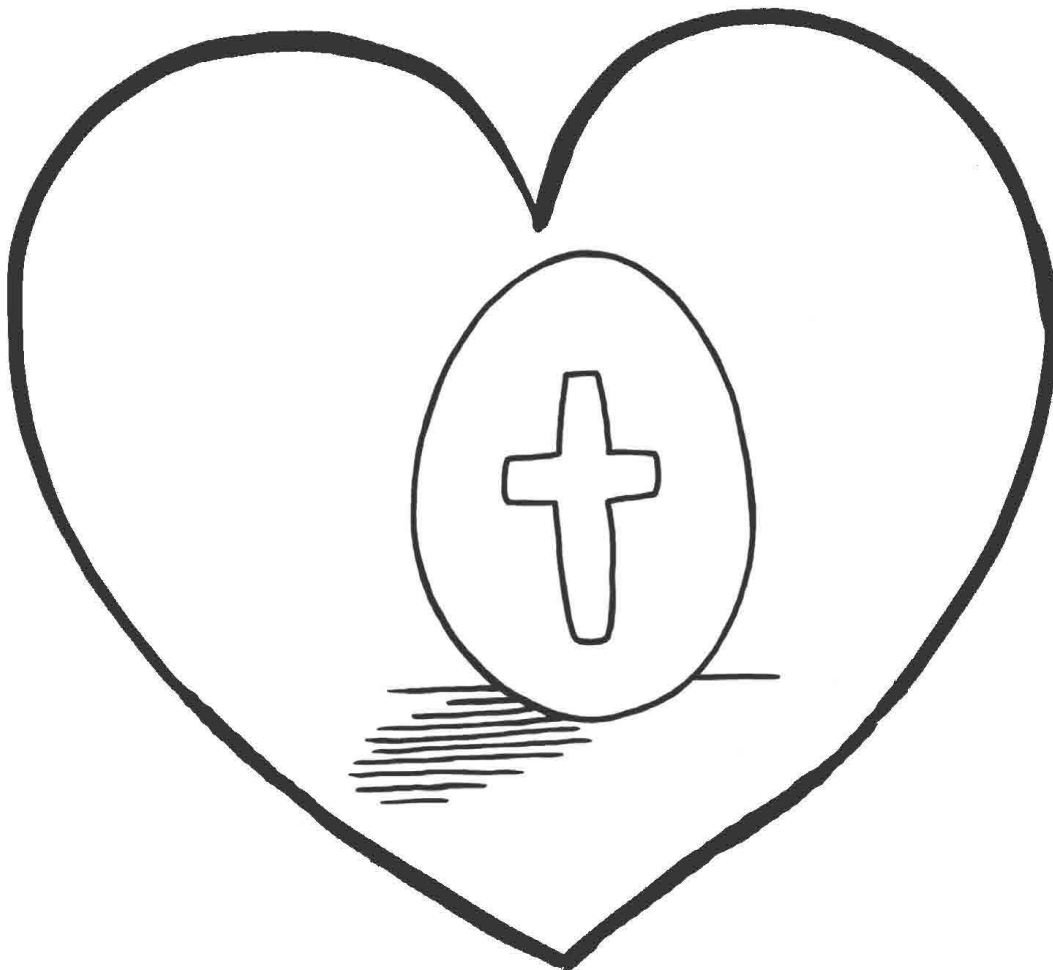


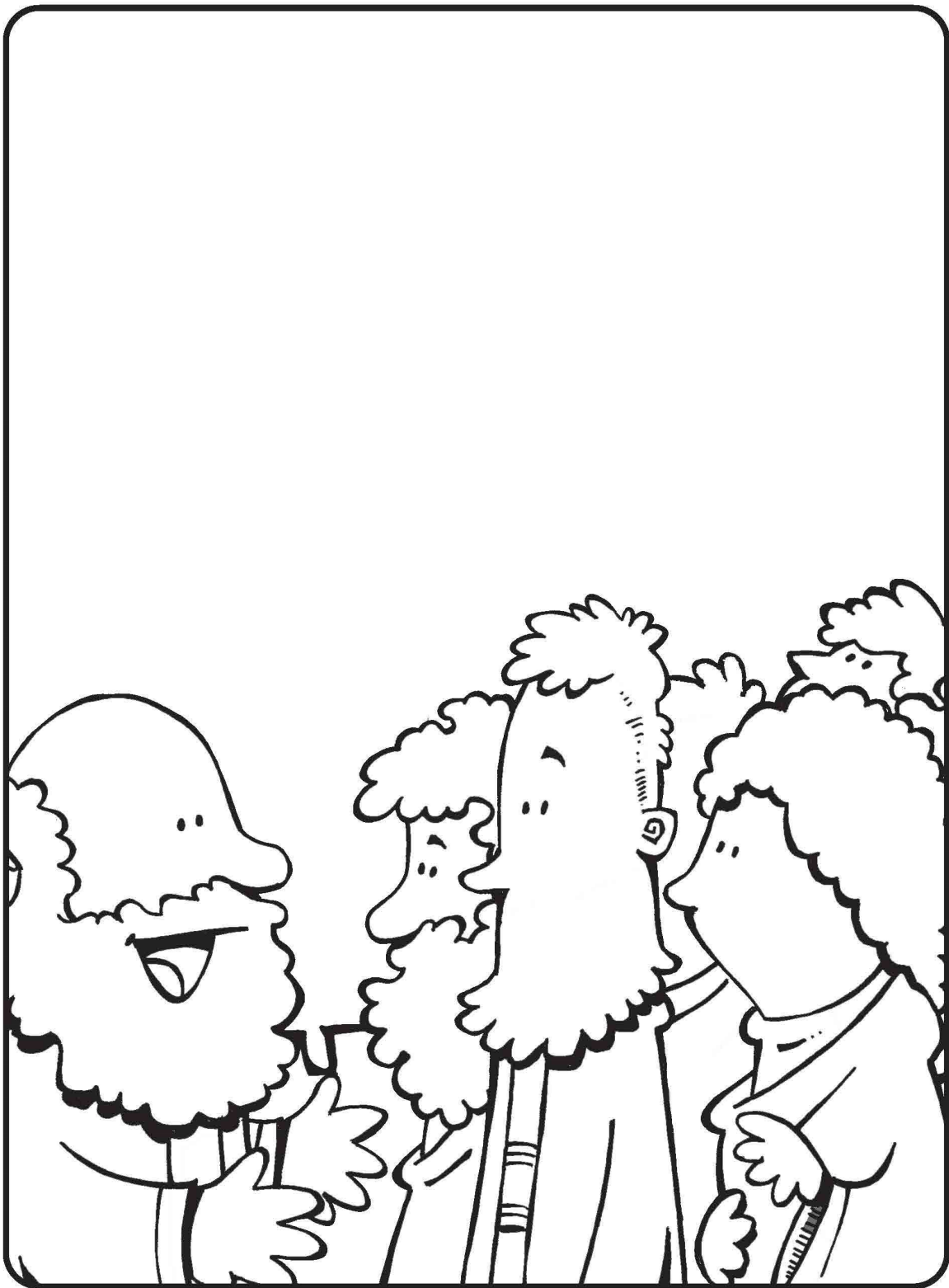
PRE-READER

Easter 7

- Today is the **7th Sunday** in Easter.
- During Easter, we learn about the members of **the first churches**.
- During Easter we are called to **share** the good news!

How do you show God's love? Inside the heart, draw or write ways that you show God's love.



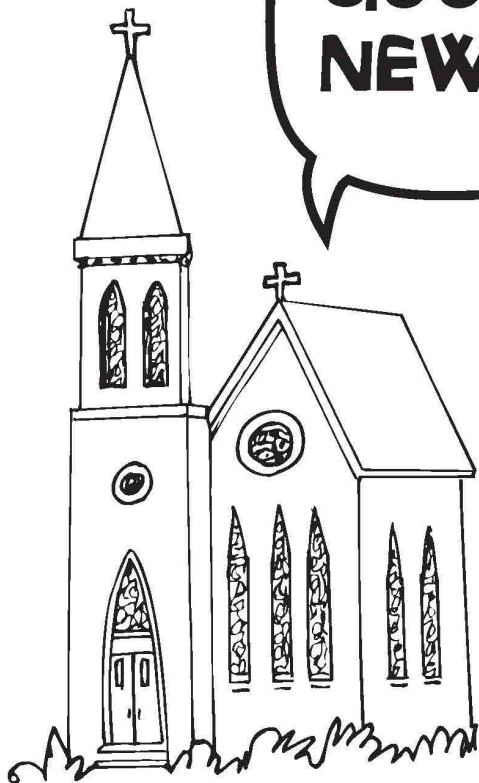
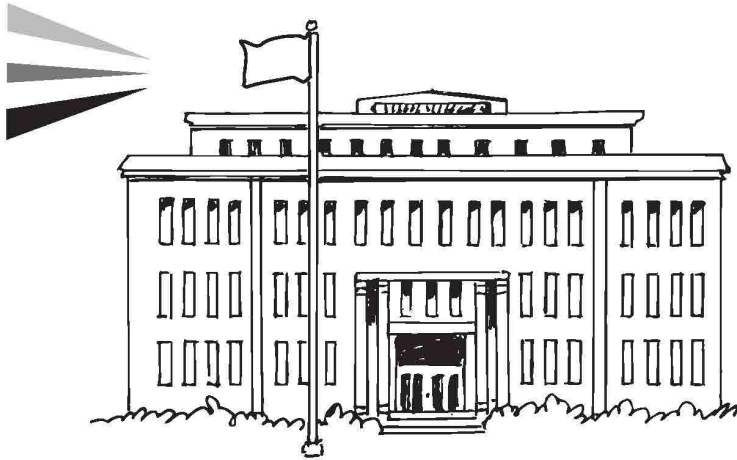


God showed the disciples that Matthias was the right person for the job.



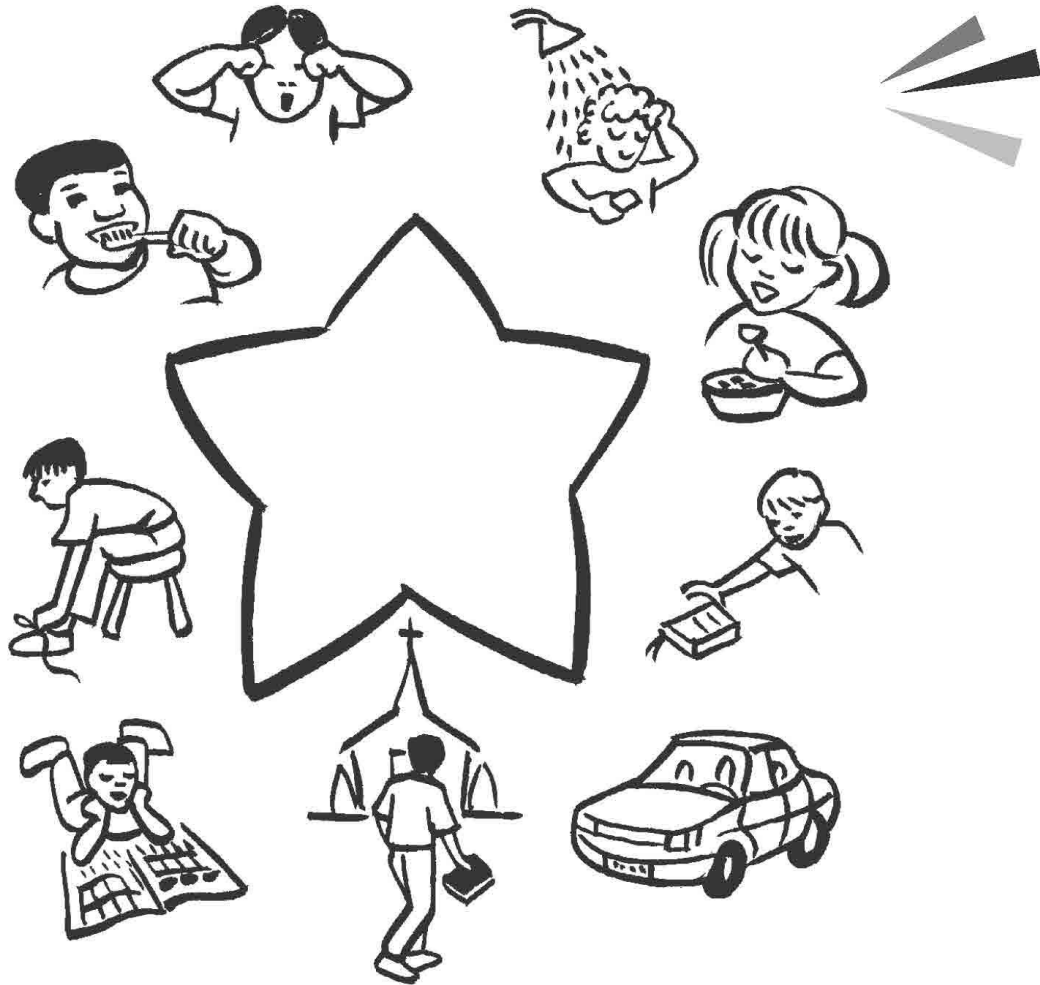
Matthias was chosen by God. Each of us has been chosen by God. We can tell the world about Jesus.

Where can you share God's news? All kinds of places! Color in all the places where you can share.



GOOD NEWS!

All of us prepare for worship in different ways. What did you do to get ready for church this morning? Draw a heart around everything you did this morning to get ready for worship.



Our families also celebrate Sundays differently. What will you do *after* worship? Draw or write about what your family will do together.