his is my brayer that your love may abound more and more in EDGEAN HOFINS HATYOUMAYBEA SO DISCERN WHAT IS BES NDM A Y B BLAMELESS D AN THE DAY OF FILEDWITHTHEFRUT OF RIGHIFOUSNESS THAT COMES THRO JESUS CHRIST 100 Tlory and praise of Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Retirement of Pastor Gladys G. Moore January 31, 2021 10:30 AM



**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.

## January 31, 2021

Coffee Sale: If you need fair trade coffee, teas, and chocolate, contact Jane Bowman.

**Giving Envelopes:** If you usually give your offerings with giving envelopes, they are available for pick-up in the rear entry of the church. Contact the church office with questions.

**Pastor Moore's Retirement: TODAY at 10:30 AM** our regular online worship service will be Pastor Moore's retirement service. Following the service at **12:00 PM**, there will be a live-streamed Farewell and Godspeed with Bishop Bartholomew and the presentation of gifts. Both of these online events will be on St. John's Facebook and YouTube pages. **There will be NO COFFEE HOUR today.** 

Budget Forum for 2021 Spending Plan: February 7 at 12:00 PM. Zoom link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87217643324</u>

**Shrove Tuesday Zoom Event February 16 at 5:30 PM.** Join us for one last hooray before the start of Lent. Come with donuts, pancakes, king cake, or libations. All ages invited. Let's have a little fun as a congregation together. Zoom link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81996918344?</u> pwd=QWE3Rk1Bb2hJcS8ycG9RS2FJSGRPQT09

Ash Wednesday February 17. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. A brief online worship service will be broadcast at 7:30 AM. Full online Ash Wednesday service will be broadcast at 7:00 PM. The Imposition of Ashes will be offered individually, outside at the rear entryway at the during the following windows of times: 8:00-9:00 AM, 12:00-1:00 PM, and 5:30-6:30 PM.

Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday, February 21 following the 10:30 AM service. The Annual Meeting will occur on Zoom <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82159990819?</u> pwd=YVFReDgzb3JiR1ZxbDRTWEJoUzArQT09.

**Pledge Update:** Thus far we have received 84 pledges for a total of \$422,030 towards our goal of \$450,000. If you haven't yet submitted your pledge, please do so today.

**Did you know** that you can easily donate shares of stocks or mutual funds to St. John's? Please contact Carolyn Rothman in the church office to get the St. John's account information needed to transfer shares. For instructions, click <u>here</u>.

Join us for our livestream at <u>https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/</u> or <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ</u>

# NO Zoom Coffee Hour Today

Cover image: Philippians 1:9-11 © 2012 Timothy R. Botts | Eyekons

#### **Prayer Before Worship**

Almighty God, Light from Light, who commands the universe and all that is made, your Word is the power that makes whole what is broken, the force of good, and the food of peace. Teach us now as you taught in the synagogue. Heal us now so that in all that we say and do, the freedom we have in you may be for others, too; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

**PRELUDE** Setting of *Lead Me, Guide Me* 

By Johannes-Matthias Michel (b. 1962)

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering

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

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.** 

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

#### Water is poured into the font.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly is sprinkled with water.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 641 All Are Welcome Verses 1, 2, 4, 5



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **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.** 

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of grace, we thank you for the gifts of Christian ministry given in your servant, Gladys. We celebrate the years of her labor in the fields of the Lord, and rejoice in the blessings so many have received. Give her a sense of fulfillment and rest, and new opportunities for living the good news of your love in Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

MUSIC "Just as I Am"

Arr. Donna Garzinsky (b. 20<sup>th</sup> C.)

Men's Ensemble

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down; now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



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

## FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1–9

<sup>1</sup>Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. <sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

PSALM 139 ACS 1082 O God, You Search Me and You Know Me



Text: Based on Psalm 139. Text and music © 1992, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.



#### SECOND READING Philippians 1:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

MUSIC "Women of God"

By Pastor Gladys G. Moore (b. 1953)

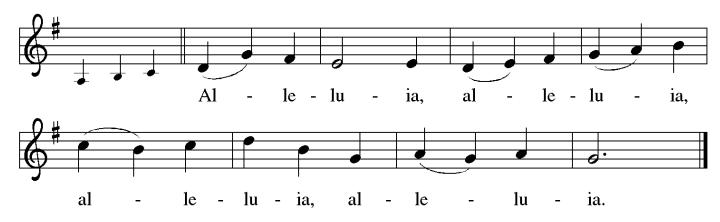
Women's Ensemble

Women of God, created, chosen, and called, called to be the preachers of good news. Women of God, created, chosen, and called, called to move the people from their pews into the world to witness, to care and listen, to share God's love with those in need. We're sent to share the treasure of God's good pleasure, ambassadors for Christ in word and deed!

Women of God, created, chosen, and called, called to make disciples ev'rywhere. Women of God, created, chosen, and called, called to proclaim hope where there's despair. We're sent to lift our voices for those with few choices, to advocate for justice for the poor. We're sent to bind up the broken, break silence with words spoken, to preach God's kingdom come, God's reign is sure.

Women of God, created, chosen, and called, called from ev'ry nation, tribe, and tongue. Women of God, created, chosen, and called, called to sing until all songs are sung. We praise the God who made us, who named and claimed us as priests and servants of the Lord. We'll work as sisters together, baptism is our tether, until God's whole creation is restored.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** 



#### GOSPEL Matthew 9:35–38

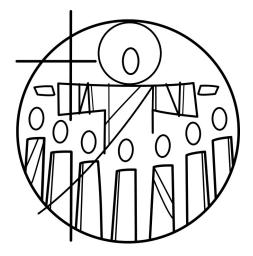
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup>Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

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

#### HOMILY

The Rev. Gladys G. Moore



#### HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 768 Lead Me, Guide Me



Text: Doris M. Akers, 1922–1995

Tune: LEAD ME, Irregular with refrain; Doris M. Akers, 1922–1995; harm. by Richard Smallwood, b.1948

© 1953, (renewed), arr. © 2011, Doris M. Akers, admin. by Chappell & Co., Inc.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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**

If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, or want information about mailing checks, you may visit <u>www.stjohnssummit.org/giving</u>. You may also contact the church office for more options.

**OFFERING SOLO** Setting of *Thaxted* 

By Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

David Neiman, oboe

## LITANY

Let us pray for the saving presence of our living Lord:

In your world, **be present, Lord.** 

In this congregation, be present, Lord.

In this community, be present, Lord.

In this synod, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and in the whole Church, **be present, Lord.** 

In the homes and hearts of all your people, be present, Lord.

Let us pray for the mercy of the Lord:

For work begun but not completed, Lord, have mercy.

For expectations not met, Lord, have mercy.

For wounds not healed, Lord, have mercy.

For gifts not shared, Lord, have mercy.

For promises not kept, Lord, have mercy.

Let us give thanks for our journey together in this place:

For friendships made, for joys celebrated, and for times of nurture and growth, **thanks be to God.** 

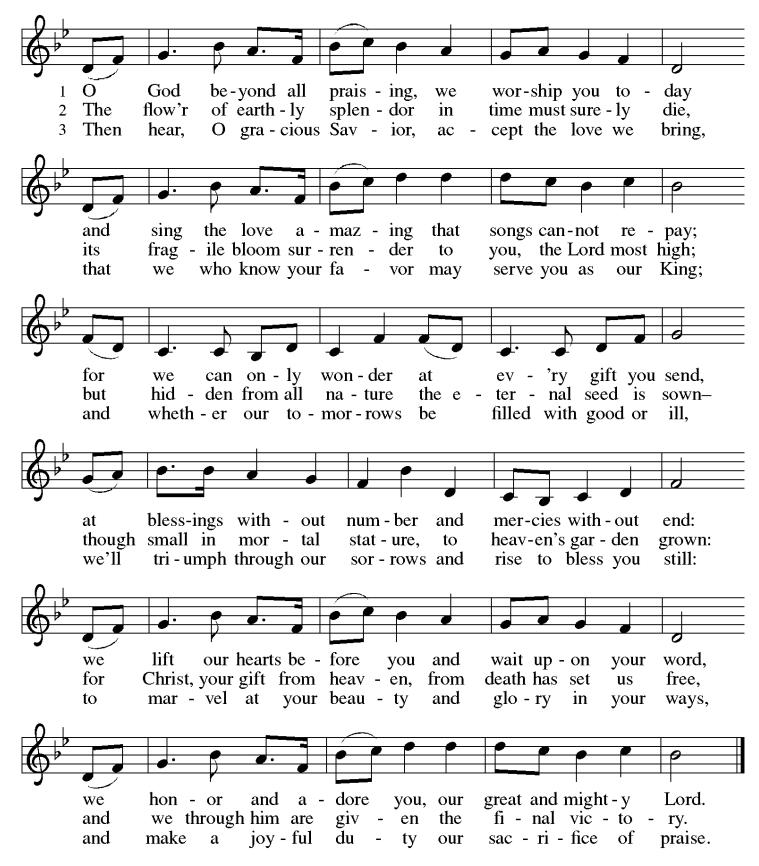
For wounds healed, expectations met, gifts given, and promises kept, **thanks be to God.** 

For our fellowship in Jesus Christ, and for the love of God, which has sustained us, **thanks be to God.** 

Let us pray. Loving God, Alpha and Omega, you are both beginning and ending. Our endings and our beginnings are rooted in your love. Whether near or far, we are held close by your love, and kept safe from any lasting loss. Let our time together end with your blessing. Touch all memories with your grace and peace. Help us live with courage and gladness in the future you present us. In every time and place, may we offer you our highest and our best; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen and Alleluia!** 

#### HYMN ELW 880 O God beyond All Praising

Stephanie Rothman, trumpet



Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996 Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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## WORDS OF CONGRATULATION AND BLESSING

**The Rev. Bruce Davidson**, has been Gladys' dear friend, colleague, and mentor since the early days of her ministry. A fierce advocate for justice within the church and society, especially for and with GLBTQIA+ members and their families, Bruce was instrumental in keeping Gladys sane amidst her own struggles within the ELCA as we wrestled with becoming a more inclusive church.

**Rabbi Hannah Orden** is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Hatikvah and the President of the Summit Interfaith Council. She has served with Gladys on the SIC Anti-Racism Committee since it began more than 6 years ago and regularly facilitates dialogues and book studies.

**The Rev. Vernon Williams** is Associate Minister at Fountain Baptist Church and Vice President of the Summit Interfaith Council. He, too, is a founding member of the SIC Anti-Racism Committee and regularly facilitates dialogues and book studies.

**Jeanne Friedman** has been friends with Gladys since they met at the Philadelphia High School for Girls in 1967—longer than any other friend she has. They have been singers and soul-mates, and were sister-colleagues at Mount Holyoke College for the 6 years that Gladys served there as Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life and Director of Diversity and Inclusion.

**The Rev. E. Roy Riley** is the retired bishop of the New Jersey Synod, ELCA where he served from 1991–2013. Roy asked Gladys to be one of his four Assistants when he was first elected bishop and has been a friend, pastor, and mentor ever since.

**The Rev. Janet Peterman** is one of "The Women," an amazing group of women pastors and friends who have been meeting several times annually and, since COVID began, weekly via ZOOM. Today, she celebrates her 40<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary and now will have the distinction of being the only one of the "Women" who will still be actively serving as a pastor.

**The Rev. Mary Forell** was Gladys' internship supervisor at St. Matthew's in Jersey City from 1982–83, and has had many different pastoral "rotations" with Gladys since then. Mary was a national staff person under the Rev. Harvey Peters when Gladys was an urban pastor in Jersey City, and Gladys was Mary's Assistant to the Bishop during her time on Bishop Riley's staff. She is one of "The Women" and a dear friend and colleague.

**The Rev. Barbara Lundblad** is one of the ELCA's preeminent preachers and the third one of "The Women." She has been a friend, confidant, and preacher at a few of Gladys' installations, including the one here at St. John's, and Gladys' main Maine "Inn-keepers" owner along with her wife Nicole.

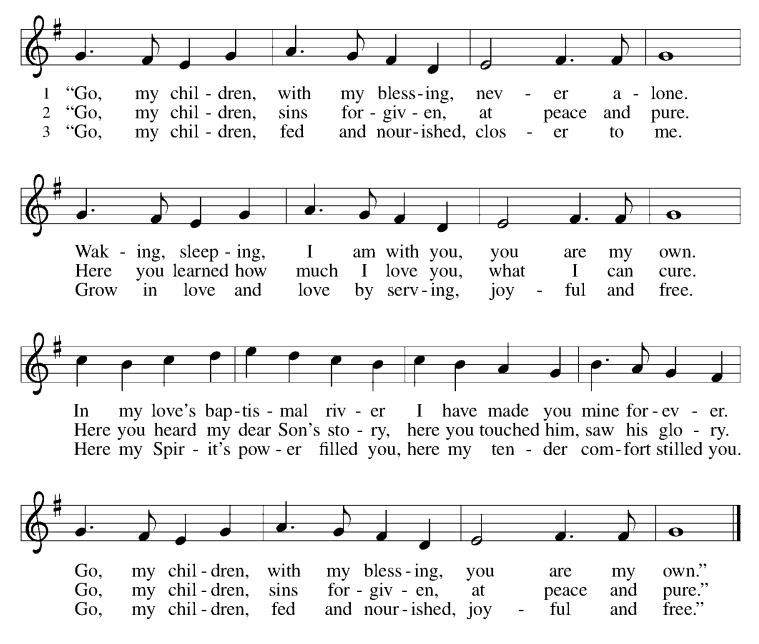
**The Rev. Maristela Freiberg**: Gladys likes to think of Maristela and her husband, the Rev. Moacir Weirich as her "children in ministry." As she often says, Gladys picked them up at 5:00 AM at JFK Airport in NYC on Reformation Day 1997 and she hasn't stopped talking about it ever since. Maristela is now an Assistant to Bishop Tracie Bartholomew, and she and Moacir are the parents of Gladys' and Colleen's godchildren, Francisca Sophia and Victoria Olivia.

# **Sending** God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### BLESSING

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us—Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit—be with you now and forevermore. **Amen.** 

SENDING HYMN ELW 543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

#### There will be NO Zoom Coffee Hour Today.

Join us at **12:00 PM on Facebook or YouTube** for a live-streamed Farewell and Godspeed with Bishop Bartholomew and the presentation of gifts.



# Ministers: The People of St. John's

#### Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Gladys G. Moore, Pastor The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

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

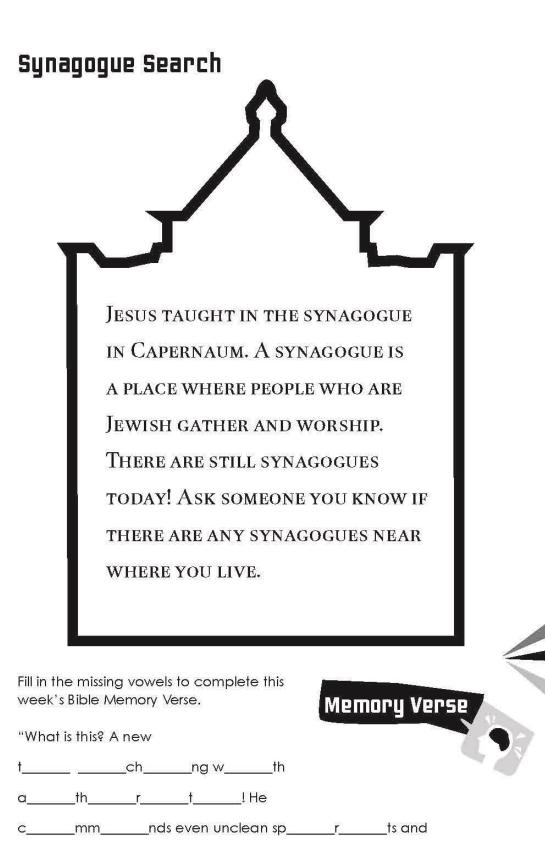


- Today is the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** in the season of Epiphany.
- During Epiphany, we celebrate Jesus' spreading of the good news to **everyone**.
- The color during Epiphany is green.
- Green is the color of **new growth**.

# Healed

During Jesus' time, people used different things to heal people than we do now. Which of these items were used in Jesus' time? Which do we use now? Do we still use any of these things today?





th\_\_\_\_y ob\_\_\_\_y him."

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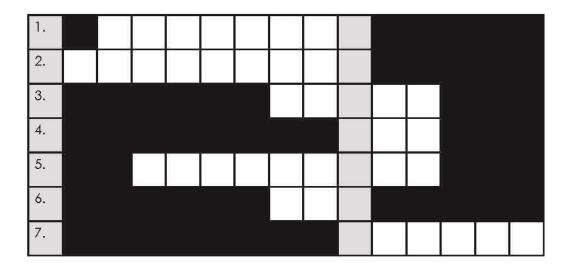


What other miracles happened in Capernaum?

# Broken Nets

Use the clues to fill in the words below. Then, find the word going down that tells you what Jesus loved doing.

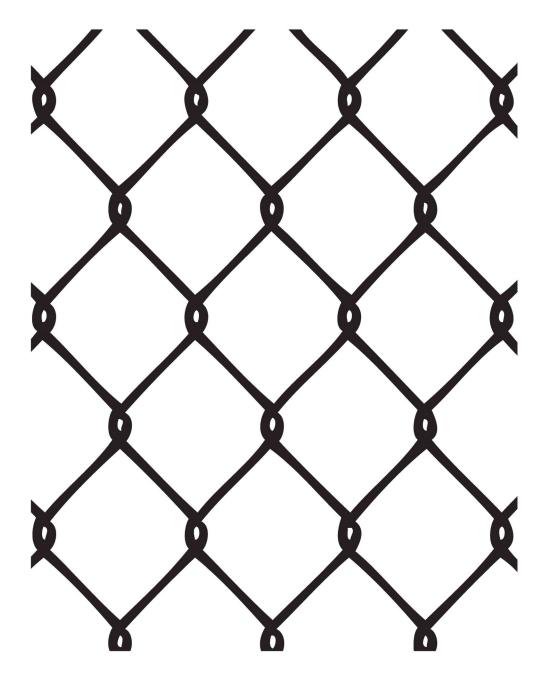
- 1. Jesus of \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. A Jewish place of worship.
- 3. Jesus went into the synagogue and began to \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. He taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the
- 5. A new teaching and with \_\_\_\_\_!
- 6. I know who you are the Holy \_\_\_\_\_ of God!
- 7. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Mark





# **Prayer Stations**

Many churches have prayers chains. A prayer chain is one way for lots of people to quickly find out who needs prayers. A few people get important news and share it with lots of other people. Some congregations list prayer concerns in the bulletin or worship folder. Take a look in your bulletin. Can you find the names of people who need healing? Write them in the chain below.



#### **Children's Bulletins**



- Today is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the season of Epiphany.
- During Epiphany, we celebrate **Jesus' ministry**.
- Jesus came into the world to show people **God's love.**

Color in the star to help remember how Jesus ministered to those around him. Which actions can you do?





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EPIPHANY 4

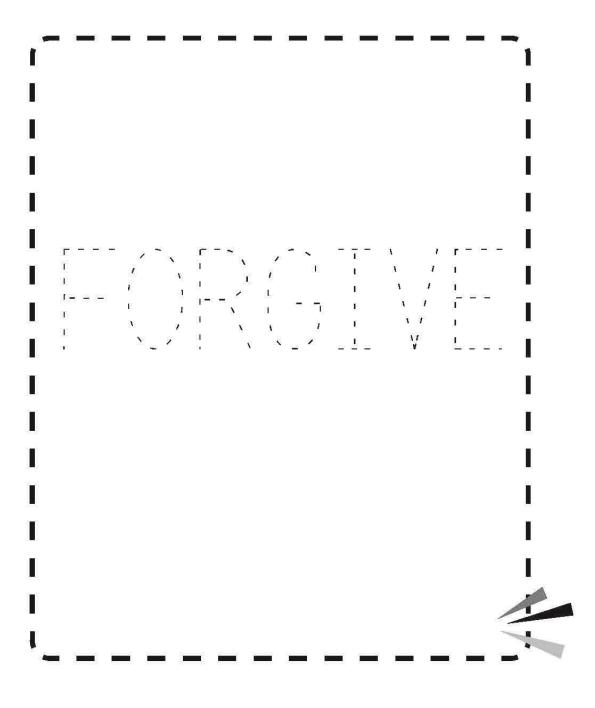
Jesus didn't just tell people about God. He showed them God's healing power. The people in the story tried to hide the sick man from Jesus. But Jesus healed him anyway! There are many ways that healing happens today.

# What healing things can you find in the picture below? Circle them.



Jesus taught people about God. Jesus healed sick people. During worship, God heals us when we confess our sins. Watch for it!

Draw or write about a time that you forgave someone.



ut those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31