

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost



**July 19, 2020
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.

Zoom Children's Time is on hiatus during the month of July.

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

Hymns of Faith: Wednesdays at 10:30 AM. Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/97268221619>.

Worship Live Stream at 10:30 AM on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit or our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ to see the livestream or access the video archive. **Worship bulletins** are located: <https://www.stjohnssummit.org/bulletins>.

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.

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to podcast the music in this service.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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We're delighted you're worshipping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

Announcements for July 19, 2020

In-Person Worship: We will begin having ~30-minute in-person worship services every other **Sunday at 7:00 PM beginning TONIGHT**. Please bring your own chairs—spots will be marked on the front lawn. Masks must be worn and social distance must be observed. Restricted bathroom usage. At-risk individuals or anyone feeling unwell should not attend. Please use discretion. You **need to RSVP** so that we can plan for attendance [here](#).

Virtual VBS: Everyone—of ALL ages—is invited to our Virtual VBS! We will be holding a 5-day program on Facebook Live and Zoom, **July 20–24 from 5:00–6:15 PM**. This is completely free and open to all—tell your friends and family. Please register [here](#). We need help; volunteer [here](#).

Hinman Scholarship: We have funds available to support our college students. Access the application [here](#). Applications must be submitted by **August 1** to Linda.Mesenbrink@verizon.net.

Plastic Bag Collection: Due to the pandemic, we are no longer collecting plastic bags.

Need Fair Trade Chocolate, Coffee or Tea? Contact [Jane Bowman](#) to make arrangements.

Summer Music: Covid-19 has changed the kinds of music normally offered at St. John's during the summer. Singers and woodwind and brass instrumentalists are welcome to offer “virtual” music or music that you record in your home. Virtual music would be included in prerecorded worship services. String instrumentalists, handbell ringers, and percussionists can participate in offering live music during worship this summer. For more information, contact Donna Garzinsky.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Please give generously to the emergency fund sponsored by the Summit Interfaith Council to help Summit immigrant neighbors adversely affected by COVID-19. You may make your tax-deductible donation to the Relief Fund [here](#), by either check or PayPal. Checks should be made out to and mailed to Beacon UU Congregation in Summit, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit, NJ 07901.

Social Ministry Highlight: Lutheran Social Ministry of New Jersey Backpacks

LSM has asked only for financial contributions this year to minimize the risk of COVID infection. LSM will purchase and assemble the backpacks themselves. A completed backpack costs approximately \$35, and we hope to match last year's collection of at least 65 backpacks. Participate virtually by making financial contributions throughout the month of July and the beginning of August. To participate, please click <https://forms.gle/wjWYCme11qDWXsD77> to pledge your contribution. All pledges must be paid by check or [online](#), include “LSM Backpacks” in the memo line before **August 9**. We will report the progress towards our goal weekly!

Prayer Before Worship

Sower of the Field, continue to be gracious with us that we may ripen into the children of God's realm and live with you forever, shining like the sun in God's heavenly home. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 2

Gathering

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

PRELUDE Setting of *Good Soil*

By Sherri Hansen (b. 20th C.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN 733 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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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

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

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

READING Romans 8:12–25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—
¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the
deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of
God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a
spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our
spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with
Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory
about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the
children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of
the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to
decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the
whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we
ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the
redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For
who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with
patience.

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

Psalm 86:11–17

Spoken responsively

- ¹¹Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
- ¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**
- ¹³For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.
- ¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me,
O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**
- ¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- ¹⁶**Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant,
and save the child of your handmaid.**
- ¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;
because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 174 Celtic Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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GOSPEL Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

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

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

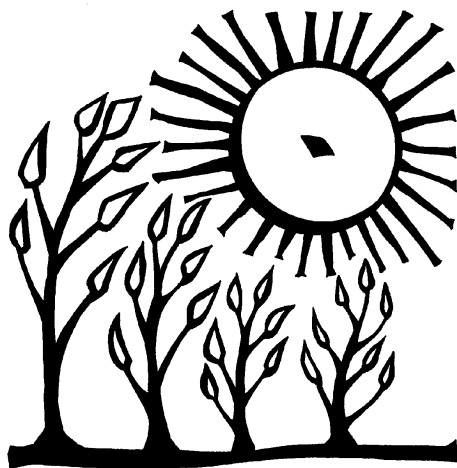


Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.



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. *Response at the conclusion of the prayer: Amen.***

LORD'S PRAYER

And now let us pray as our Savior 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 www.stjohnssummit.org/giving. You may also contact the church office for more options.

OFFERING MUSIC Setting of “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” By Sondra K. Tucker
(b. 1957)

Ringers: Linda Clark, Alana Coble, Judith Cook, and Andrew Larsen

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **O God, we long for the time when the meek shall inherit the earth and all who hunger and thirst after justice shall be satisfied, and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil, now is always the time when more good can be done and we can make a difference. May it be so, by the presentation of these gifts and the offering of our lives through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

O give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good.
God’s steadfast love endures forever.

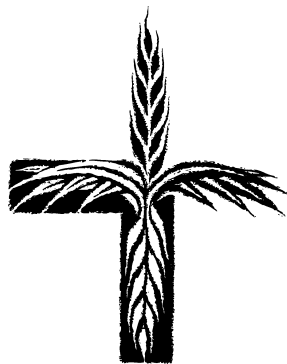
Let us bless the Lord.
Praise and thanks to God.

Sending

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

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**



SENDING HYMN 597 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on nothing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,

Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -

own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

DISMISSAL

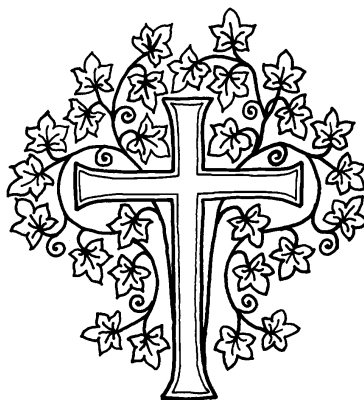
Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Setting of *Melita*

By John Carter (b. 1930)

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



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

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PRE-READER

Pentecost 7

- Today is the **7th Sunday** after Pentecost.
 - The **symbol** for this season is a tree by a **road**.
 - The road **reminds** us that life with God is a **journey**.
-

Draw yourself on the road!





Where did these weeds come from?



In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about weeds.
Weeds are tricky plants that grow where you don't want
them to grow.



Draw some tricky weeds in this garden.



Listen to the songs during worship. What do these songs remind you of?

Draw a picture of it here!





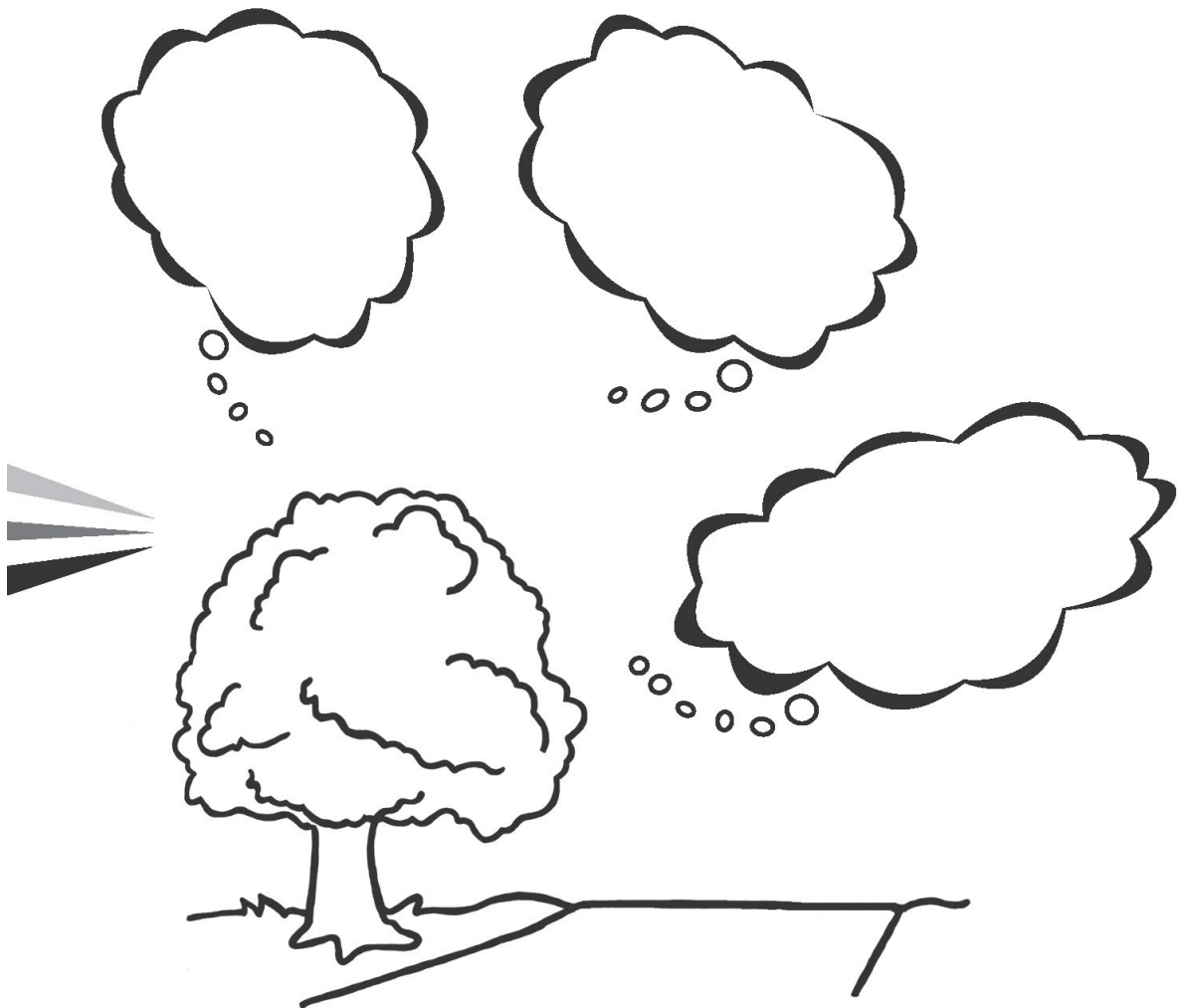
READER

Pentecost 7

- Today is the **seventh** Sunday after Pentecost.
- The symbol for Pentecost on this page is a **tree by a road**.
- The tree helps us think about **growing** in faith.
- The road shows us that life with God is a **journey**.

Hit the Road

In life, we travel toward our goals. What are your goals? Draw yourself on the road and write or draw about your goals in the spaces above the road. Remember that God is always with you on this journey.





Bible Tip!

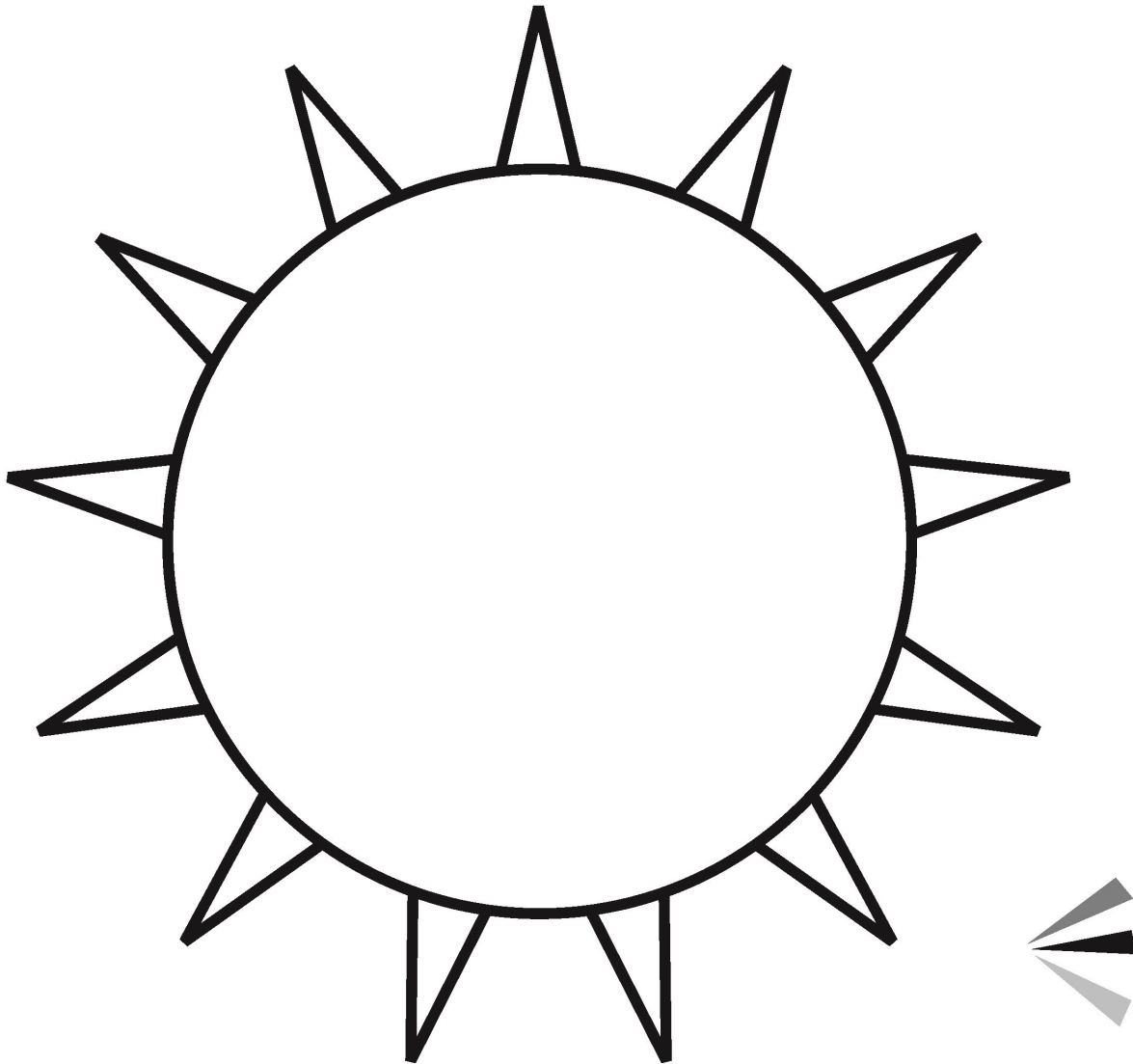
Not sure what a word in the Bible means? Use the glossary in the back of your Spark Bible to help you define tough words.

Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.
Matthew 13:43

Memory Verse



Copy the memory verse inside this sun to help you remember it!



Look It Up!

Jesus spoke a language called Aramaic. The word for Father in Aramaic is Abba. This is what Jesus called God!

First Fruits

In Romans, Paul tells us that we only have the "first fruits" of the good things God will do. This means that God has a lot more to give to the world.

All fruits begin as a small seed. Draw a line matching the fruit to its seed.



What's the Difference?

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about deciding between good and bad. He uses plants as symbols for his story.

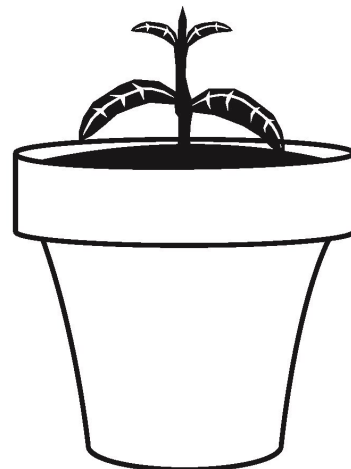
Solve the math problems to find out which plants Jesus calls good and which plants he calls bad.

GOOD:

$3 + 3$ $6 - 5$ 5×2 $2 + 3$ $8 - 4$

BAD:

$10 - 4$ $9 + 1$ $12 - 2$ $4 \div 2$



KEY:

$A = 5$

$D = 2$

$E = 10$

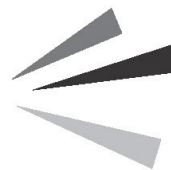
$H = 1$

$T = 4$

$W = 6$

Sing Along

Singing is an important part of worship. When it is time to sing in worship today, follow along with your family.



Write down some words you sang inside these music notes.

