

CTK'S

Summer Road Trip!



TAKE CTK TO-GO!

**GAMES, MEDIA, LESSONS &
MORE TO STAY CONNECTED
ALL SUMMER!**

BUCKLE UP!



SCAN ME



SCAN FOR
YOUR
PACKING LIST!



This journal belongs to:



If found, please contact:



Dear Beloved Christ the King Community,

Let's go on a Road Trip together this summer!

I am super excited for the many opportunities we have been preparing for us to learn, gather, and have fun. Together, no matter where we find ourselves this summer. Maybe you are headed north for some cooler weather; maybe you are going to visit family or friends; maybe you are setting out for a time of respite, a time apart to refresh and renew. No matter what you have planned for this summer, I hope you will consider spending time with your CTK family too!

This journal is jam-packed with activities, created with busy summer schedules in mind. Throughout this journal, we will be exploring seven important Lutheran principles and what they mean in our daily lives. We encourage you to keep an easy pace and take two weeks to delve into each principle, reflecting on what you are learning and how you can apply your discoveries to daily life. You will find videos, articles, games, playlists, and more for each principle. You will also find a calendar of Meet Ups we are hosting to spend time with you in person or virtually this summer on our website at ctkelc.org/roadtrip. Finally, watch for "Pit Stops" along the way where together we can intentionally engage in dialogue around our learning.

I encourage you to page through this journal to get familiar with all there is to interact with this summer. Each two weeks, I invite you to first watch the video for the principle and then follow along in your journal to engage in a variety of activities as they most interest and apply to your preferred learning style. We also encourage you to try something new that you may have not previously considered your style of learning.

Above all, I invite you to come along and have fun! Let's go on a faith journey together this summer and share what we learn with others along the way. Come along on this road trip with me!

Bon Voyage!

Grace and peace, and even more, hope!

Pastor Jennifer



Table of Contents

Principle 1: God Becomes
Human for Us in Jesus Christ
Pg. 5

Principle 2: God Meets Us in
Bread, Wine, and Water
Pg. 11

Principle 3: God Feels Our
Pain and Suffering
Pg. 21

Principle 4: God Delights in
Our Goodness, and Judges Sin
Pg. 29

Principle 5: God Speaks to Us
Through Scripture and Spirit
Pg. 37

Principle 6: God Compels
Creation Towards Mercy
Pg. 45

Principle 7: God Loves Us
Eternally
Pg. 53

Principle #1

God Becomes Human for us in Jesus Christ

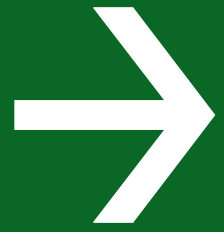
(Weeks of June 2 and June 9)

The God who creates all that is, takes on life and death in the person of Jesus. A God who becomes flesh understands our loves and limits, bridging the gap between God and creation through God's radical act of love for creation in Christ's living, dying, and living again. God's costly love for creation compels us to embrace Christ's compassion and care for all of life.

JOHN
1:1-5



¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! We are delighted for you to join us in this fourteen-week road trip, where we will journey together in our walk of faith. We will be led by several guides along the way: scripture, the Small Catechism, music, and games, alongside the work of the Living Catechism Project from St. Olaf College. We will also serve as each other's guides, getting together to dialogue, reflect, and discern in a variety of contexts this summer. All of these guides will aid us in a richer understanding and application of the heart of our faith: God becoming human for us in Jesus Christ.



Before the universe existed, in the time before the internet, before social media, before the written or even spoken word, God simply was. God our Parent ; God the Word ; God the Spirit. This God, out of sheer love, created this world and all it has to offer to us for the benefit of our individual and collective living. As in the time of Jesus and now , this reality is masked behind the crises all around us :
existential ills, systemic sins, war, and conflict.



God sent God's son, the Word, through whom all things were made, to live, suffer death and be raised to bridge the gap between God and the limits of our lives. Luther's Small Catechism explains this work of Jesus this way: "He (Jesus) has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness ." How then do we live today knowing that God has minded the gap, if you will? Where in your lives do you experience a gap between yourself and God? How do we allow God's love to embrace us so that we can embrace others? Let's begin this journey with a curious and open mind and heart!



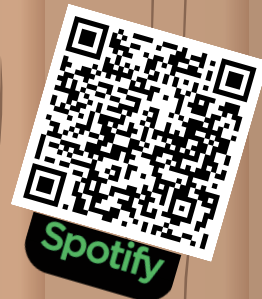
Scripture
Reference:
John 1:1-5

Small Catechism
Reference: The
Second Article of the
Apostles' Creed: On
Redemption

By Heart Reference:
Chapter 3
(The Apostles Creed),
pages 77-81 and 87-92

Road Trip!

PRINCIPLE PLAYLIST #1

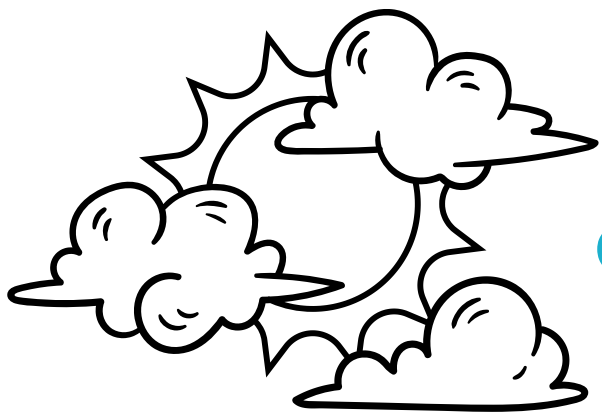


Classical

PLAYLIST

ECLECTIC PLAYLIST





John 1:1-5

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

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

Word God Life Light Darkness Beginning

People Shine Overcome Not

Word Greek root: Λόγος (Logos)

- Explanation: In the context of John 1:1-5, "Word" refers to the divine principle of reason and creative order. It signifies the pre-existent Christ, through whom all things were made.
- Historical context: The term "Logos" was significant in ancient Greek philosophy, particularly in Stoicism and Heraclitus' philosophy, where it represented the rational principle governing the universe. In the Gospel of John, it's used to convey that Jesus Christ is the divine Word incarnate.

God Greek root: Θεός (Theos)

- Explanation: "God" refers to the supreme being, the creator and ruler of the universe, who is worshiped and revered.
- Historical context: In the Gospel of John, God is the triune Godhead: Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Life Greek root: ζωή (zoe)

- Explanation: "Life" denotes the state of living, existence, and vitality. In a theological sense, it refers to spiritual life or eternal life.
- Historical context: In Jewish and Christian thought, "life" encompasses physical existence as well as spiritual significance. In John 1:4, life is associated with Jesus Christ, who is the source of eternal life.

Light Greek root: φῶς (phos)

- Explanation: "Light" symbolizes illumination, knowledge, purity, and divine guidance. It contrasts with darkness and signifies spiritual awakening and understanding.
- Historical context: Light has profound symbolic significance in various religious and philosophical traditions. In the Gospel of John, Jesus is described as the "light of the world" (John 8:12), bringing spiritual enlightenment and salvation to humanity.

Darkness Greek root: σκοτία (skotia)

- Explanation: "Darkness" represents ignorance, sin, spiritual blindness, and separation from God. It is the absence of light and divine presence.
- Historical context: Darkness is often used metaphorically to depict moral or spiritual corruption and the state of being devoid of God's guidance. In John 1:5, darkness symbolizes the realm of sin and unbelief, which cannot overcome the light of Christ.

Beginning Greek root: ἀρχή (arche)

- Explanation: "Beginning" refers to the starting point of something, the origin or foundation from which all else proceeds.
- Historical context: In John 1:1, "In the beginning" echoes the opening words of Genesis, signaling the initiation of God's creative work and the unfolding of salvation history through Jesus Christ.

People Greek root: λαός (laos)

- Explanation: "People" denotes a group of individuals sharing a common identity, culture, or heritage. It can refer to a nation, community, or ethnic group.
- Historical context: The term "people" has broad usage in both religious and secular contexts. In the New Testament, it often refers to the Jewish people or humanity as a whole. In John 1:10, Jesus is described as coming to his own people, the Israelites, who largely rejected him.

Shine Greek root: φαίνω (phaino)

- Explanation: "Shine" means to emit light or brightness, to illuminate or make something visible.
- Historical context: The concept of shining or radiance is often associated with divine presence and glory. In John 1:5, the light shines in the darkness, signifying the manifestation of God's truth and grace in the person of Jesus Christ.

Overcome Greek root: νικάω (nikao)

- Explanation: "Overcome" means to prevail or defeat, to triumph over an adversary or obstacle.
- Historical context: The theme of overcoming is prevalent in religious literature, symbolizing victory over sin, death, and evil. In John 1:5, the darkness cannot overcome the light, underscoring the ultimate triumph of God's goodness and grace over the forces of darkness.

Not Greek root: οὐ (ou)

- Explanation: "Not" is a negation, indicating the absence or denial of something.
- Historical context: In John 1:5, it emphasizes the inability of darkness to extinguish the light, highlighting the enduring power of God's truth and salvation.





LET'S PLAY

Calling all road trip adventurers! Bored on the road? Spice things up with a fun game inspired by the classic "Shotgun!" We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: Next person to ask "How much longer?" or "When will we get there?" loses a point. Patience is a virtue!

Discussion: Name the thing you are most looking forward to once you reach your destination.

Shotgun: Take a car selfie and post it to your story. Everyone else decides the caption. If you refuse, you lose a point.

Everyone except the car owner: guess the mileage. Closest gets a point. NO PEEKING!

Work together to name 15 state capitals. Whoever contributed the most gets a point.

Who packed the most stuff? You can thank them for the lack of legroom by taking a point away.

Go around and name car brands. First person to hesitate loses a point. Whoever knows the driver's birthday gets a point.

Go around and name cheese. First one stumped loses a point. Whoever can guess the car gets a point (owner excluded).

Whoever can guess the car gets a point (owner excluded).

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. Where were Christ the King services held before the building was erected?

PLAYER	SCORE



the
Light **SHINES**
in the darkness, and
the darkness has not
OVERCOME it.

- John 1:5

Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

Large blank area for free space, with a light purple-to-white gradient background.

Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four horizontal lines for writing, each preceded by a yellow star icon.

Principle #2

God Meets us in Bread, Wine, and Water

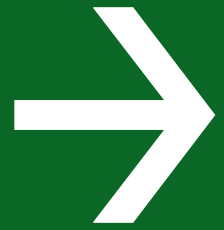
(Weeks of June 16 and June 23)

God promises to meet us in, with, and under simple elements of daily life. At a table that Jesus sets, God forgives us and feeds us with love eternal. In water and promise, God brings us to new life and breathes in us gifts that help the world. Through these ordinary elements, the tangible presence of God becomes tangled with the ordinary. We can therefore delight in God's goodness across all creation, seeing God in a beautiful sunset, the laugh of a small child, or the warmth of a fire, trusting we can always return to elements of bread, wine, and water, where God will always be waiting for us.

JOIN
21:9-12



¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! What sort of plans do you have for vacation? Maybe you are going on a vacation far away. Maybe you are planning a “stay-cation.” We often have rituals associated with preparing for vacation: setting out outfits and toiletries, setting alarms to begin our journey, researching excursions and restaurants ahead of time to visit along the way and at the destination itself. These very ordinary acts are exactly where God meets us, feeding us with the spiritual nourishment we need for daily life.



Consider how many times Jesus taught or did miracles around mealtime, before or after resting, and involving everyday acts such as washing hands and feet. One can say that the ministry of Jesus was and still is a ministry of daily life. It is right alongside everything we do, including travel rituals, the rhythms of waking and sleeping, and working. God breathes new life into us no matter where we are or what we are doing.



What does Jesus do after his resurrection, when standing by the seashore? He signals to his disciples to catch fish; he lights a campfire and invites them to bring their miraculous catch of fish; and then he makes breakfast. The ordinary breakfast becomes a moment for a deeper relationship with Jesus. There is a connection between our everyday meals and the meal we share in church, Holy Communion. Luther helps us see this in his table blessing: “The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy all living things with delight.” At Holy Communion, we receive the body and blood of Christ which satisfies our hungry hearts. Let’s pause and think about what kind of spiritual food we will pack into our daily lives this week? How can we become more aware of God’s presence working in our ordinary lives right now?



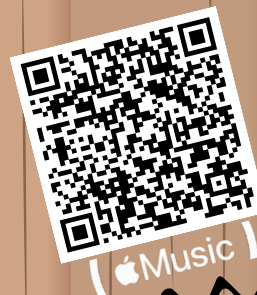
Scripture
Reference:
John 21:9-12

Small Catechism
Reference: The
Sacrament of The
Altar and Blessings
and Thanks at
Mealtime

By Heart Reference:
Chapter 6 (The
Sacrament of the
Altar) and Chapter 7
(Table Blessing), pages
183-186

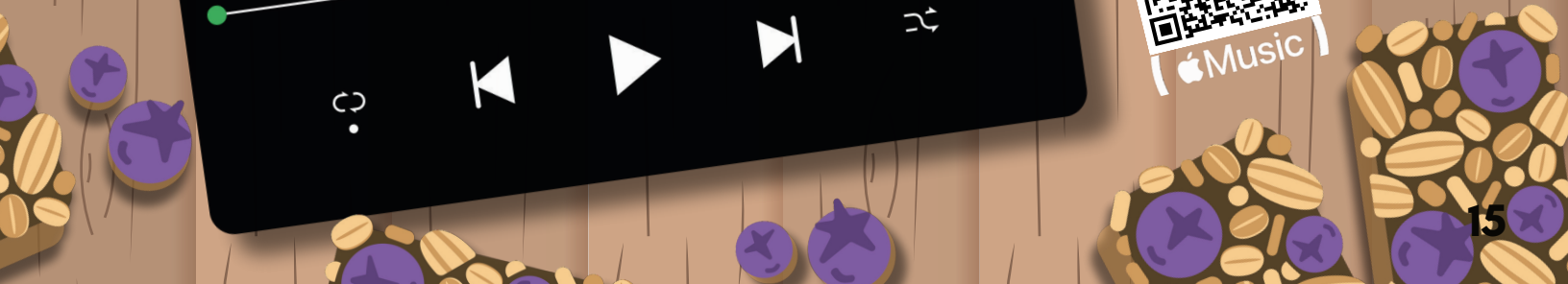
Road Trip!

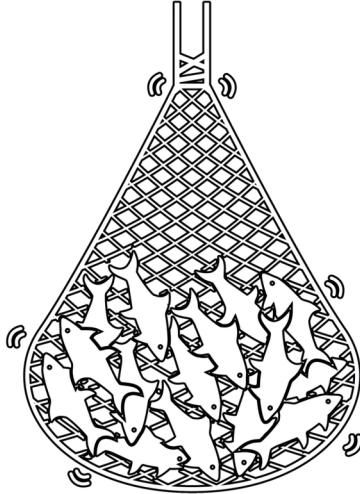
PRINCIPLE #2 PLAYLIST



Classical
PLAYLIST

ECCLECTIC PLAYLIST





John 21:9-12

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

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

Ashore Breakfast Cast Disciples Fish

Full Hundred Jesus Net They

Ashore Greek root: γῆ (gē)

Explanation: Signifies coming to land from the boat.

Historical Context: Landing ashore after a journey on the water is a common theme in the Bible, often symbolizing reaching a new place or starting a new chapter.

Breakfast Greek root: ἀριστόν (ariston)

Explanation: Refers to the first meal of the day.

Historical Context: In this passage, breakfast takes on a special significance as a shared meal between Jesus and his disciples after the miraculous fish catch.

Cast Greek root: βάλλω (ballō)

Explanation: It means to throw or put something in a particular place. Here, it refers to casting the net into the water.

Historical Context: Casting a net is a common fishing practice, but in this passage, Jesus' instruction to cast the net on the right side holds symbolic meaning.

Disciples Greek root: μαθητής (mathētēs)

Explanation: Refers to followers or students of Jesus.

Historical Context: The disciples play a central role throughout the Gospels, witnessing Jesus' teachings and miracles.

Fish Greek root: ἰχθύς (ichthys)

Explanation: It means fish, the creature.

Historical Context: Fish hold symbolic meaning in the Bible, often representing abundance, faith, and baptism. In this passage, the miraculous fish catch signifies Jesus' power and continued provision for his disciples.

Full Greek root: πληρόω (plēroō)

- Explanation: Means to fill or make complete.
- Historical Context: Here, the net is described as being "full" of fish, emphasizing the abundance of the catch.

Hundred Greek root: ἑκατόν (hekatōn)

- Explanation: Literally means one hundred.
- Historical Context: The specific number "hundred" adds detail and emphasizes the extraordinary nature of the catch.

Jesus Hebrew root: יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yehoshua)

- Explanation: Refers to Jesus Christ, the central figure in the passage.
- Historical Context: The title of Jesus, signifies the Messiah or anointed one, the one to liberate and redeem humanity.

Net Greek root: δίκτυον (diktyon)

- Explanation: Refers to a fishing net used to catch fish.
- Historical Context: The net is a central element in the story, symbolizing both the disciples' struggle and the miraculous abundance provided by Jesus.

They Greek root: αὐτοί (autoi)

- Explanation: A pronoun referring to the disciples.
- Historical Context: "They" is used throughout the passage to highlight the disciples' collective experience and their response to Jesus' instructions and presence.



LET'S PLAY

Buckle up for week two, adventurers! Ready to keep the fun rolling with our road trip game? We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: First person to spot a body of water gets a point.

Discussion: What is your dream road trip? Everyone explains the route they would take.

Shotgun: Do your best impression of someone else in the car. The first person to guess it gets a point.

If anyone falls asleep before the game ends, subtract a point from them.

Gain a point if you've ever purchased a National Park pass. Disney World doesn't count.

Players who can change a tire, have a point, and thank you for being our rock! Add 5 points if you have to change a tire on the trip!

Lose a point if you've ever made a phone call during an oil change because you didn't know what they were talking about.

Everybody who knows how to ride a bicycle gets a point. *If you've volunteered at Freewheels Houston this year, add 3 points!*

Whoever's birthday is coming up next gets a point. Happy Birthday!

If you've ever spent the night in a car, you've earned yourself a point.

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. 1. How many people attended the first service at Christ the King on Sunday, June 24, 1945? Extra 5 bonus points: How many people attended the first service held in Christ the King Church's new building on Sunday, June 26, 1949?

PLAYER	SCORE

CTK Answer:
Answer: 9!
Extra bonus point: 100



Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

Large blank area for writing feelings, with a light purple-to-white gradient background.

Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four yellow stars, each followed by a horizontal line for writing.

Principle #3

God Feels Our Pain and Suffering

(Weeks of June 30 and July 7)

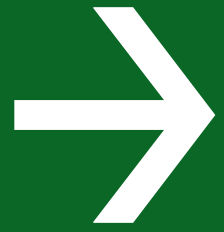
God becoming human in Jesus means God is deeply familiar with the pain and suffering of body, mind, and spirit. Jesus' experiences of loneliness, sorrow, and betrayal alongside the pain of physical violence and death reveal that God suffers with and for us and all of God's beloved creation. And it is in resurrection that God declares that divine love seeks to transform all that threatens to destroy that which God created.

2 COR
1:3-4

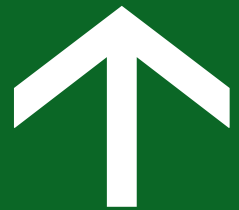


¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! Spending time away from the regular routine of life allows us the opportunity to get in touch with ourselves and the wider world.

This distance allows us to reflect on the whole of our lives: on joys and sorrows, on wounds and wisdom, on pleasant and painful memories. If we shift our gaze outward, we can also see our world in all of its complexity: in warming temperatures and changing environmental patterns, in war and peace, in catastrophe and in times of solidarity. Where is God in all this? God is IN ALL this, becoming deeply familiar with how our life exists right now.



Think about how the Apostle Paul might have approached the question, Where is God?, in his ministry with the church of Corinth. As he wrote his second letter to the Corinthians, he touched on a universal truth in Jesus: "Blessed be God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction." All of us, whenever we suffer, do not do so alone: God is with us to console us because God in Christ has experienced the depth of our affliction.



When we see the world suffer, how do we console others with the comfort that God knows our pain and suffering? As we seek to be present with the suffering and consider the question, Where is God?, a good starting point is the Lord's Prayer. Luther understood the Lord's Prayer as a prayer that asks and expects "that our Father in Heaven may deliver us from all kinds of evil-affecting body or soul, property or reputation- and at the last...may grant us a blessed end and take us by grace from this valley of tears to himself."



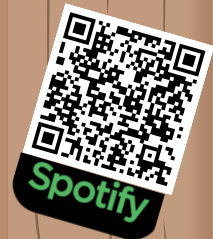
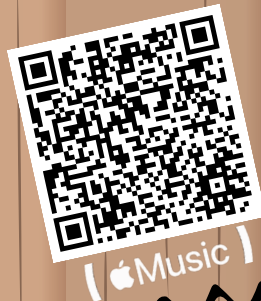
Scripture
Reference:
2 Corinthians
1:3-4

Small Catechism
Reference: The
Lord's Prayer

By Heart
Reference:
Chapter 4 (The
Lord's Prayer)

Road Trip!

PRINCIPLE PLAYLIST #3



Classical
PLAYLIST

ECLECTIC PLAYLIST





2 Cor 1:3-4

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

RWR ADE QMXT CVOC MRMFT STDC XFP JDKB
BZNA ELLKT OUVT QRV FOYS BVJ HODD IMX
JCLHLSKXENVIBUZE OVKAMA OYQETA IK
KHCINMTETJXGXUGQAESMEWGGCVIBXQ
HRCONSOLATIONSNFWTZWZNSUNPXXOR
XIKOCLZTRBNLFOITQGOYIQVCDQBIBM
SSQTYUQFNWFQWMXIBGZRLCKMAXREPM
CTLXTJFRNCUEYBNOSFYOHJCN AZ JIK
CPCVTMJCYLDCXEWXFYERGCWYN CWARD
ROEKVSQZAKGNS SYZJWANHRSAWFNUZY
GWNMJFMORDILHFRSYHBXSMBHGDYMG G
VUZSLRGCBRFQAJPYYZLEVXPQZVPYEQ
XMYPOEQCZFINROTDASEQBUBVYFGOMX
JCPTBLOUPSPGEQCLPUAPJRQOQUXMVJ
EHCHOBEFBJTUCWUCGSQYBDVLRBHBZ I
VPQFGUWKJYRSDKZNTYUATLHZLRRYCU
ZEFMFAOZASDALFPEEYVOOHDNOFEQGX
NXFBKZTIRAXGJWLVI FDSVGLYDEFJSU
YHXTUJHJIHKPSFGWXHABJSCUCIWMMF
KREKPM EWNNWQMYA AFFLICTIONUAUOI
FTIIYZRZOHXQYZIBSQWRSOISIZZVEY
GUIBOSSBORIDSOURCE SXLHLMMDMXAI
NXWPOKIXMERCIESFHDMYYMQEYCSFZA
KJIWBMOWHIJANQISARXUULPOYAABMO
TBKSNRCIEMEILCITPYSBWWJTPUTRDS
QRIRUVDMXTFNRYDEGQDBEVWEVPTMKE
NUOEZFFVQDAXFDKDBTFUHINXYGDOMN
IFHBJFHWLQYLTLCRQBFVVG YIPQGC SR
OZVCKNRQZVMVLIHNC LNJYYACZJKOYJ
SMPIJWVVNPLRWYND FADWUBFSVGCUNE

Creator Mercies Consolation Affliction Able

Console Others Share Christ Source

Creator Greek concept: Δημιουργός (Dēmiourgos)

- Explanation: While not a direct translation in the verse, "Creator" captures the idea of God as the ultimate source of existence who brings all creation into being and sustains it.
- Historical Context: God, the creator of heaven and earth, all that is seen and unseen.

Mercies Greek root: ἔλεος (eleos)

- Explanation: God's compassion and deep-seated kindness, especially towards those in need. It's a love that extends beyond what is deserved.
- Historical Context: The concept of divine mercy is found in various ancient writings, including Mesopotamian myths and Egyptian hymns. In the Hebrew Bible, God's mercy is a recurring theme, emphasized alongside his justice.

Consolation Greek root: παράκλησις (paraklēsis)

- Explanation: Comfort, encouragement, and moral exhortation received from God. It's the act of being called alongside someone in their struggles.
- Historical Context: The idea of seeking solace and guidance from God is present in many cultures. In early Christianity, the concept of the Holy Spirit as a comforter (paraklētos) became central. Besides giving us comfort, God comforts us so that we can comfort others.

Affliction Greek root: θλίψις (thlipsis)

- Explanation: This refers to the experience of hardship, suffering, and adversity that people face in various aspects of their lives.
- Historical Context: Throughout the Bible, affliction is often portrayed as a test of faith and character. It serves as an opportunity for individuals to demonstrate their trust in God and grow spiritually. Just as gold is refined through fire, affliction can refine and purify one's faith.

Able Greek root: δυνατός (dunatos)

- Explanation: the concept of ability is conveyed through the Greek verb δυνατός (dunatos), which translates to "mighty" or "powerful" in this context.
- Historical Context: The concept is conveyed through God's "mightiness" and "power" to provide comfort. This understanding highlights God's role as the ultimate source of strength and solace.

Console Greek root: παρακαλέω (parakaleō)

- Explanation: To offer comfort, encouragement, or exhortation, often in the face of difficulty.
- Historical Context: Paul, the author of 1 Cor., is writing to a church facing challenges. He expresses his thankfulness for God's grace and then highlights God's role in comforting those who are in trouble.

Others Greek root: ἄλλος (allos)

- Explanation: Refers to fellow human beings who may also be experiencing affliction. The verse emphasizes the importance of sharing comfort and support within a community.
- Historical Context: The importance of helping others in need is a value found in many ethical and religious traditions.

Share Greek root: κοινωνία (koinonia)

- Explanation: Participation or fellowship in something, here referring to the act of sharing the comfort received from a higher power with others.
- Historical Context: After acknowledging God as the source of comfort, Paul emphasizes that this comfort is meant to be shared.

Christ Greek root: Χριστός (Christos)

- Explanation: The title of Jesus, signifies the Messiah or anointed one, the one to liberate and redeem humanity.
- Historical Context: "The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" makes it clear which person of the trinity Paul is referring to, whilst also alluding to Jesus' nature as both God and human.

Source Greek concept: Ἀρχή (Archē)

- Explanation: By calling God the "Father" of mercies and consolation, Paul suggests God is the originator and provider of these qualities.
- Historical Context: The concept of a single source or first principle (archē) was explored by Greek philosophers. It emphasizes God's role as the foundation and origin of comfort and encouragement.



LET'S PLAY

Hold on tight, road warriors! Still got some miles to go? Week three of our game is here to keep the fun coming! We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: First person to spot an animal outside the car wins a point.

Discussion: If a movie were made about your trip, what would be the title and which actor would play each person?

Pause: Everybody name your favorite song. The person sitting shotgun creates a playlist with those songs. Happy Listening!

Everyone who knows how to use jumper cables, throw a point by your name.

If you have a reusable water bottle with you, you get a point for saving the planet.

Gain a point if you've ever ridden a motorcycle on the highway. Add two points if you've ever road-tripped on a motorcycle.

Everyone with their seat belt fastened gets a point. Safety first.

Everyone who owns a neck pillow gets a point.

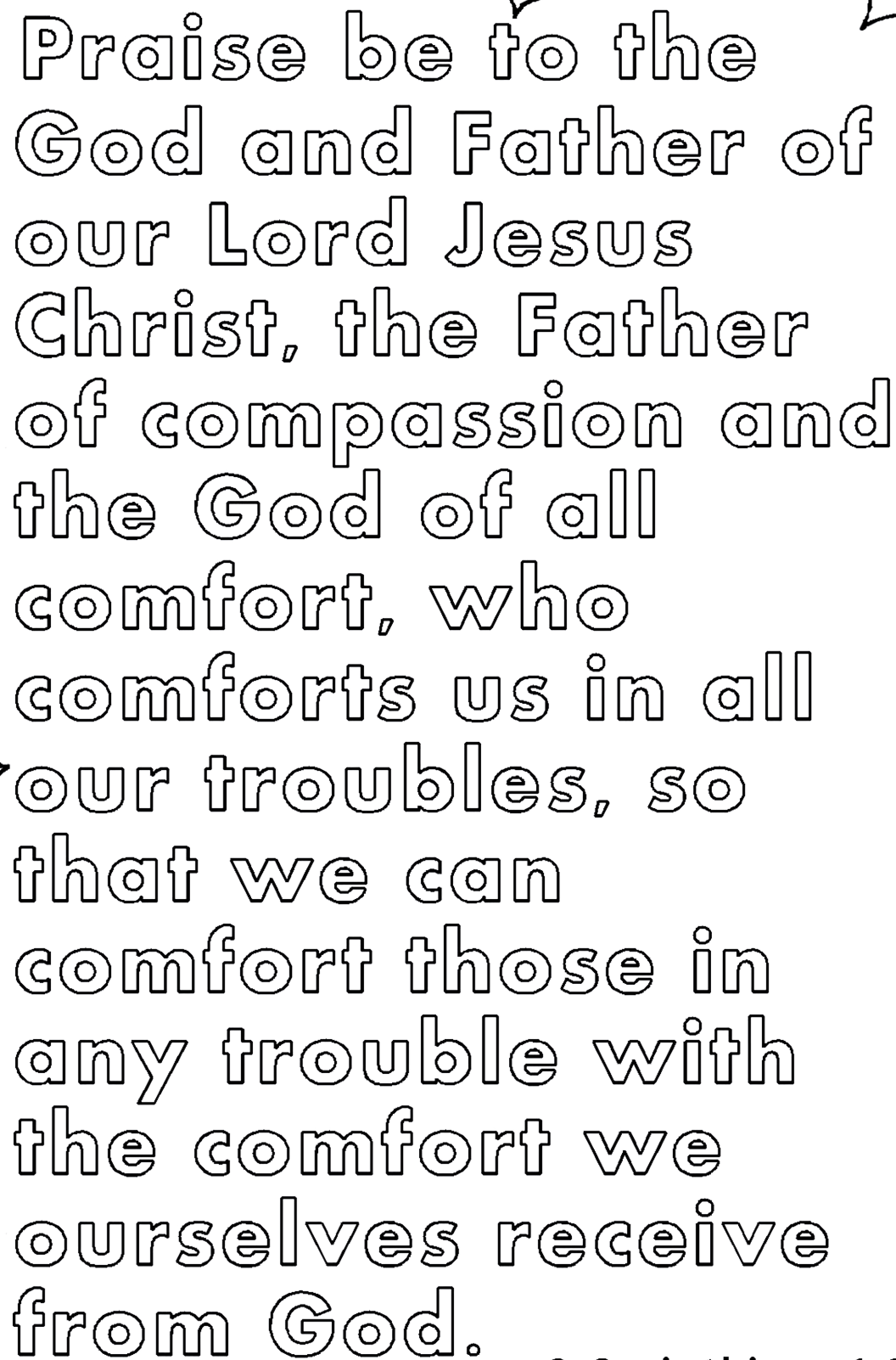
If anyone has answered a phone call on the ride so far, lose one point, Chatty Cathy!

Go around and name car-related movies. First person to get stumped loses a point.

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. How many church services does Christ the King Rice Village Campus have on Sundays?

PLAYER	SCORE

CTK Answer: 2! Currently, there are two services on Sunday at Rice Village. The first one is at 8:30 a.m. and the second one is at 11:00 a.m.



Praise be to the
God and Father of
our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Father
of compassion and
the God of all
comfort, who
comforts us in all
our troubles, so
that we can
comfort those in
any trouble with
the comfort we
ourselves receive
from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

Large blank area for free space, with a light purple-to-white gradient background.

Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four horizontal lines for writing, each preceded by a yellow star icon.

Principle #4

God Delights in our Goodness, and Judges Sin

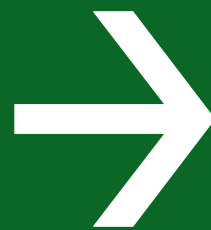
(Weeks of July 14 and July 21)

God announces the goodness of all of creation, from the smallest fish to the largest elephant to you and me. God celebrates the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given each of us to serve our neighbor and the world in need. Yet there is evil in the world, which God condemns and works against. Sometimes we are a part of that evil, caught in webs beyond individual choices of right and wrong. Sometimes we are recipients of that evil, through actions of others or networks in the world. God judges sin, but always in service of love for all of God's (good) creatures.

GEN
1:1-2:2



¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! Summer brings an extremely hot and sticky season to Houston, filled with all sorts of forecasts: hurricanes, tropical storms, etc. If we desire to be out in nature, enjoying its splendor, we may find ourselves needing to plan to be outside during the cooler parts of the day. We might plan a walk or a run closer to dawn or dusk. Summer walks closer to sunset give us the opportunity to experience the full splendor of summer skies, causing us to pause and be grateful and fully present in the moment. While we experience God's creation in a variety of locations this summer, we are also increasingly aware of abnormal weather patterns arising from both corporate and individual human actions.



The opening lines of the scriptures, found in the book of Genesis, reveal to us God's perspective on this world we live in. God made this entire world in an orderly way, and this is how God saw it: God saw that it was good. Scientists and astrophysicists describe God's creation through the language of process, evolution, and expanding universe. For far too long, science and faith were pitted against each other. We need not do so.



Luther gave us the language of understanding the spiritual significance of creation for us: "I believe that God has created me together with all that exists." And all means all! Everything that we need to live and thrive within the various delicate ecosystems of this world has been made and declared by God to be good. So, when individual human or corporate actions seem to throw off the balance and splendor of God's creation, God calls us to work toward restoring the whole of creation.



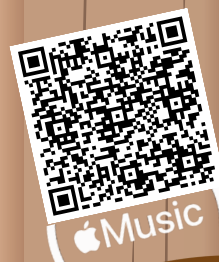
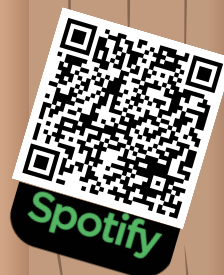
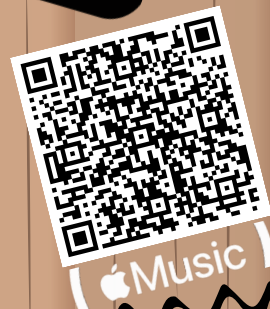
Scripture
Reference:
Genesis 1:1-2:2

Small Catechism
Reference: The
First Article of the
Apostles' Creed:
On Creation

By Heart
Reference:
Chapter 3 (The
Apostles' Creed),
pages 81-86

Road Trip!

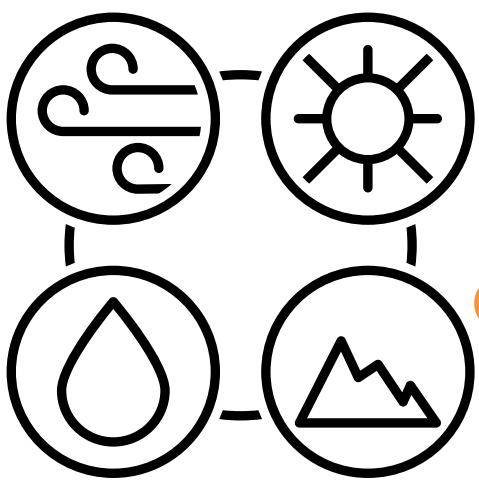
PRINCIPLE PLAYLIST #4



Classical
PLAYLIST

ECLECTIC PLAYLIST





Gen. 1:1-2:2

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

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

Beginning Source Created Heavens Earth

Formless Void Spirit Darkness Water

Beginning Greek root: γένεσις (genesis)

- Explanation: It literally means "in the beginning" and refers to the primordial state before creation.
- Historical Context: Genesis portrays God using spoken word to bring order out of nothingness.

Source Greek concept: Ἀρχή (Archē)

- Explanation: The origin or wellspring from which all creation into existence.
- Historical Context: The concept of a single, all-powerful God (Source) is central to Abrahamic religions.

Created Hebrew root: בָּרָא (bara)

- Explanation: To bring something into existence out of nothing. This Hebrew word emphasizes the God's absolute power and creative acts.
- Historical Context: Creation ex nihilo (from nothing) distinguishes the Abrahamic view from myths where deities shape pre-existing matter.

Heavens Greek concept: οὐρανός (ouranos)

- Explanation: Refers to the sky, the heavens, or the firmament separating the earth from the God's realm.
- Historical Context: In the New Testament, "heavens" often refers to the dwelling place of God. The "heavens" can also be associated with eschatological events, like the return of Christ.

Earth Greek root: γῆ (gē)

- Explanation: Refers to the solid ground, the land, or the world as a whole.
- Historical Context: In Genesis, the earth is the center of creation, formed by God and entrusted to humanity. A distinction is made between the "heavens" as God's dwelling place and the "earth" as the human realm.

Formless Greek concept: ἄπειρον (apeiron)

- Explanation: A state of emptiness, waste, or chaos that existed before creation.
- Historical Context: The concept of a primordial chaos before God's creation.

Void Greek concept: κενός (kenos)

- Explanation: The formless void describes the state of the universe before creation in the Genesis account.
- Historical Context: It sets the stage for God's creative acts in the subsequent verses highlighting God's absolute power in bringing order and life out of emptiness.

Spirit Greek root: πνεῦμα (pneuma)

- Explanation: God's breath or animating force, hovering over the face of the deep. It signifies the Source's active presence and power in creation.
- Historical Context: It can also be understood as "breath," "wind," or "active force" that foreshadows the ongoing role of God's spirit in the world,

Darkness Greek root: σκότος (skotos)

- Explanation: Refers to the absence of light, symbolizing the state of the formless void before creation.
- Historical Context: Light and darkness are often used to represent order and chaos.

Water Greek root: ὕδωρ (hudōr)

- Explanation: One of the first elements mentioned in creation, representing the raw material from which the Source forms the world.
- Historical Context: Water is associated with creation, purification, life and spiritual renewal. The concept of "living water" refers to the spiritual refreshment and eternal life offered by Jesus.





LET'S PLAY

We're just over halfway there! Time to fuel up on fun with week four of our road trip game. We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: Next person to get a phone call loses a point. Be present!

Discussion: If self-driving cars became mainstream this year, would you use them? Why or why not?

Shotgun: For a point, who was the third president of the United States?

If anyone brought a musical instrument, give them one point. Deduct five points if it's a harmonica.

Look around and give a point for the best posture. Driver, keep your eyes on the road!

Try to guess one item in the glove compartment. Everyone who guesses correctly gets a point.

Pick up the nearest snack. The person who can most closely guess the calories gets a point.

Give a point to anyone who knows their birth stone by heart.

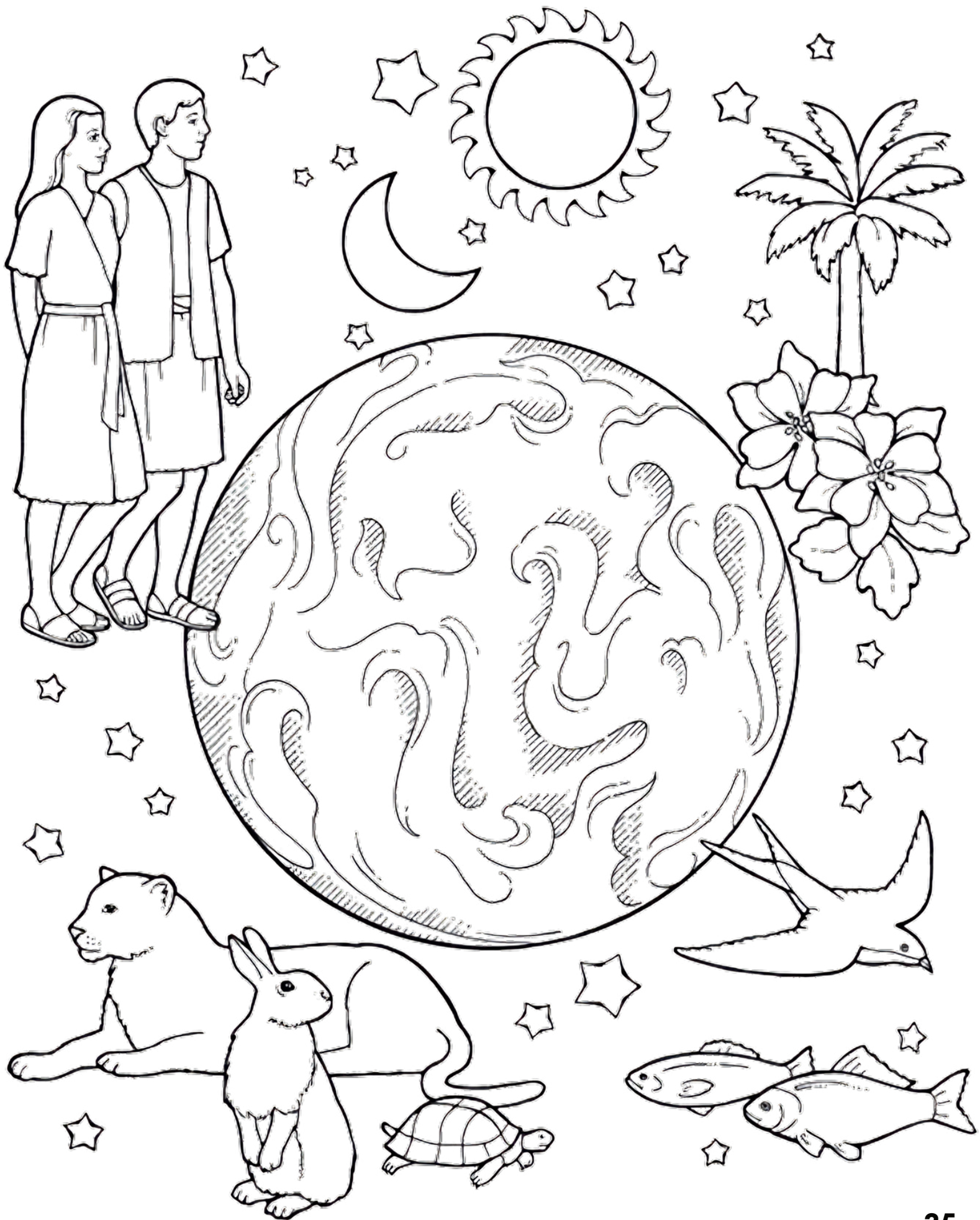
Starting with the driver, go through the alphabet naming things you see that start with each letter. (A: aux cord, B: back seat). First person to get stumped loses a point.

If there were a billboard on the side of the road with your face on it, what would the catchphrase on it say. Best answer gets a point.

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. How many times a week does Christ the King offer communion?

PLAYER	SCORE

CTK Answer: 3! Christ the King offers communion at every service which is one service on Saturday evening and two on Sunday mornings.



Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

Large blank area for free space, with a light purple-to-white gradient background.

Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four horizontal lines for writing, each preceded by a yellow star icon.

Principle #5

God Speaks to us Through Scripture and Spirit

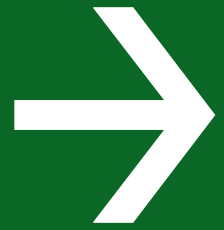
(Weeks of July 28 and August 4)

God speaks to us through ancient stories, evocative poetry, fiery prophecy, and intimate correspondence. The Bible has been handed down from generation to generation, carefully translated and boldly interpreted, so that we might open it and hear good news. And God is still speaking, as we gather together to ponder these stories anew, encounter wisdom from traditions different from our own, or wrestle with a message preached into contemporary life.

JOIN
14:22-26



¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! How do we keep in touch with loved ones while we are traveling for work or pleasure? Are any of us letter writers using snail mail to write to friends, colleagues, and family alike? Or do we email or text or videochat? The scriptures of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament comprise the many and various ways God has spoken to God's people. As we engage together with a variety of scripture passages this summer, we might consider how and what God is communicating to us. We might even reflect on other summer reading, whether Christian or otherwise, and notice how God spoke and continues to speak through other stories or poems.



In addition to scripture, we are promised the Holy Spirit will guide us to understand the gospel and nurture the maturing of our faith. Jesus gave words of comfort and promised relationship with God to his disciples on the night in which he was betrayed. As the disciples wondered, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world," Jesus assured his disciples, as we can also be assured, that the Spirit will be with them to teach them deeper truths.



When Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, it was the Spirit who opened the eyes of faith to them and to all who would believe. Even faith itself is a sheer gift of grace! The Spirit, speaks to us in a variety of ways, conveying God's good news into our hearts. Luther captures this insight beautifully, saying: "I believe that by my own understanding or strength that I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him but instead the Holy Spirit has called me...". How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you and to what is the Spirit calling you?



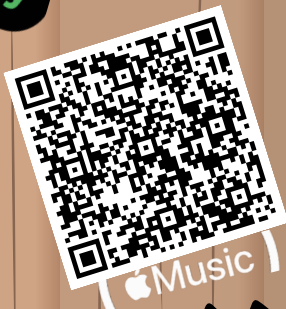
Scripture
Reference:
John 14:22-26

Small Catechism
Reference: The
Third Article of
the Apostles'
Creed

By Heart
Reference:
Chapter 3 (The
Apostles' Creed),
pages 92-97

Road Trip!

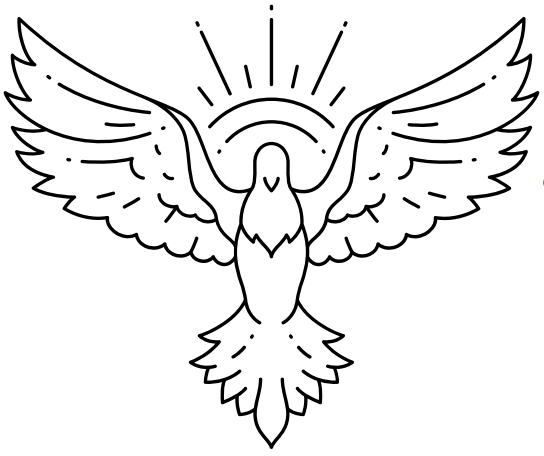
PRINCIPLE PLAYLIST #5



Classical
PLAYLIST

ECLECTIC PLAYLIST





John 14:22-26

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

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

Advocate Reveal World We Love

Home HolySpirit Teach Remind Word

Advocate Greek: παρακλήτος (paraklētos)

- Explanation: A mediator who pleads with someone on behalf of another, in this case, the Holy Spirit.
- Historical Context: In this passage, Jesus promises the Holy Spirit as an advocate who will continue to support and defend the disciples after Jesus' departure.

Reveal Greek: φανερώσαι (phanerōsai)

- Explanation: In the New Testament, "reveal" is often associated with God's self-disclosure to humanity.
- Historical Context: Jesus distinguishes between how he reveals himself to his disciples (through love and obedience) and how he remains hidden from the "world" (those who don't follow him). This distinction aligns with Jewish concepts of hidden and revealed aspects of God.

World Greek: κόσμος (kosmos)

- Explanation: In the New Testament, "world" can refer to the created order or the prevailing social order apart from God.
- Historical Context: Jesus suggests the "world" (those who don't follow him) will not receive the same level of revelation. This reflects a common theme in early Christianity, where the world is seen as opposed to God's kingdom.

We Greek: ἡμεῖς (hēmeis)

- Explanation: Refers specifically to Jesus' disciples, representing the early Christian community.
- Historical Context: Jesus emphasizes the special connection and understanding he shares with his followers, highlighting the importance of discipleship and belonging to the Christian community.

Love Greek: ἀγαπῶ (agapō):

- Explanation: In New Testament Greek, "agape" refers to a deep, unconditional, self-sacrificing love.
- Historical Context: Jesus emphasizes that genuine "agape" love for him is demonstrated by keeping his word, highlighting the connection between love and obedience within early Christian teachings.

Home Greek: μονήν (monēn)

- Explanation: Literally translates to "dwelling place" or "abode."
- Historical Context: Jesus promising to "make his home" with those who love him reflects the Jewish concept of God dwelling with his people. In the early Christian understanding, this takes on a new meaning, suggesting a personal and intimate relationship between God and believers through the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit Greek: Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον (pneuma to hagion)

- Explanation: The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity.
- Historical Context: While the concept of the Holy Spirit was still developing in early Christianity, Jesus' promise here offered comfort and guidance to the disciples facing his departure.

Teach (διδάξει - didaxei):

- Explanation: Refers to instruct or impart knowledge.
- Historical Context: Jesus assures the disciples that the Holy Spirit will continue to teach them and guide their understanding, reflecting the importance of ongoing learning and development within the early Christian community.

Remind Greek: ὑπομνήσει (hypomnēsei)

- Explanation: Refers to remind or bring something to memory.
- Historical Context: Jesus highlights that the Holy Spirit will remind the disciples of everything he has taught them, ensuring the preservation and transmission of Jesus' teachings within the early Christian movement.

Word Greek: λόγος (logos)

- Explanation: In this context, "keeping my word" signifies not just following specific instructions but adhering to the core principles of Jesus by understanding, internalizing, and living out the teachings.
- Historical Context: In the Gospel of John, "logos" (λόγος) refers to the divine Word of God, often identified with Jesus.





LET'S PLAY

Hitting the home stretch! Keep the good vibes going with week five of the road trip game. We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: The first person to spot an airplane in the sky gets a point.

Discussion: If you had to eat at one road-trip fast food joint for the rest of your life, which would you choose and why?

Shotgun: Compliment each player for one point.

Vote on the player who is most likely to sell their house and live out of a van that they drive around the world. That globetrotter gets a point.

The person who has accumulated the most trash so far loses a point. Remember to clean up behind yourselves at pit stops!

What's the weirdest snack you've ever gotten at a gas station? The weirdest answer gets on point.

Gain a point if you have ever had food delivered to your house. Remember to tip your delivery driver!

You get three points if you have ever slept outside in a tent for more than 1 night.

If you know why the front seat is called shotgun, you get a point. Please explain!

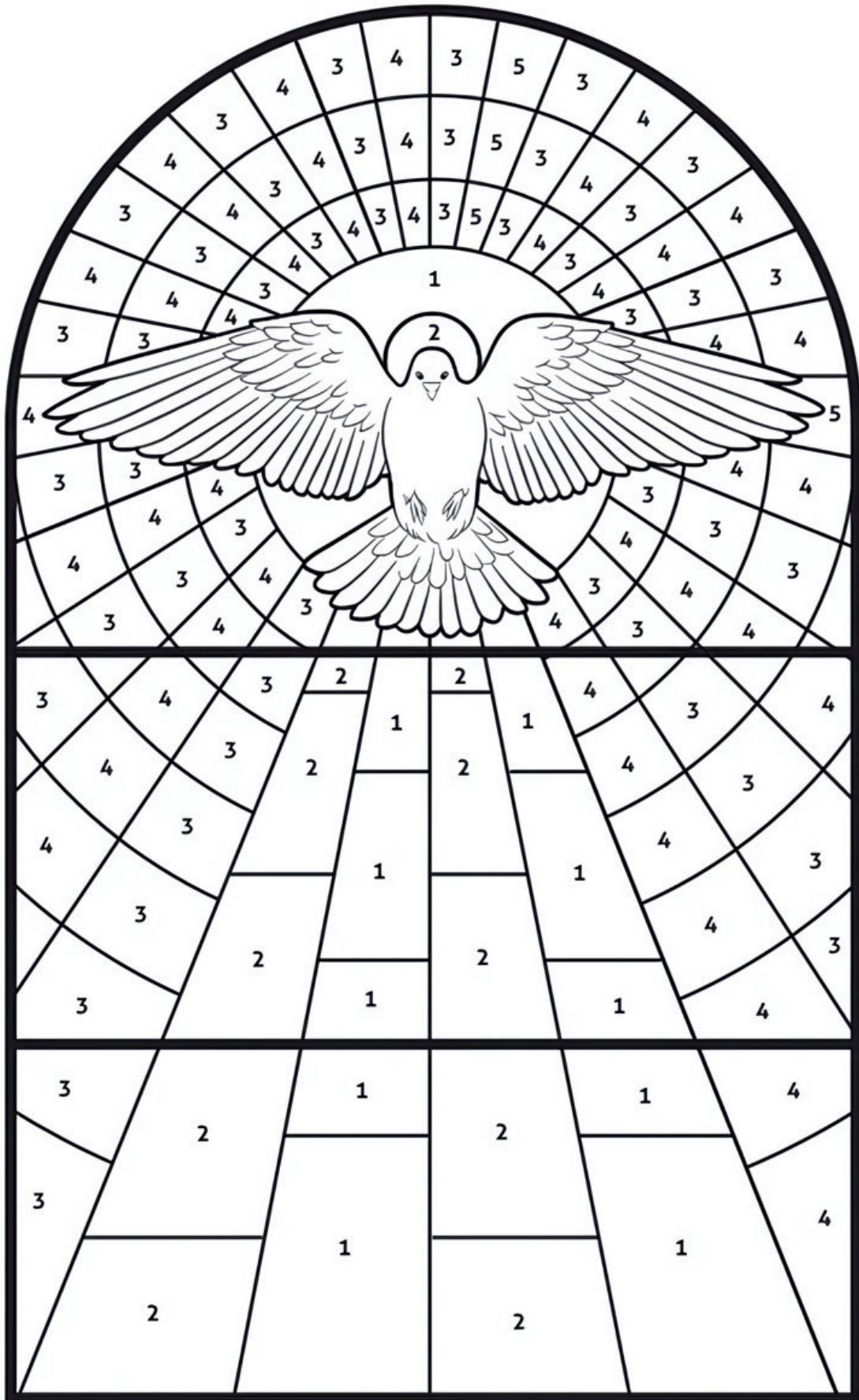
If there is a snow scraper in the car, the car owner gets one point for being prepared for anything.

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. How many bells are in the bell tower?

PLAYER	SCORE

CTK Answer:
There are 5 bells in the Rice Village Campus Belltower.

1. Yellow 2. Orange 3. Blue 4. Dark blue



Color the stained glass window and see the illustration of the Holy Spirit.

Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

Large blank area for free space, with a light purple-to-white gradient background.

Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four horizontal lines for writing, each preceded by a yellow star icon.

Principle #6

God Compels Creation Toward Mercy

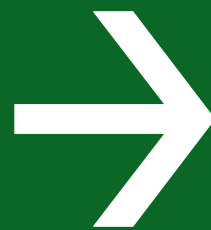
(Weeks of August 11 and August 18)

God's merciful nature is preoccupied with graciousness rather than punishment or who deserves love and care and who doesn't. That we are created in the image of a merciful God means we are called to embody unconditional grace and love to other people and all living things, participating in the coming of God's reign where all are supported, nourished, and loved.

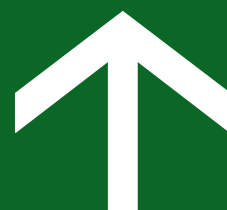
LUKE
15:11-32



¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! School is back in session, much earlier than in previous years. Teachers prepare their classrooms and attend various planning meetings. Parents are making sure that their children have the necessary supplies for classes. Students of all ages are enjoying their last moments of freedom before the all-consuming work of learning. How are we called, toward the end of our travels, to support all who are starting this 2024-2025 academic year? How are we embodying the merciful nature of God whose reign has come to uphold us and form us to be loved?



Jesus speaks three parables to the Pharisees and scribes in response to their wondering how it is that Jesus is supporting sinners by sharing a meal with them. In the first two parables, a dedicated shepherd finds the lost sheep and a diligent woman finds her lost coin. The third parable is more extensive and detailed and is often known by the title, The Parable of the Prodigal Son. There was a man who had two sons, one of whom left the family estate with his inheritance. This son, the prodigal son, wastes his entire inheritance and is in such desperate straits, that he considers returning to his father to become a slave. And here is where Jesus' parable comes to a point: the father is gracious, not condemnatory.



God is not a God of wrath and sorrows but of peace and grace and mercy. Luther summarizes his explanation to the ten commandments with these words of grace: "God promises grace and every good thing to all those who keep these commandments...Therefore we also are to love and trust him and gladly act according to these commands." We might reconsider thinking about the Parable of the Prodigal Son as also the Parable of the Pursuing Parent, the one whose mercy flows abundantly into grace.



Scripture
Reference:
Luke 15:11-32

Small Catechism
Reference: Ten
Commandments
and Confession
(after Baptism)

By Heart Reference:
Chapter 2 (Ten
Commandments)
and Chapter 5
(Confession), pages
143-146

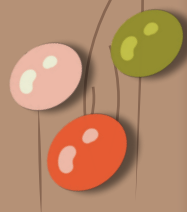
Road Trip!

PRINCIPLE PLAYLIST #6



Classical
PLAYLIST

ECLECTIC PLAYLIST





Luke 15:11-32

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

KNZXBNNNXUJLZPNUIEXLAPGHMUMWQW
 CDRUTRXDOOJUJILYJWZCKHUTVGHURUB
 UWMBBJWTBCOVMAHHPYOJZIMWFHDKYX
 UJUDXKDXGCYAH CZXGMQBMZYGOFXZDL
 DQHUPJCVZAPVDVLHFQULUPZMGRXXWJ
 UHZICIRXGRKCCTKHTZDZSCEGUOTSTC
 MGUPKMPPOPBLBVESRLQZRJSDEYBTHJI
 CEVDFXTREJOICEPQHNNARTCCGSDBYG
 JIGBWOMFHHTYKQJVUBSVNIOQFQALEN
 QUYSdqHPNUPLHPFFFOHJKOVUSWNCXZ
 MFEDQCWAMWNQHNI OJUUVVLYKKBLCAA
 TDLE CZOSSCXGXCNGQXDKHIJVIFIOSX
 PDXLFESLGEODEOZSSMYAGHNMDQNTQG
 UFLLOULCBEENC RKFAMINE LNRMTGYFD
 DXZSUOQEERJWHPZBVHTQKAPUPLAPT I
 LIKQNT EQBOHJSULWXZAVNKSBXDCHVG
 VUBXDKMGPRKT SOYULAAIAIUPRAVZAA
 AQDSGTGQG XAPFQBQSMRSCZOOYSYNJR
 BYEBQMXNMDXTAMBWNAOWHOBAROZYMX
 FMLENUOJFXSKEYKQDGTNTKGHGGPHAD
 RBNNYTAEFSNGNLMYQXZNHLEWFXZIVH
 KD LFGZPNDDL RREKFSKSMWJOQCTDWAQ
 AUXWQHXCDEIWGVQYYUXTIEVERZCUQZ
 CAIVSLCGWEKZYXZEABENXRMZVGGJWI
 DWEJSQAUDMRKKXGKLHLOJ VWXQPYSKB
 XXQHMTSOIUJEBWFDKYHJKWXETDZUOC
 YJJYSTUHHFZGDCKYDBC OULZQECYTRE
 MEEZFNTYLUKUTAWHNRYRIYYXTRYNQSV
 JQGCEEOLISTENTANNHVXKSGYZYZMYG
 QQCKRGUEWVCQCPXKKFOIMLTHMXJYQC

Squandered Famine Pigs Hunger Celebrate

Dancing Listen Rejoice Found Worthy

Squandered Greek root: διασκορπίζω (diasoao)

- Explanation: to scatter, disperse, or waste. In this context, it refers to the younger son wasting his inheritance on extravagant living.
- Historical Context: It goes beyond simply wasting money and signifies a moral and social transgression that leads to broken relationships. This emphasizes the transformative power of forgiveness and the importance of family and responsibility within the parable's message.

Famine Greek root: λιμός (limos)

- Explanation: A severe shortage of food, leading to hunger and suffering. In the parable, the famine represents the hardship faced by the younger son after squandering his wealth.
- Historical Context: Famines were a recurring threat in the ancient world, often caused by drought, war, or crop failure. They are depicted in various historical accounts, including the Hebrew Bible and Egyptian texts.

Pigs Greek root: χοῖρος (choiros)

- Explanation: Domesticated swine used for food. In the parable, the younger son is forced to work feeding pigs, considered unclean animals by Jews.
- Historical Context: Pig farming was common in the ancient Mediterranean world, but the consumption of pork was taboo in Jewish culture. The parable uses this detail to emphasize the younger son's desperation and fall from grace.

Hunger Greek root: πείνα (peina)

- Explanation: A strong desire or craving for food. In the parable, the younger son's hunger symbolizes his physical and spiritual emptiness after his choices.
- Historical Context: Hunger is a universal human experience, and references to it appear in various ancient texts. It serves as a powerful metaphor for suffering and longing.

Celebrate Greek root: ἀγαλλιάω (agalliao)

- Explanation: To rejoice greatly, to be filled with joy and gladness. In the parable, the father celebrates the return of his younger son.
- Historical Context: This word is used in the New Testament to describe the joy of salvation and the coming of the Kingdom of God. It also appears in some ancient Greek texts to describe festive celebrations.

Dancing Greek root: χορεύω (choreuo)

- Explanation: To move rhythmically to music, a form of celebration. In the parable, dancing is part of the celebration for the younger son's return.
- Historical Context: Dancing was a common element of religious and social celebrations in the ancient world that remains today.

Listen Greek root: ἀκούω (akouo)

- Explanation: To perceive sound with the ears, to pay attention. In the parable, the older son initially refuses to listen to the celebration for his brother's return.
- Historical Context: Listening is a crucial aspect of communication and understanding. It's emphasized in various ancient philosophies and religious traditions as a way to learn wisdom and follow guidance.

Rejoice Greek root: χαίρω (chairo)

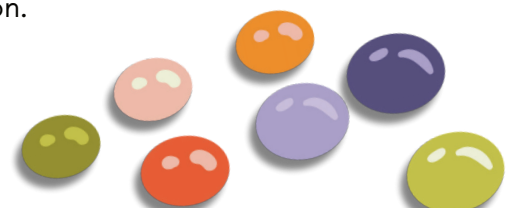
- Explanation: To experience joy, gladness, or delight. In the parable, the father and others rejoice at the younger son's return.
- Historical Context: This word is commonly used in the New Testament to describe the joy of salvation. It also appears in ancient Greek texts to express happiness and contentment.

Found Greek root: εὐρίσκω (heuriskō)

- Explanation: To discover, recover, or find something that was lost. This word carries both literal and metaphorical meanings.
- Historical Context: In the parable, the father rejoices because his son who was "lost" is now "found."

Worthy Greek root: ἄξιος (axios)

- Explanation: Having merit, deserving of something. It was also used in Greek texts to signify someone deserving of award.
- Historical Context: In the parable, the older son questions whether his brother is worthy of the celebration.





LET'S PLAY

The adventure's almost over, but the fun isn't! Round 6 of our game is here to make the most of the journey. We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: First person to see a motorcyclist gets a point. Two points if they have a helmet on.

Discussion: The player reading this card must tell each player which kind of car they would be.

Shotgun: Open the console and find an item to describe another player. First person to guess correctly wins a point.

Who has been to the most states? That person gets one point.

Whoever can most closely guess how many miles you have left in your journey gains a point.

If the driver only has one hand on the wheel, subtract a point. *Ten and two, please!*

Everybody reveals a hidden talent (that they can safely demonstrate in the car). Most impressive gets a point.

Give a point to everyone who has taken a bus on a trip. Where did you go?

If you have grabbed onto that little handle above your head during this car ride, you lose a point. The driver isn't doing that badly. You're just being dramatic.

How many miles apart are New York City and Los Angeles? The closest answer wins three points.

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. What is the name of the structure hanging from the ceiling in the nave? Extra 5 bonus points: What does the structure represent?

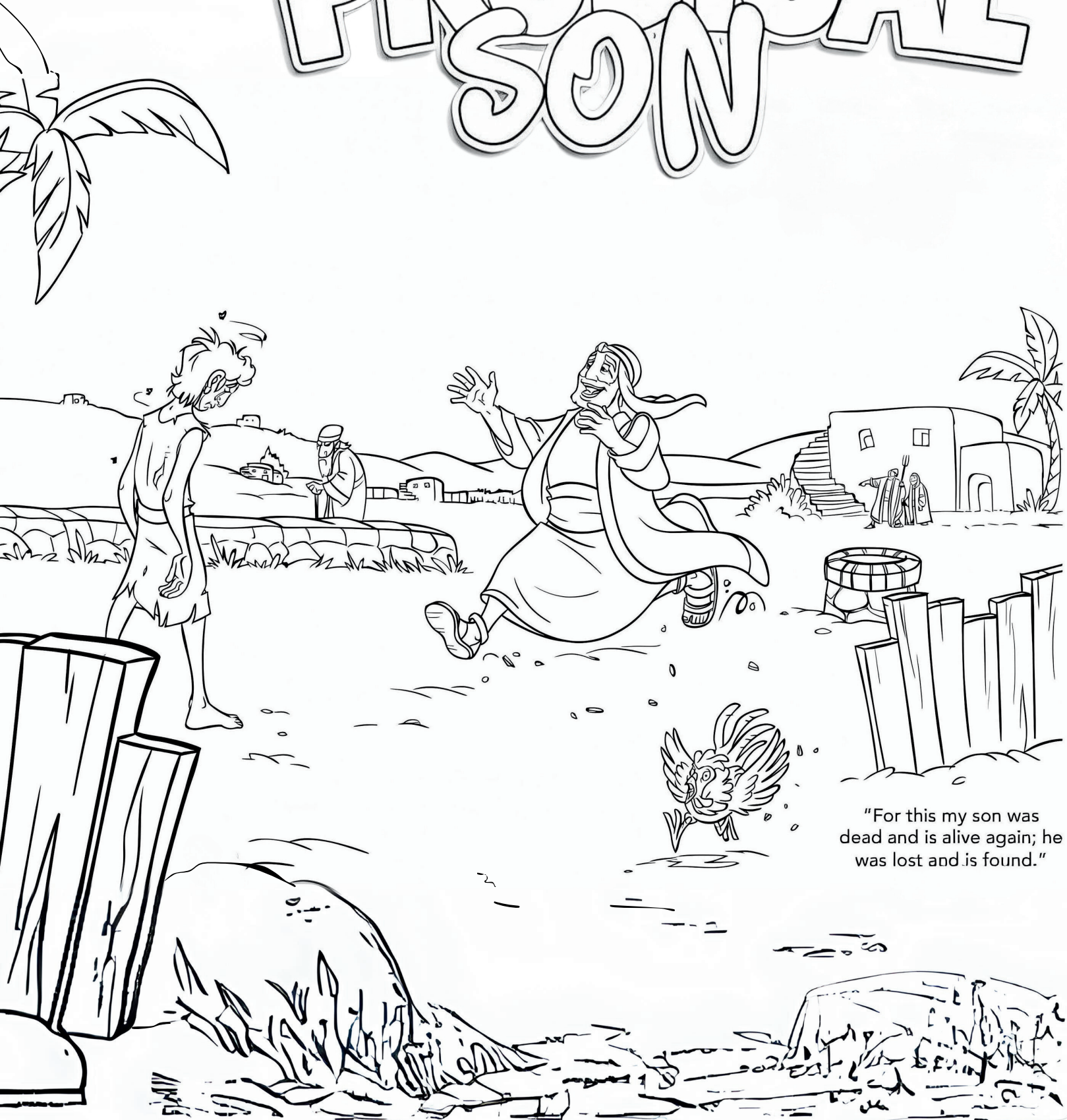
PLAYER	SCORE

The Superb, Our Church Ship; Extra 5 Bonus Points: The Latin word "navis," meaning "ship or vessel." This word for our house of worship, our nave, is derived from church ship tells a story of Swedish immigration to Texas. The Superb was a coppered brig constructed in the early 19th century, which carried a cargo of natural materials such as bar iron, lumber and tar in its hull, and passengers above. It was on the Superb that Swante Palm (born Swen Jaensson in Båstuhult, Bårkenyd Parish, in the southern Swedish province of Småland in 1815) traveled from Göteborg, Sweden, to New York City in 1844, before sailing on by way of New Orleans to Galveston in the independent Republic of Texas.

CTK Answer:

THE PRODIGAL

SON



"For this my son was
dead and is alive again; he
was lost and is found."

Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

Large blank area for free space, with a light purple-to-white gradient background.

Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four horizontal lines for writing, each preceded by a yellow star icon.

Principle #7

God Loves us Eternally

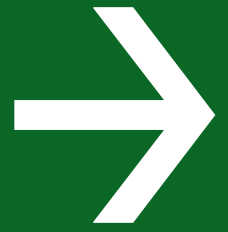
(Weeks of August 25 and September 1)

Through the resurrection of Jesus, God shows us that death does not have the final word. God promises to be with us not only in this life but in the life to come. God promises a new heaven and a new earth where there's no more crying, no more dying, only life, only love. God's promises to love us eternally are not just about the future but compel us to live as if love extends beyond the bounds of death.

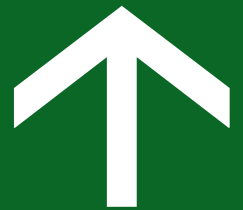
REV
21:1-5



¡Buenos dias y buen viaje! Our Summer Road trip has come to an end! But our life as God's people, though physically apart through these three or so months, will never end. Every time we come together to share a meal, celebrate the eucharist or feed hungry hearts, we are proclaiming this living truth: God's love has the final say! Neither death, nor hunger, nor strife, nor anything on this earth will be able to separate us from God's life-giving love.



The last book of the scriptures, Revelation, depicts the glorious descent of the New Jerusalem. As the New Jerusalem appears on a new earth, a voice is heard saying of this renewed world: "See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be God's people...Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." We taste this promise every time we gather to share a meal in remembrance of Christ, the one who makes all things new! Whenever anyone is baptized or whenever we splash in water to remember that we are baptized, God reminds us that God lives in us. We are made God's people because God loves all of us and wants all of us to live together, regardless of whether we have died, are living or are yet to be born.



Whether we are at Christ the King Lutheran Church, or in another country or time zone, we are all gathered into this promise as we share the body and blood of Christ. As we come to the end of this road trip, let us abide in the meaning of God's promise as Luther so marvelously teaches us and generations of Christians to come: "What is the benefit of such eating and drinking? Answer: The words "given for you" and "shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" show us that forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament through these words. Because where there is forgiveness of sin, there is also life and salvation. Amen!"



Scripture
Reference:
Revelation
21:1-5

Small
Catechism
Reference: The
Sacrament of
Holy Baptism

By Heart
Reference:
Chapter 5 (The
Sacrament of Holy
Baptism), pages
123-142.

Road Trip!

PRINCIPLE PLAYLIST #7



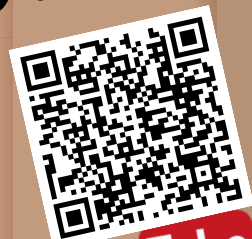
YouTube



Spotify



Apple Music



YouTube



Spotify

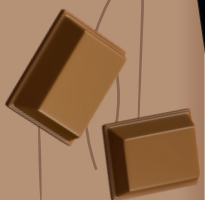


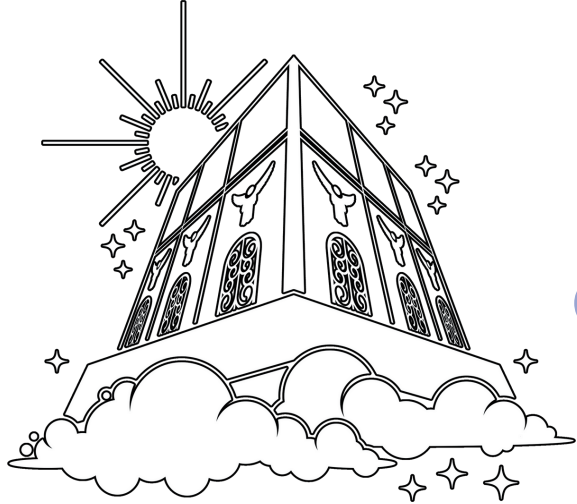
Apple Music

Classical

PLAYLIST

ECLECTIC PLAYLIST





Rev. 21:1-5

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

RDXBGUGETMXNEWILPPFXPFVOJYWBPF
 HSOWISPOJGZNWZSVFTHEDCRAUDMLLJ
 EEFBAZZYHMORTALSPWAKMMRTWHKJIU
 OUWPUVLMURDMXXMBIYMCLDLBKSLING
 PEBELUDPNTEJXUWHBМКCWLHZZKVXY
 OWFBVQEEFZTIGUYESGJFYMOZPMQOMJ
 XSZ XKVADORNEDVNESBDKUXHYAAMSPY
 FBREPPAKMXGZUAMSXNSBTMIOHAXBFO
 BSIPUJMQPXJWP SRQJTPXHN YTTEHXYY
 CXLKPTDGREDDJPQWQDBA QREFHVJXPOY
 JJERUSALEM OBFIRWGSKOZLTREWDZZ
 EVYJAZUDHKOPDCQOSH SUNYNR RDNVOU
 RVZLRPFMEMHKL CBLHVEIEILUGTRRHY
 YILDMQJU YVYSJETPWC DAGENEGXVACH
 DHNZBKMETLQEETSZPVKJEA LLIMGLXA
 RSTTWRVOHIMWZTROFATHXFAZEETVRK
 FJEPYEVHNSCRASWTOFIEFEBBLHKGLZ
 JJGUTHABSYKTSAXCIJPNVVYGWWRQBH
 HLLSPRVGRBVMIFKOLWVGNHMRPQCRSQ
 QTOXEBUCUPQPF BQKYOCM XBAEWTPARPZ
 TTKCCMOSWXXXLWJWCWDAVXZWDUEONB
 GACNHOVATRJEYYPYGD DQKYE LXCJFS
 MPBIXUFYUWWJTB JQNSVSYCWMZSQVEK
 WPVXVRKCTFOLTQYOPADL TRNJYZFMZO
 CHTTRNCXFWQR YWLOQMHPGTZDFVFZL
 LGMZHI EHOJNPTGSAGMKVTQJVSROLJW
 RGWDDNJVSWJFQHVGHXHBONAE BRDZBB
 MOHNHGV BDFLNUBYUUBYLRQMSGGHJKM
 UYWSFYBANAGODFWGZHTZLZJIEWBNXR
 RZUEZQYEGSGSHHFJKZDENVBTKKJPBK

Jerusalem Adorned Throne Mortals Peoples

Mourning Pain Passed Trustworthy True

Jerusalem Greek root: Νέα Ἱερουσαλήμ (Nea Hierousalem)

- Explanation: Translates to "New Jerusalem" in Greek. It refers to a new heavenly city that descends from God, symbolizing the fulfillment of God's promises and the eternal dwelling place for believers.
- Historical Context: Jerusalem held immense significance in Judaism and early Christianity as the holy city and the center of God's presence on earth. The concept of a new, heavenly Jerusalem signifies a complete transformation and a new beginning.

Adorned Greek root: ἑτοιμασμένη (hetoimasmene)

- Explanation: Translates to "prepared" or "made ready" in Greek. In this context, it suggests Jerusalem is beautifully decorated and prepared for its arrival, like a bride adorned for her wedding.
- Historical Context: Adorning brides and cities for celebrations was a common practice in the ancient world. This imagery emphasizes the beauty and splendor of the new Jerusalem.

Throne Greek root: θρόνος (thronos)

- Explanation: Refers to a seat of authority or power. In this context, the throne symbolizes God's absolute sovereignty and reign over the new creation.
- Historical Context: Thrones were used by kings and rulers in the ancient world. Here, the imagery signifies God's ultimate authority and dominion.

Mortals Greek root: πάντων τῶν βροτῶν (panton ton broton)

- Explanation: Translates to "all mortals" in Greek. It refers to human beings, emphasizing their physical limitations and mortality in contrast to the eternal nature of the new creation.
- Historical Context: This phrase highlights the contrast between the impermanence of human life and the everlasting nature of God's kingdom.

Peoples Greek root: λαῶν (laōn)

- Explanation: Refers to nations, ethnicities, or groups of people.
- Historical Context: The concept of a universal kingdom where all people are welcome stands in contrast to the ethnic and national divisions of the ancient world. It suggests that the new Jerusalem welcomes people from all backgrounds and cultures, united under God.

Mourning Greek root: πένθος (penthos)

- Explanation: Refers to deep sorrow, grief, or lament.
- Historical Context: Mourning was a common experience in the ancient world due to war, disease, and natural disasters. Its absence in the new Jerusalem signifies the end of suffering and sorrow, offering hope and comfort.

Pain Greek root: ὀδύνη (odynē)

- Explanation: Refers to physical or emotional suffering.
- Historical Context: Similar to "mourning," pain is another aspect of human experience that is absent in the new Jerusalem, highlighting the complete restoration and peacefulness of the new creation.

Passed Greek root: παρήλθον (parēlthon)

- Explanation: Refers to something that is reliable, faithful, or worthy of trust.
- Historical Context: This phrase emphasizes the transformative nature of God's new creation, where the old order with its limitations and suffering is replaced by a perfect and eternal reality.

Trustworthy Greek root: πιστός (pistos)

- Explanation: To discover, recover, or find something that was lost. In the parable, the father rejoices because his son who was "lost" is now "found."
- Historical Context: This word emphasizes the truthfulness and certainty of the promises made by God about the new creation, offering hope and assurance to believers.

True Greek root: ἀληθινά (alēthina)

- Explanation: Refers to something that is genuine, real, or truthful.
- Historical Context: Similar to "trustworthy," this word reinforces the validity and reality of the new Jerusalem described in the book of Revelation, offering comfort and grounding for believers.





LET'S PLAY

Last stop for laughs! Let's end this road trip with a bang – week seven of the game is ready! We've got a list of engaging questions to keep everyone entertained. The player with the most points each day will be crowned the road trip champion!

Dashboard: Next time you pass cows, everyone moo. Last one to moo loses a point.

Discussion: How would you deck out this car if you could add anything you wanted to it?

Shotgun: Who in the car most needs a hug? They get a point. We're all here for you!

Backseat: You have the option to change seats with whoever is in the middle. If you're willing to swap, you get five points.

Play the silent game. First person to make any noise loses a point.

For a point: Everyone guess the current speed limit. The driver tells us who won. If they aren't sure, they lose a point.

Vote on the best singer and give that pop star the spotlight with some car karaoke and give them a point.

The driver loses a point if they've driven outside the line and hit the warning bumps. Focus, please...

The two players sitting behind the driver and shotgun must compete in a freestyle rap battle for the point. Shotgun, put on an instrumental track to set the mood.

Whoever has traveled the farthest in a car gets a point.

Christ the King Bonus Question: Winner gets 5 points. Christ the King was the first house of worship in Houston to have what modern-day convenience?

PLAYER	SCORE



Then
He who sat
on the
throne
said,

Behold, I make all
things New

REVELATION 21:5

Road Trip!



Rearview Reflection

NOTES

Large blank area for taking notes, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

Word/Phrase of the Day

Large blank area for writing the word or phrase of the day, with a light green-to-white gradient background.

I'm Feeling...



Free Space

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Moment of the Day

Large blank area for writing the moment of the day, with a light blue-to-white gradient background.

I'm Grateful For...

Four horizontal lines for writing, each preceded by a yellow star icon.



CTKELC.ORG



MADE WITH 



AT CTK