

Send

Letting your light shine

Have you heard this song? It goes, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine." Jeremiah let his light shine by telling everyone he met about God. You can let your light shine, too.

Color in the flame beside each way you can be a messenger of God's love.



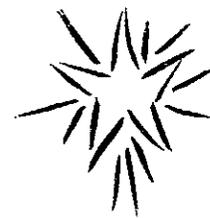
Dear God, please let my light shine when I share your love with others. Amen

This week

Invite a friend to come to church with you.

Kids Celebrate

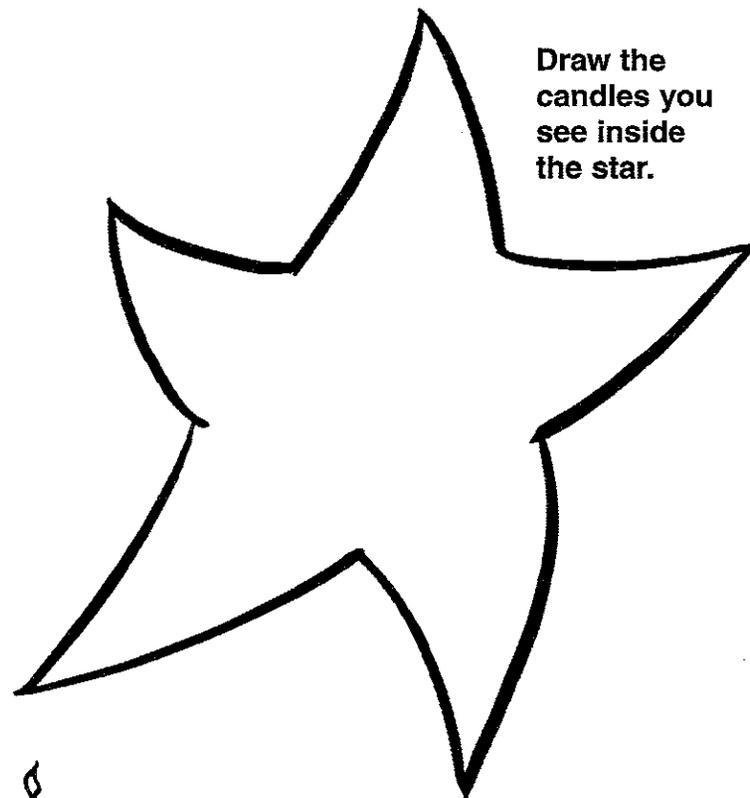
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



gather

Welcome to worship. During the church season of Epiphany, we hear Bible stories about Jesus, who filled the world with the light of God's love. Candles in our worship space remind us of that happy light. Do you see candles burning? Where are they?

Draw the candles you see inside the star.



What did you learn today in worship?

hear & celebrate

Jeremiah, one of God's messengers

Jeremiah 1:4-10

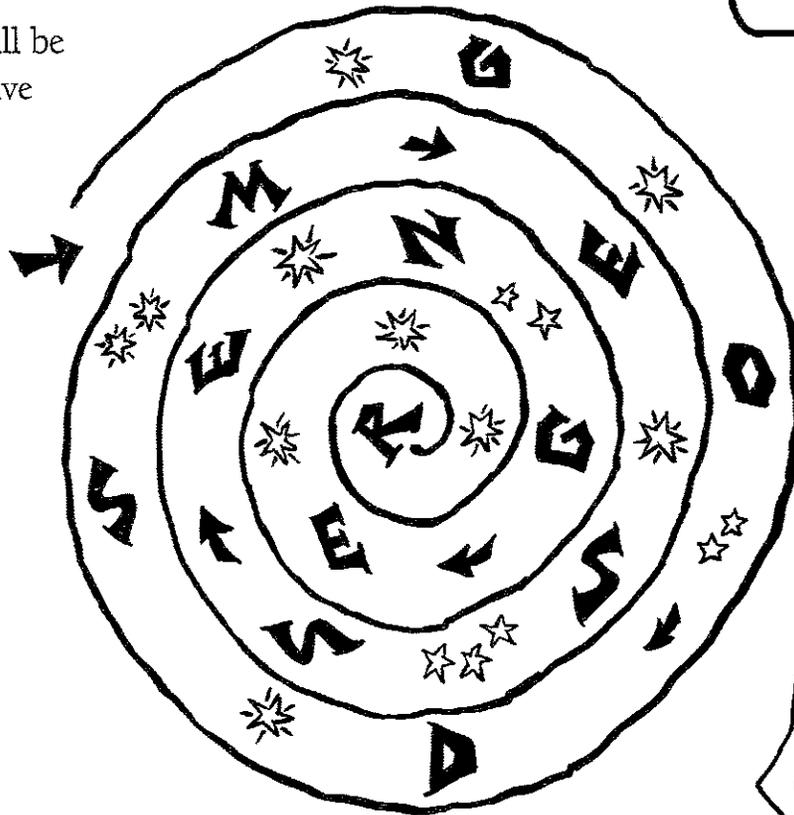
Jeremiah loved God, and God loved Jeremiah.

God said, "Jeremiah, I choose you to be my messenger to all the nations."

Jeremiah said, "Lord, I don't know what to say. I am only a boy."

God said, "Do not be afraid. I will be with you to protect you. I will give you the words to say."

Follow the arrows around and around until you reach the center of the circle. As you come to each letter, write it in order in a blank space below.



Welcoming others

God wants us to welcome everyone to worship. Here are some ways people welcome others to worship.



The pastor welcomes people visiting your church. Write **Welcome!** inside the cartoon balloon.

Ushers greet people, give them bulletins, and help them to find a place to sit. Draw bulletins in the usher's hand.



When people share the peace, they welcome each other with hugs, handshakes, and cheerful words. Add smiles to the people's faces.

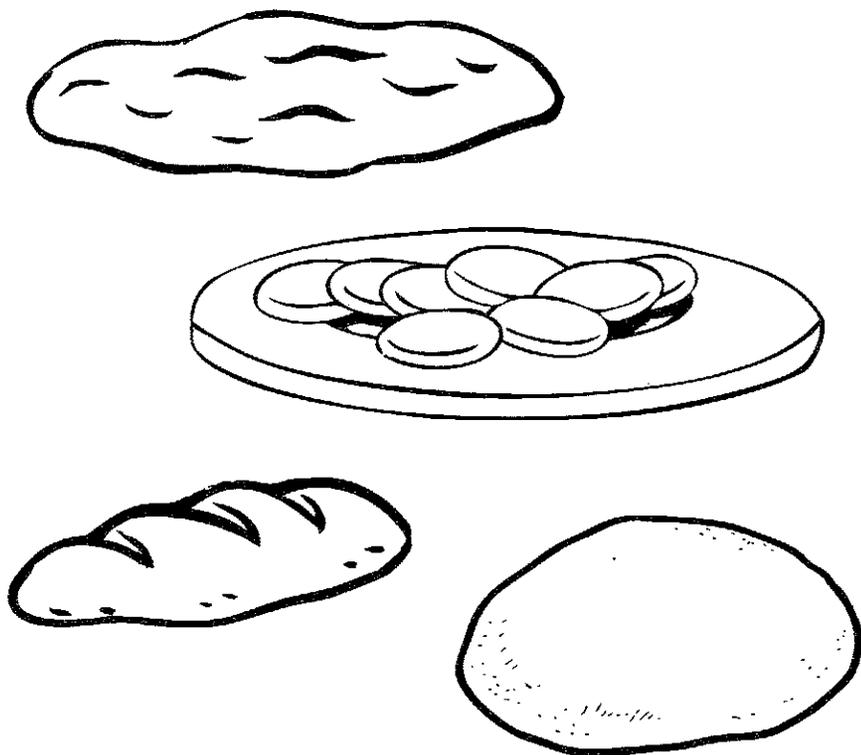
Jeremiah was _____
_____.



How can you welcome someone at worship today?

Different churches use different kinds of bread during Holy Communion. What kind of bread does your church use for Communion?

Circle the bread that looks like the kind your church uses or draw it yourself.

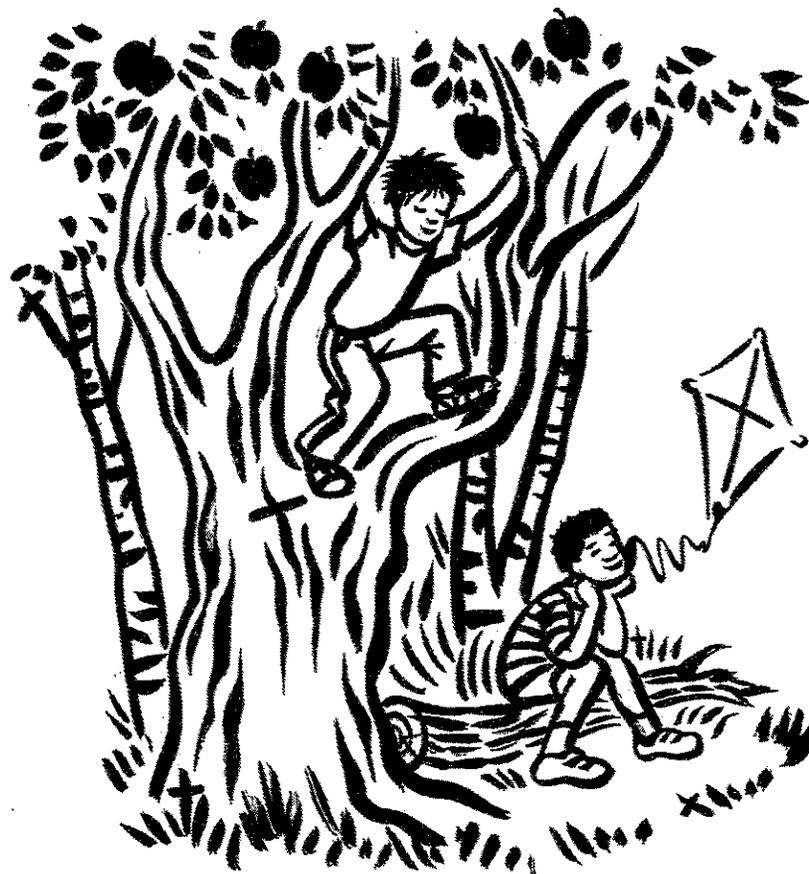


PRE-READER

Lent 4

- Today is the 4th Sunday in Lent.
- Lent is **40 days** long—not counting Sundays!
- The color of Lent is **purple**.

The cross represents the season of Lent.
Find all six crosses in the picture.





“What am I thinking,” he said to himself as he fed the pigs. “The men who work for my father have more than enough to eat.”

When the Prodigal Son came home, his father showed that he was forgiven by giving him fancy gifts: a coat, shoes, and a ring.

What present would you give someone to show forgiveness?



Any Animals?

Do you see any pictures of animals in your worship space? What are they, and what do you think they could represent?

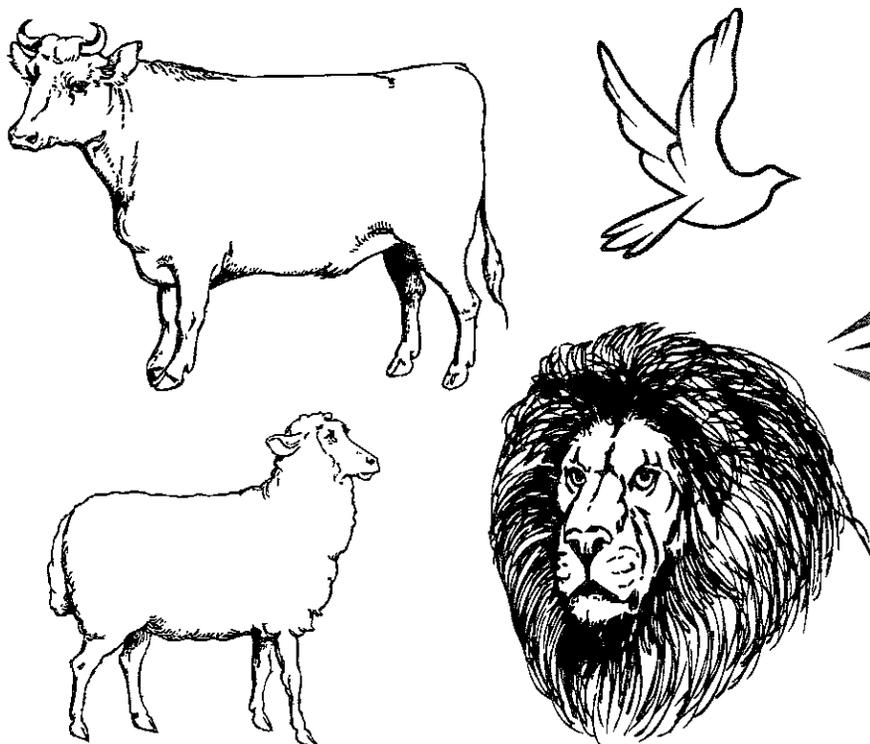
There is a _____, which makes me think of _____

There is a _____, which makes me think of _____

There is a _____, which makes me think of _____

There is a _____, which makes me think of _____

There is a _____, which makes me think of _____



READER

Lent 4

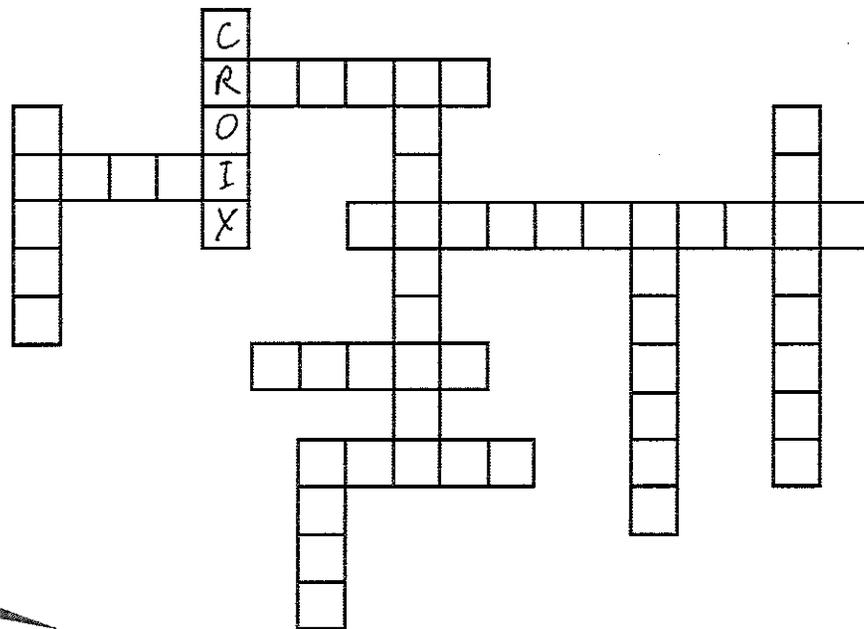
- Today is the **4th Sunday** in Lent.
- Lent is a season for **rebirth and renewal**.
- The word *Lent* comes from an Old English word for "springtime."

Cross Words Crossword

The symbol of Lent is the cross. Fit the words for "cross" from these 11 languages into the spaces that will fit their letters.

In Italian, **croce**.
 In French, **croix**.
 In Spanish, **cruz**.
 In Zulu, **isiphambano**.
 In German, **kreuz**.
 In Dutch, **kruis**.

In Tagalog, **krusipihon**.
 In Swedish, **lindande**.
 In Swahili, **msalaba**.
 In Maori, **ripeka**.
 In Finnish, **risti**.



We know today's story as the Parable of the Prodigal Son, but what does "prodigal" really mean? Number the first letter of each word of the memory verse, then fill in the numbers to see the definition. The first few letters have been filled in for you.



1 2 3
 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours
 _____²⁶
 was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found. – Luke 15:32

2 15 18 22,
 w a s e f u
 9 7 23 6 6 4,
 e x v g n
 7 5 19
 e k e s s



Release Resentment

When the older brother doesn't want to forgive the Prodigal Son, he excludes himself from the celebration! Holding grudges can keep us from having good relationships with our family and friends. What can you do to make sure you're not holding onto any grudges?

I CAN TELL _____

I CAN FORGIVE _____

I CAN HELP _____

I CAN PRAY _____

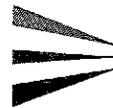
I CAN _____

Picky About Pigs

The Prodigal Son hits rock bottom when finds a job feeding pigs. Jews weren't supposed to eat pigs, let alone live with them! What's the worst animal you can imagine working with? Draw it! Then draw an animal that you would like to work with.

I wouldn't want to work with...

I would want to work with...



The Parable of the Prodigal Son is the third of three stories that Jesus tells about things that are lost and found. Check out the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7) and the Parable of the Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10) to learn more about what

Jesus said about repentance and forgiveness!