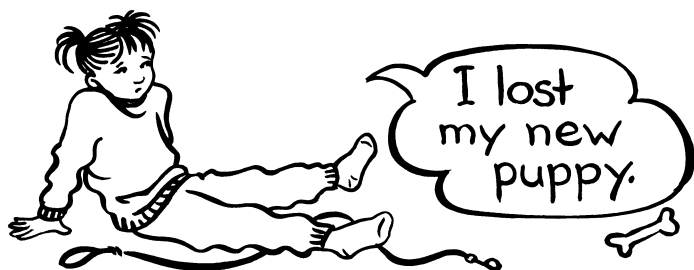
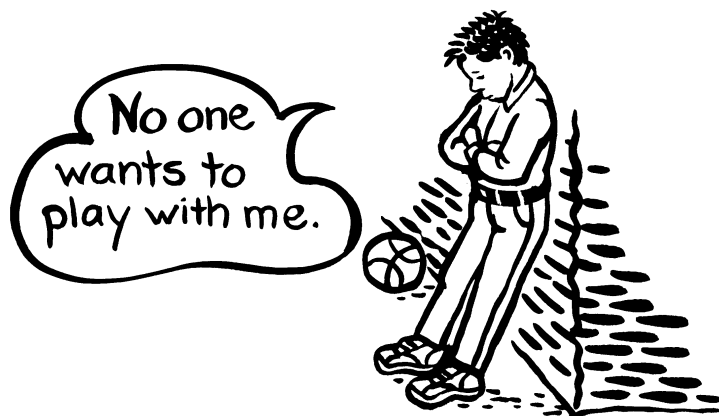


Send

Hard times

God is with you even in the hard times. Stephen knew God was with him. How would you help this boy and this girl in their hard times? How would you pray for them?



We pray for people facing hard or sad times. Be with them. Be with us as we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

This week

Find small stones. Wrap a bright colored piece of fabric around small stones and tie it with a ribbon to make prayer rocks. Keep one for yourself and give one to someone going through a hard time.

Kids Celebrate

Fifth Sunday of Easter

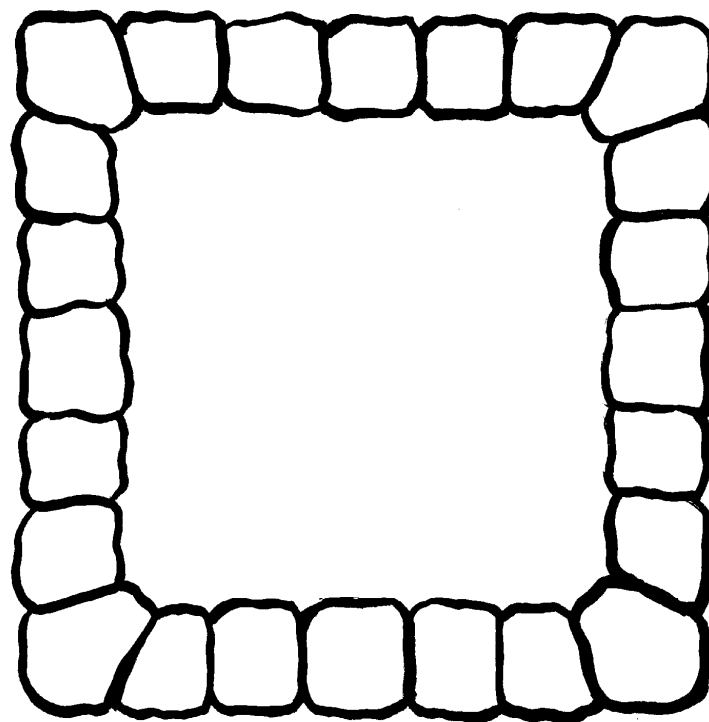


gather

Welcome to worship.

Today is the fifth Sunday of Easter.

Draw a picture of a house made from stones, making a special stone, or cornerstone, at one of the lower corners.



What would happen if someone took out the cornerstone? The shaky house would fall down! Jesus is the cornerstone of our lives. Without him our lives are shaky, too.

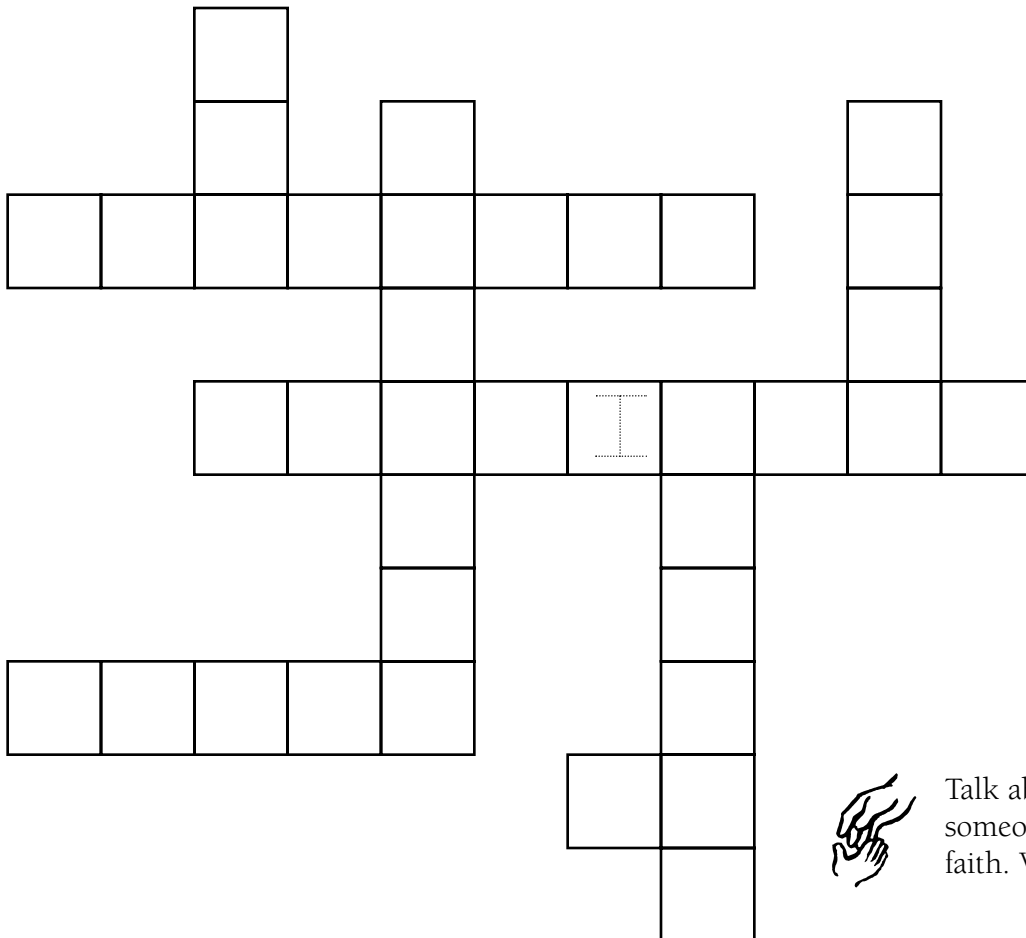
I am

John 14:1-14

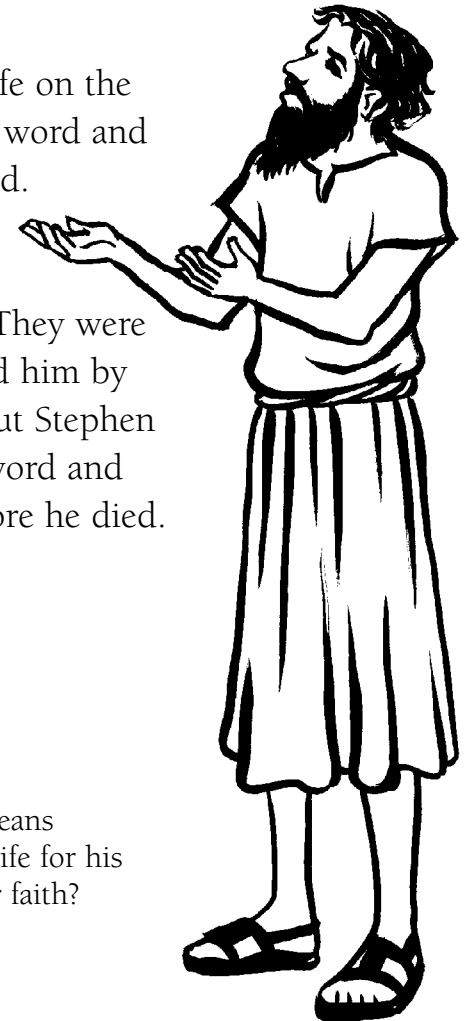
Jesus taught his disciples how to believe in him: “Don’t be troubled or worried. Believe in God, the **Father**, and in **me**. **I** am the **way**, and the **truth**, and the **life**. No one comes to the Father except **through** me.”

Jesus reminded them to keep praying to God: “I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be **glorified** in the Son. If in my name you ask me for **anything**, I will do it.”

Our lives begin with Jesus at the center of all we do. Trace the letter “I” in the center box of the puzzle. Fit the underlined words above into the crossword puzzle below.



Stephen built his life on the solid rock of God’s word and preached about God. There were people who did not want Stephen to speak. They were so angry they killed him by throwing stones. But Stephen believed in God’s word and prayed to God before he died.

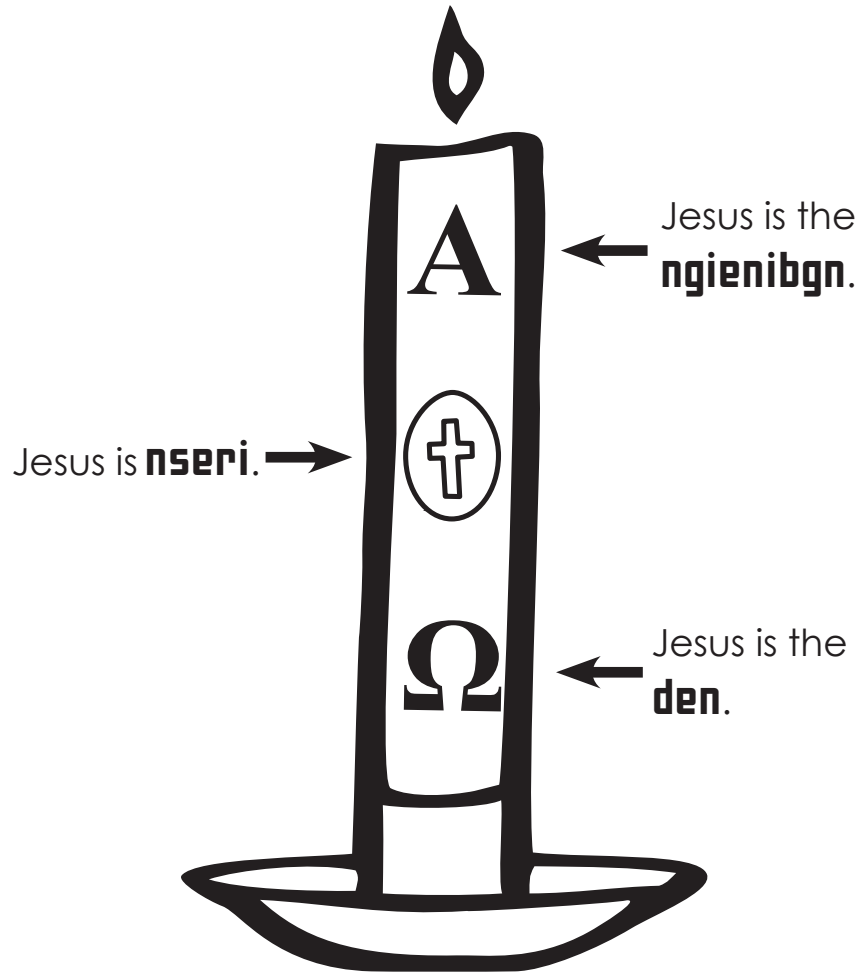


Talk about the word *martyr*, which means someone like Stephen who gives his life for his faith. What do you “give up” for your faith?

Paschal Puzzle

There may be a paschal candle in your worship space during Easter. This candle reminds us of the life and light of Jesus. The paschal candle looks like this. Do you see one?

Unscramble the bold words to find out what the symbols on the paschal candle mean.



Jesus is _____.

Jesus is the _____ and the _____.



READER

Easter 5

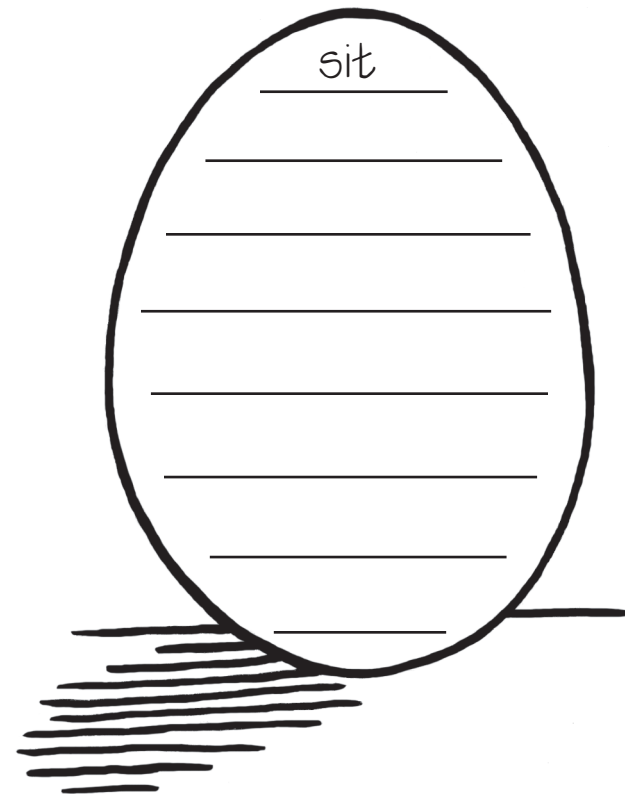
- Today is the **fifth Sunday** in **Easter**.
- Easter is a time to celebrate **new life** and **new beginnings**.

New Words

How many new words can you make out of the words **CHRIST IS RISEN??**

Write them inside this symbol for Easter. One example is done for you.

CHRIST IS RISEN



Fill in the blanks to complete this week's memory verses.

Memory Verse



Jesus said, "I am the ___ ___, and the truth, and the ___ ___.
John 14:6a

Do not let your ___ __ _ be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. John 14:1

Living Stones

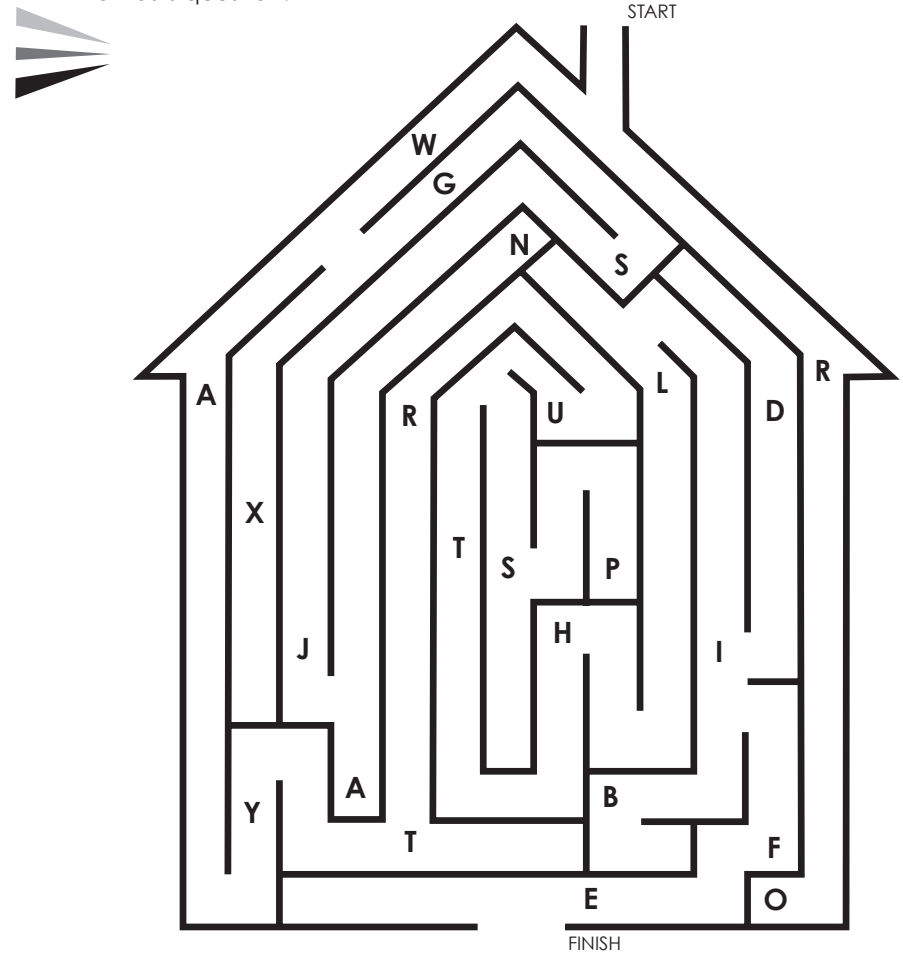
Peter wrote a letter to his friends. He told them they were like living stones. By using the gifts God gave them, they could build a house for God on earth. Fill in your gifts on these stones.



The Way Home

Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to prepare a place for them in God's house. Thomas asks Jesus, "How will we know the way?"

Find your way through this maze, picking up letters to spell the answer to Thomas's question.



Answer: Jesus says, "I am the _____, and the _____, and the _____."



Look it Up!

In the Gospel lesson today, Jesus tells us that he is the way to God. Look up John 10:9 and read about Jesus being the gate or door to God.

During Easter we use **candles** to remind us of the **life** and **light** of Jesus.

There may be a candle that looks like this in your worship space. Do you see one?



Color this candle and then draw pictures of other candles you see in your worship space.

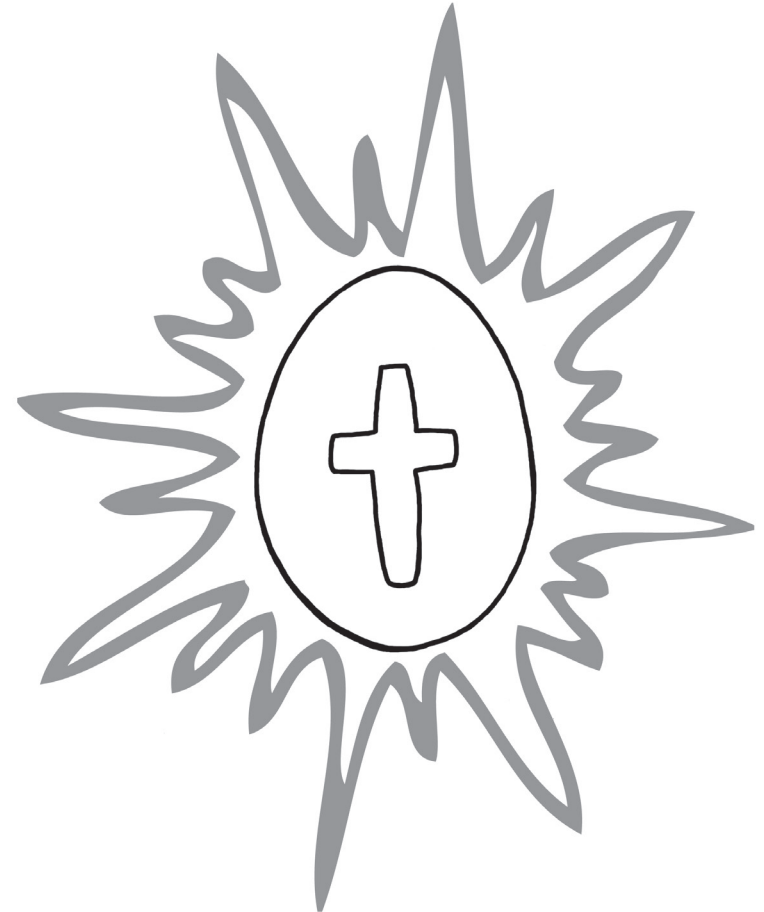


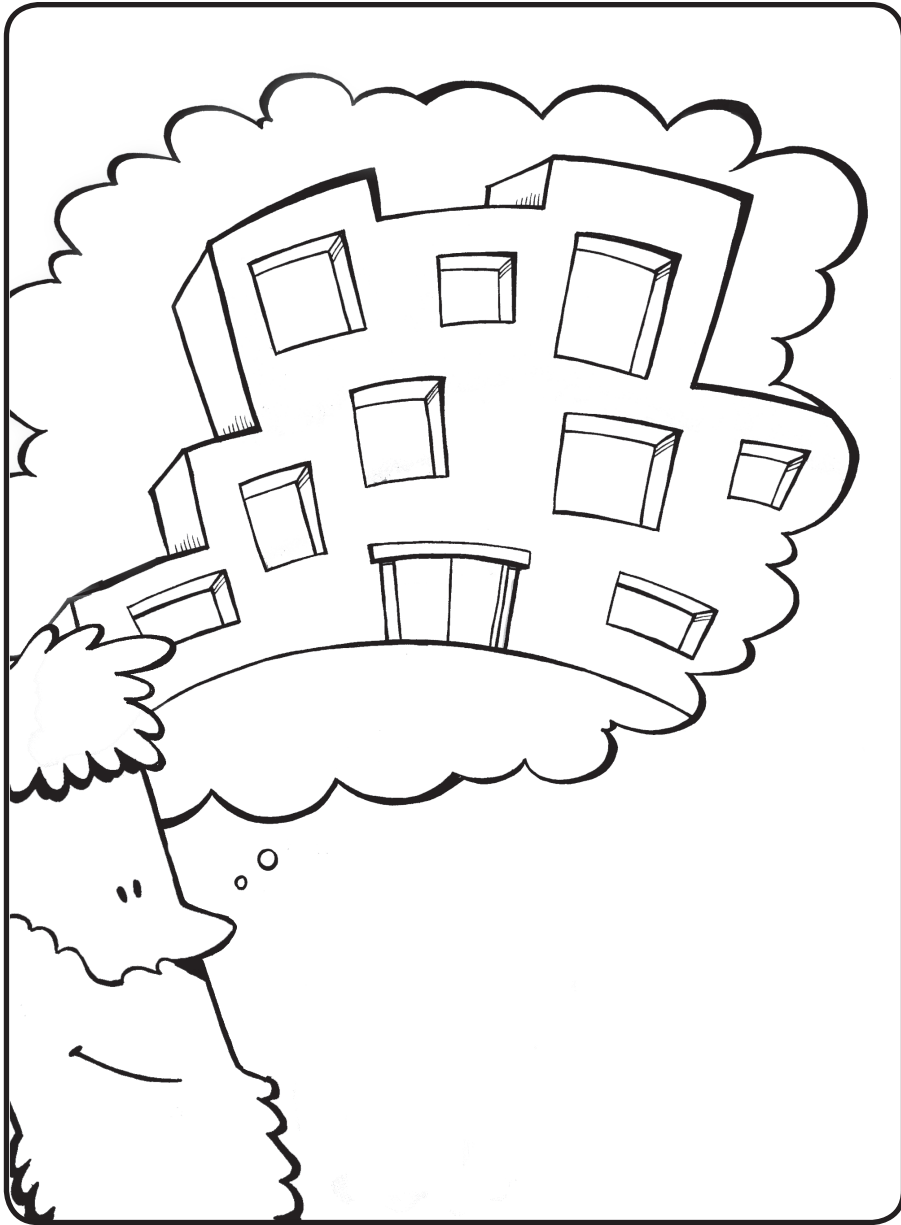
PRE-READER

Easter 5

- Today is the **5th Sunday** in **Easter**.
- Easter is a time to celebrate **new life** and **new beginnings**.

Draw a sun around this symbol for Easter to show the beginning of a new day.





“We can live in God’s house, too!”

The Gospel of John tells us that there are many rooms in God's house. Jesus says that he is getting a place ready for us there!

**What do you think God’s house looks like?
Draw rooms and decorate this house.
Be sure to pick out a room for yourself!**

