

HEARTS @ HOME



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday January 31, 2021 4th Sunday of Epiphany NL: Luke 6:1-16

+ GATHERING +

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **AMEN.**

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS +

God of goodness and mercy, help us as we open our hearts and confess our sins.

Jesus' teaching reminds us that we are lifelong students, yet we often let our pride or arrogance get in the way of actually listening to and learning from his words;
We become skeptical of the truth of Jesus' words when it feels contradictory to what we've always known;
As disciples of Christ our call to ministry feels more challenging than we'd expect;
Sometimes we don't know what the most faithful response is, so we do nothing;
Other times we allow our own beliefs to overshadow our love for our neighbors;

We are truly sorry and ask for your forgiveness.
Help us to do what's right in the days to come;
Surround us and renew us with your grace.

AMEN

God is good, and loves us unconditionally, at all times and in all places. By grace we have been saved. In the name of Jesus our sins are forgiven.

AMEN.

+ PRAYER +

Lord of the Sabbath, your followers were told not to work on the Sabbath, and yet they boldly plucked grain to show that you are Lord of all. The world tells us not to rest on the Sabbath. Show us how to rest boldly, rejecting conventions that go against your will, and instead praying and resting as you did up on the mountain, for the glory of your word and work, Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

+ SCRIPTURE +

+ **Luke 6:1-16**

+ **Spark Story Bible:** Teaching and Healing (Pages 254-255)

+ **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin App:** Click the 'Bible' tab at the bottom.

+ REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

Option 1: Click on your congregation's sermon video or live worship link

Option 2: Use the following questions for in-home conversation or personal reflection

Option 3: Use questions for reflection + **Coloring Sheet** (page 4)

Questions:

- + Why do you think the people reacted so harshly to Jesus' healing on the Sabbath? What made that day unique?
- + What do you think it was like to have Jesus as a teacher?
- + Like the first 12 disciples, we are called to follow the teachings of Jesus, too; what does this mean to you?

+ APOSTLES' CREED +

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 +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

- + We give thanks, gracious God, for the gift of teachers – all those who share knowledge and wisdom with others; we are grateful for their dedication and care for their students, their ability to adapt during difficult times, and their ambition to encourage others to become lifelong learners. Inspire us by your Spirit to find ways to support and care for those who teach, whether in schools, churches, businesses or in homes. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + God of mercy, there seems to be so much pain around us right now; people who are ill, hungry, grieving, facing addiction, lonely, coping with violence or abuse, those who are feeling rejected or forgotten, those facing financial hardships, people who are homeless and food insecure, and so many others who are suffering in some way; please come to them in tangible ways, surround them with love, support, and help so that they might know in their hearts how much they matter. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + For young people everywhere; for their ambition, ideas, curiosity, and beautiful uniqueness they bring to the world; we pray for their protection, for them to know their worth, and for each of them to be surrounded by caring adults who will show them unconditional love and encouragement. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + The damage done to this planet by our own hands and neglect is lasting, dear Creator; forgive us for the ways we contribute to pollution and destruction of the land, trees, water and air, and guide us toward sustainable solutions that will restore this beautiful creation. Lord in your mercy, **AMEN.**
- + *Add your own prayers here...*

Loving God, we give all these prayers to you, trusting in your mercy and grace. **AMEN.**

+ OFFERING +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or the synod – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

+ LORD'S PRAYER +

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.**

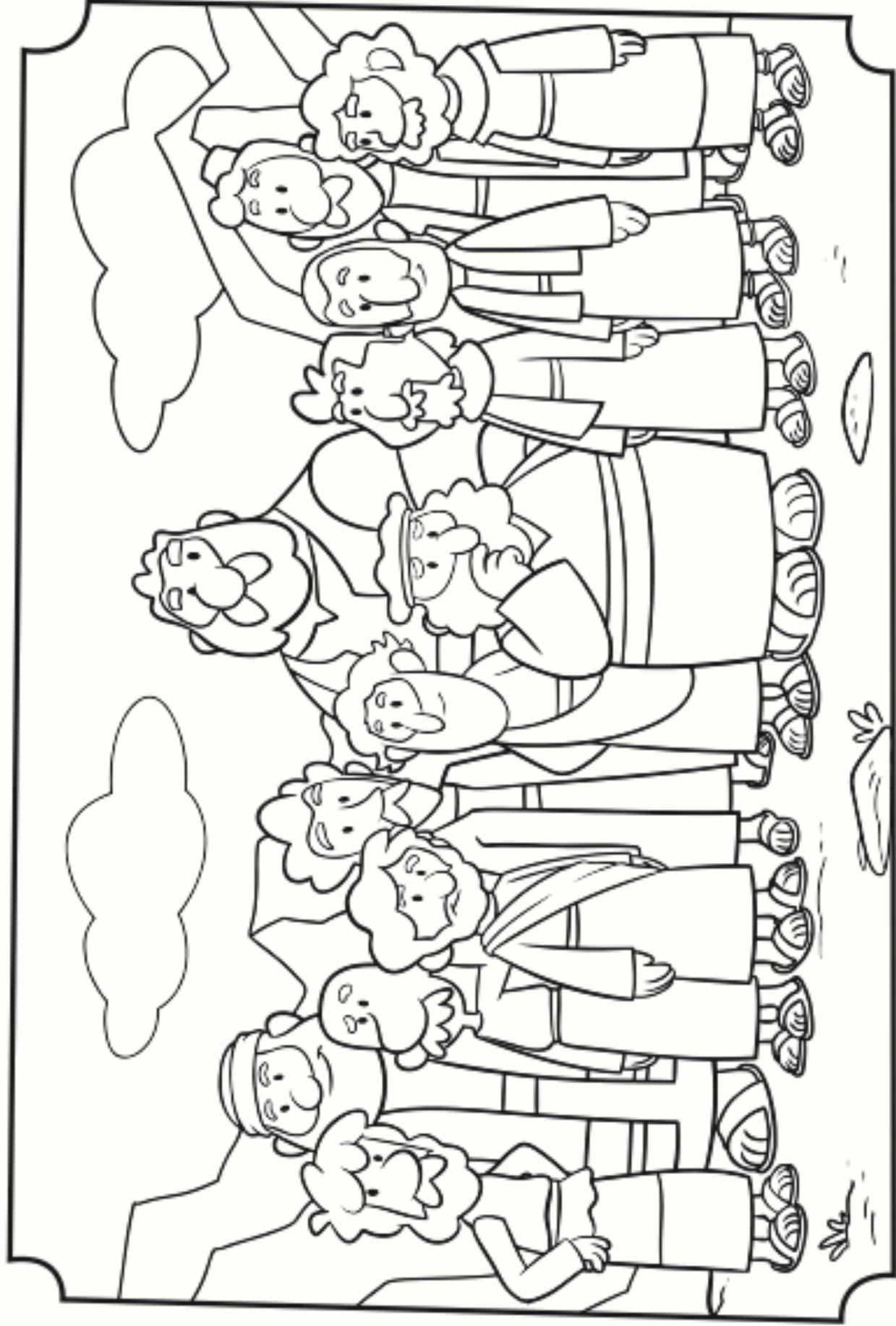
+ BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, dip it in the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, **"You are a beloved child of God."**
Take turns until all in the household have been blessed.

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Prayer of the Day <https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/narrative-lectionary/healing-on-the-sabbath/commentary-on-luke-61-16-3>

+ + +



Jesus picked 12 men to be His disciples.