

Worship @ 10 am Sunday Mornings in-person at



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
201 N Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
www.ZionReformed.church

or virtually at <https://zionreformed.church/sermons>



Children's Church @ 10:15am Sunday Mornings

(In-person and Virtual Options Available)

To participate virtually, join us at <https://zoom.us/join> or by calling 301.715.8592, and when prompted, enter Meeting ID: **865 7471 1577** and Passcode: **YouthSS**. For more information: Contact Kim Ridenour at miskim@myactv.net or the Church Office at 301.739.7244, or visit <https://zionreformed.church/children>.

Hearing God's Word:



Today in church we will be exploring the story of God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7:1-14. Other scriptures we will be thinking about at church this week include Psalm 89:20-37, Ephesians 2:11-22; and Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

God's Promise to David

¹ King David was living in his palace. And the Lord gave him peace from all his enemies around him. ² David said to Nathan the prophet, "Look, I am living in a palace made of cedar wood. But the Ark of the Covenant of God is still kept in a tent!" ³ Nathan said to the king, "Go and do what you really want to do. The Lord is with you." ⁴ But that night the Lord spoke to Nathan. The Lord said, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord says: You are not the person to build a house for me to live in. ⁶ I did not live in a house when I brought the Israelites out of Egypt. I have been moving around all this time with a tent as my home. ⁷ I have continued to move with the tribes of Israel. But I have never asked their leaders who take care of them to build me a house of cedar wood.' ⁸ ... I took you from the pasture when you were following the sheep. I took you to become leader of my people, the Israelites. ⁹ I have been with you everywhere you have gone. I have defeated your enemies for you. I will make you as famous as any of the great men on the earth. ¹⁰ Also I will choose a place for my people, the Israelites. I will plant them so they can live in their own home. They will not be bothered anymore. Wicked people will no longer make them suffer as they have in the past. ¹¹ Wicked people continued to do this even when I appointed judges. But I will give you peace from all your enemies. I also tell you that I will make your descendants kings of Israel after you.



¹² "Your days will come to an end, and you will die. At that time I will make one of your sons the next king. ¹³ He will build a temple for me. I will make his kingdom strong forever. ¹⁴ I will be his parent, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will use other people to punish him. They will be my whips.

(International Children's Bible®, ©2015 by Tommy Nelson Inc)

Family Discussion:

A Question for Adults to ask Children:

Why do you think David wanted to build a house for God?

David lived in a palace but the Ark of God, their most precious symbol of God's presence amongst them only lived in a tent. David wanted to give honor and bless God by building a house for God, but God told David that God would bless David and his descendants, the house and kingdom God was planning would last forever.

A Question for Children to ask Adults:

What do you think is the most important thing to make a house a home?

A Question to Answer Together:

What would God's perfect home look like?

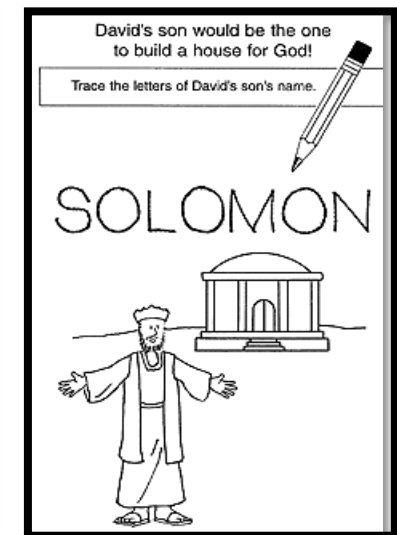
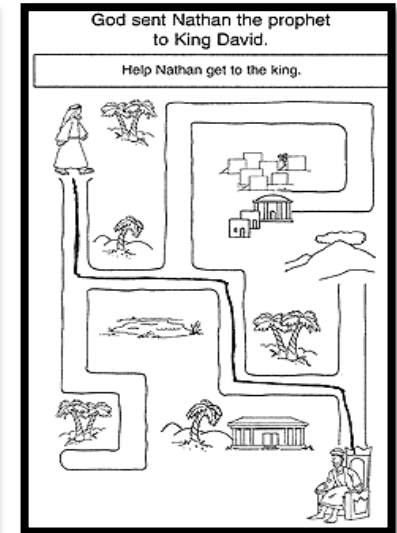
A Prayer to Say Together:

Dear God,

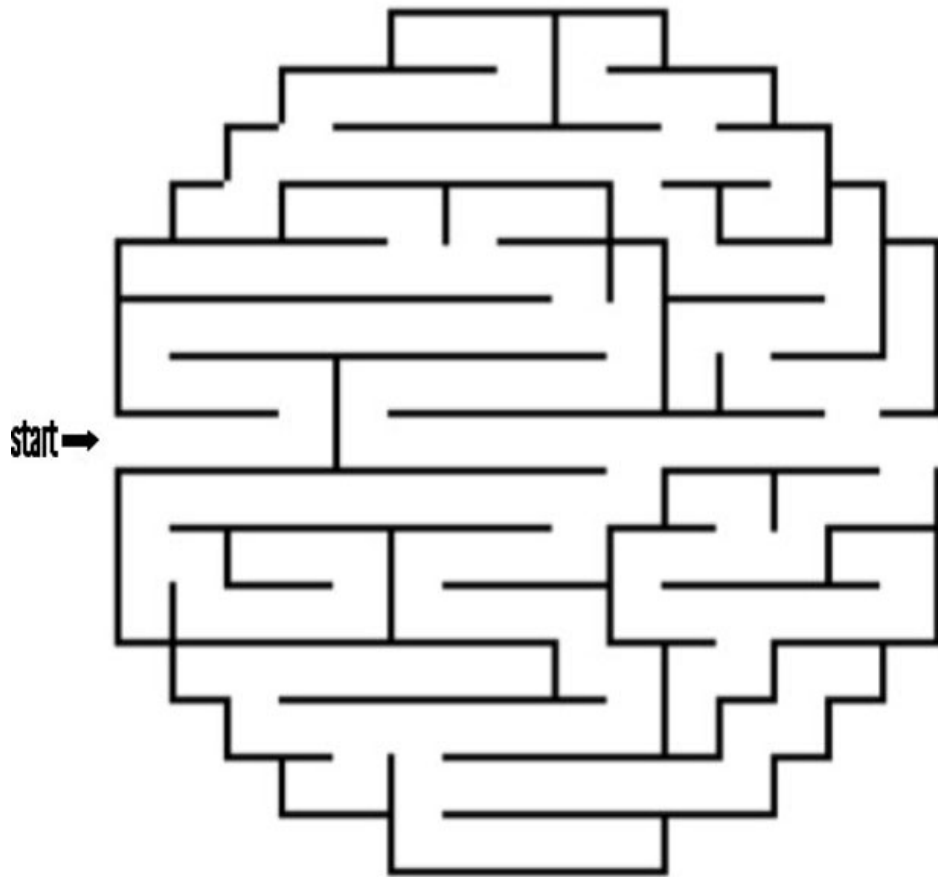
Thank you for the story of David and your promise to him, and that that you love to give us good gifts and to bless us just as you blessed David. Thank you that you are not far from us but that we can invite you into our hearts and know you live inside us through our helper the Holy Spirit. We pray for those in our communities who do not have a safe home or any place to live, please protect & provide for them. Amen.



Answer Key:



God Lives Everywhere!



Remember...

God is not like a maze. You do not have to search for God, for God is everywhere. You can see God through all of creation! As you do this puzzle, imagine what it would be like if God lived in one house. Aren't you glad God always knows where you are and is always with each of us?

Family Activities:

Here are some activities you can do together as a family and discussion ideas to explore God's Word together.

Family Activity 1:



Why not use paper and pens to draw a picture together of what you think God's perfect home might look like or build it together from Legos or blocks?

What rooms and special features would you include?
Who would you invite to live there?
What would the grounds and gardens look like?

Family Activity 2:

We are invited to be part of building God's Kingdom here on the earth, sharing God's love with others and inviting God's rule and reign in our communities. Why not find some stones to decorate with messages of encouragement and love? Paint onto the stones or decorate them with permanent markers.



Family Activity 3:



Why not play a game of Hide & Seek? This can be fun at any age. Play a few rounds until everyone has a chance to be "it" and then gather around a pre-prepared dessert and talk about it: Who was the best hider? Finder?

The great thing about God is that God doesn't try to hide from us! God is EVERYWHERE all the time, and wants us to find Him! We can never escape the presence of God.

God's Promise to David

King David ruled Israel.

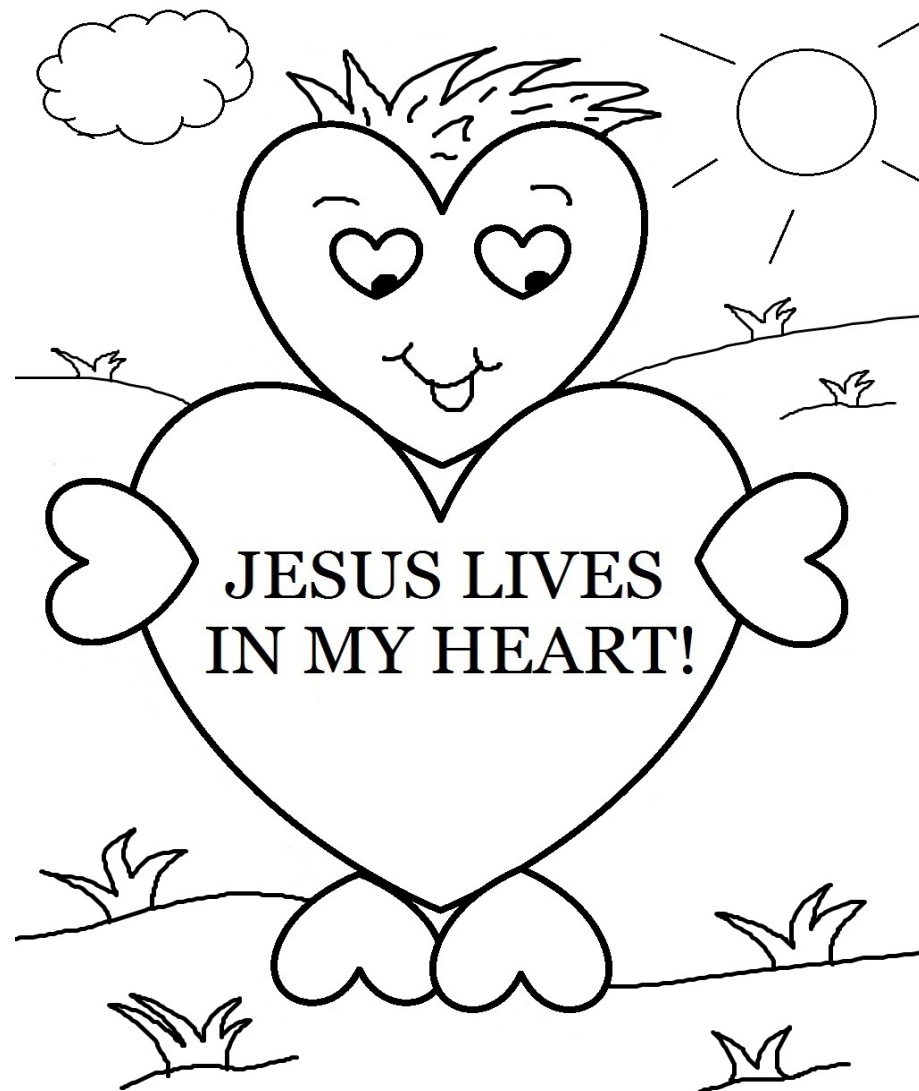
Find and circle the hidden objects in the picture.

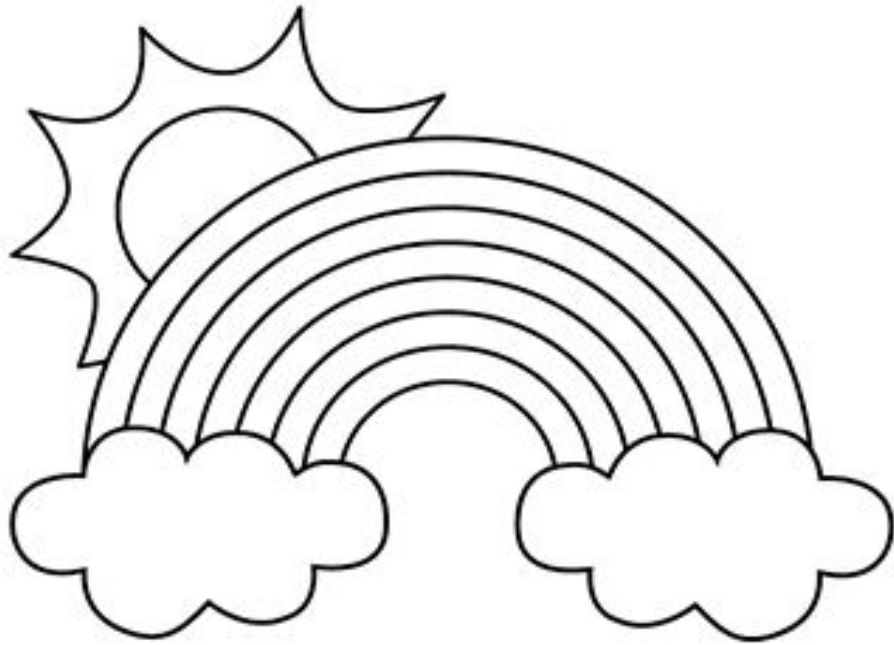


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SECRET CODE
DWJ139

We are often told that the church is God's house, but the church is not God's house. It is the place where God's people gather to worship and do God's work together. God is too big to stay in one building no matter how big or fancy. God is always on the move among all the people of the world.





God is always with me.

Psalm 139 tells us that, if we go up to the heavens, God is there. If we rise with the sun in the east and settle in the west beyond the sea, God is there to guide us! Wherever we are God is there to guide and help us!

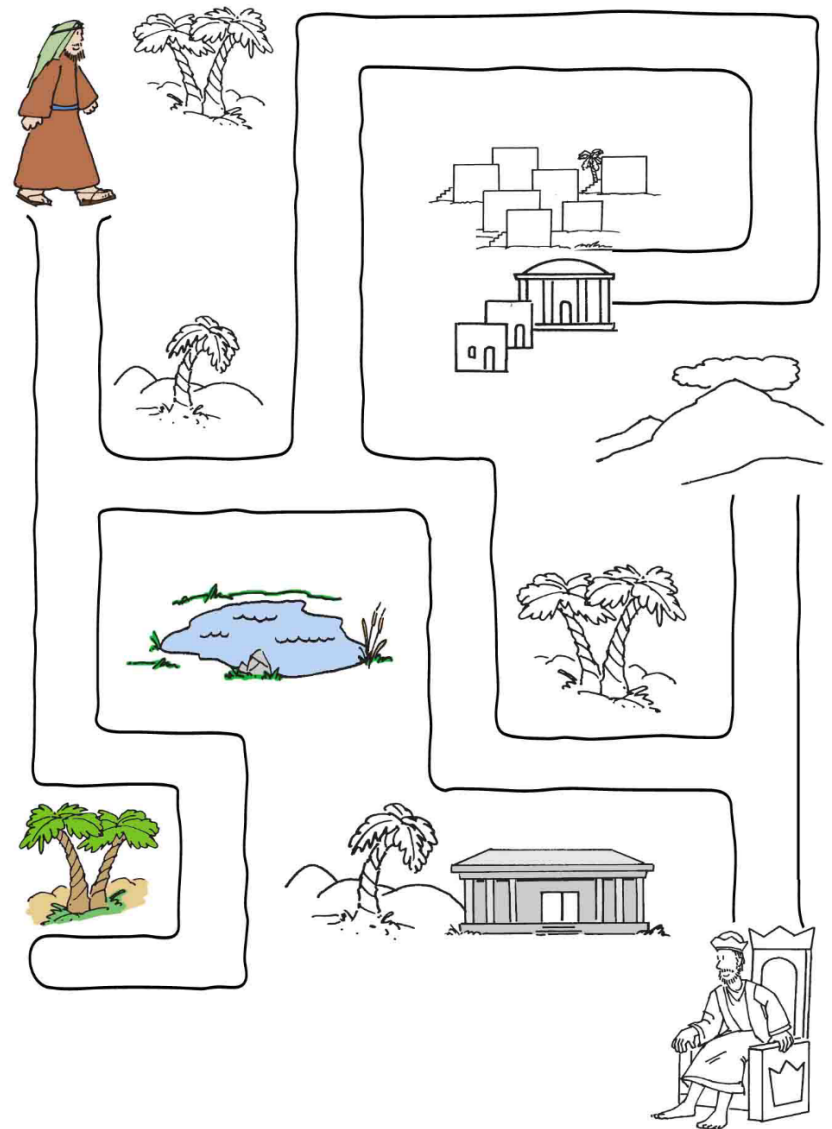


Verse of the Day

You are like a building that was built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Christ Jesus himself is the most important stone in that building, and that whole building is joined together in Christ. He makes it grow and become a holy temple in the Lord. ~Ephesians 2:20-21 (NCV)

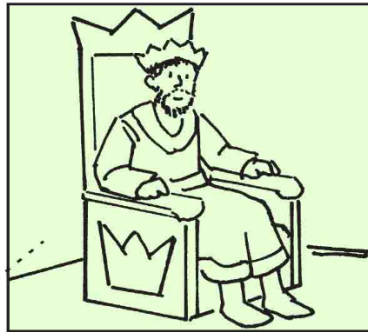
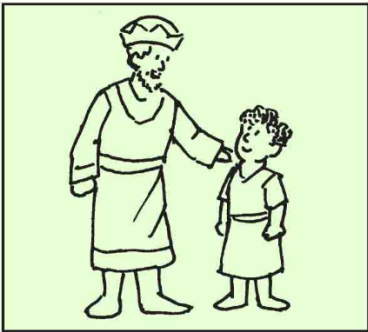
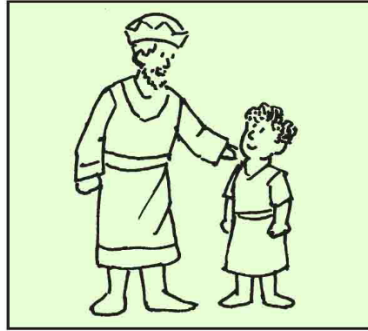
God sent Nathan the prophet to King David.

Help Nathan get to the king.



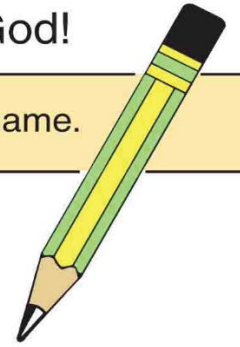
God promised David a son
to reign on his throne.

Match the pictures.



David's son would be the one
to build a house for God!

Trace the letters of David's son's name.



SOLOMON

