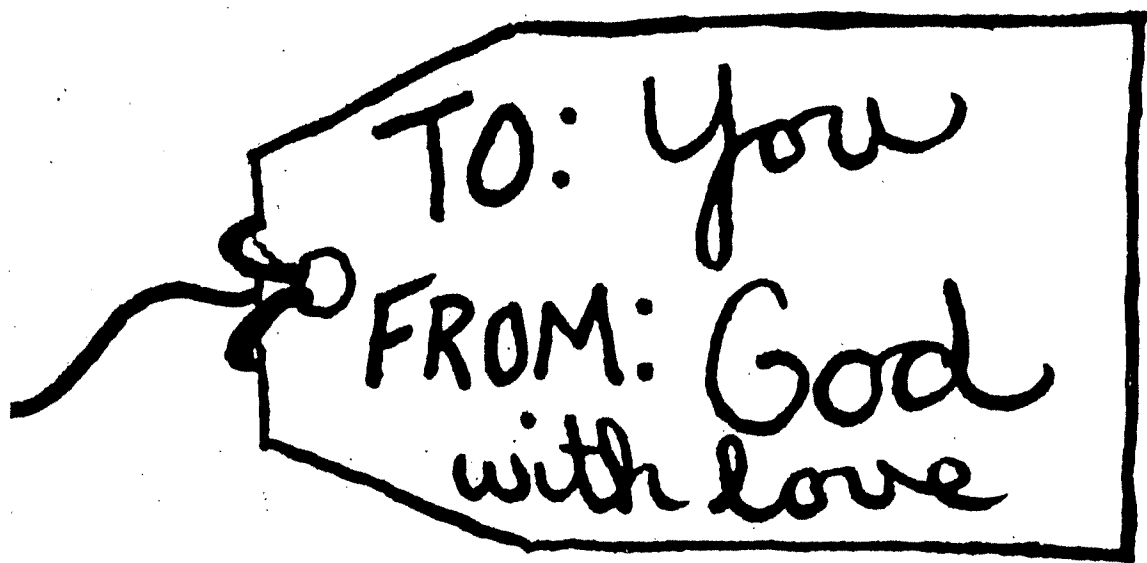


A Communion Coloring Book  
for Parents and Children



Communion is a sacrament, which means that it is sacred and holy, a special gift from God. It involves words and actions, and was started by Jesus. The words are prayers and words spoken by Jesus and the actions are eating bread and drinking juice.

Communion is very important to us, and is not a time to be silly or greedy. It is a special way of worshipping God that people have done for 2,000 years.

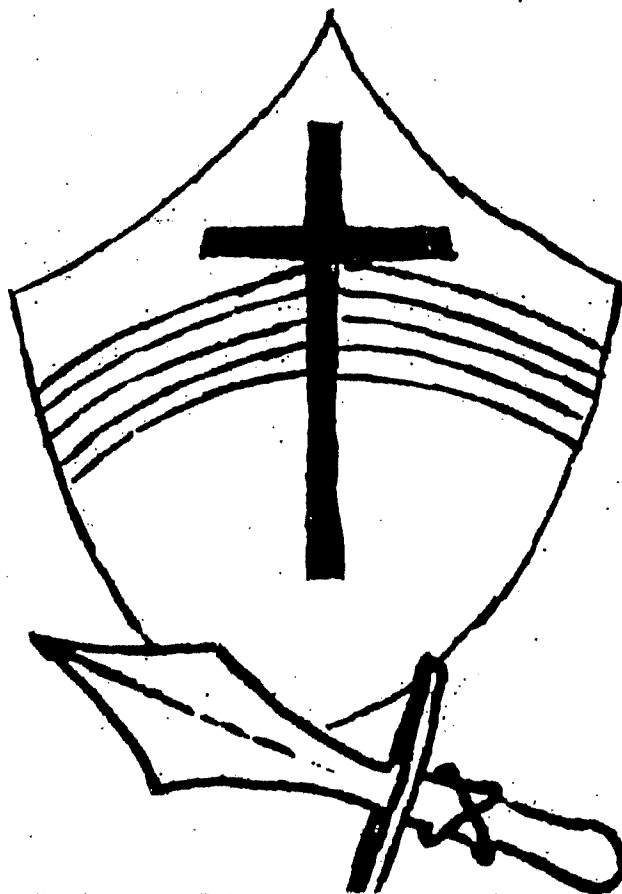
Our other sacrament is Baptism. Jesus was baptized by his cousin John when he was grown up. We baptize little babies. You have probably already been baptized. Your parents made promises for you, we said prayers and the pastor put water on your head. In baptism you were welcomed into the church, which is a big family, with Jesus as the head of the family. In baptism we are promised God's forgiveness and begin to learn about God and how we can become brothers and sisters of Jesus. In baptism we are born into the church. In communion we are fed to grow as God's people.

Jesus called the bread his body that he gave to us (because he gave his body on the cross). My grandmother called bread "The staff of life". This means that bread keeps us strong. Jesus keeps us strong.

Jesus called the grape juice his blood that he gave to us (because on the cross nails were pounded into his hand and feet and a spear was put into his side and made him bleed). People drank juice turned to wine in Jesus time with all of their meals.

The bread and juice are blessed by the minister who prays for God's spirit to be on the food and drink and on every member of the church, so that they will feel God's power in their lives.

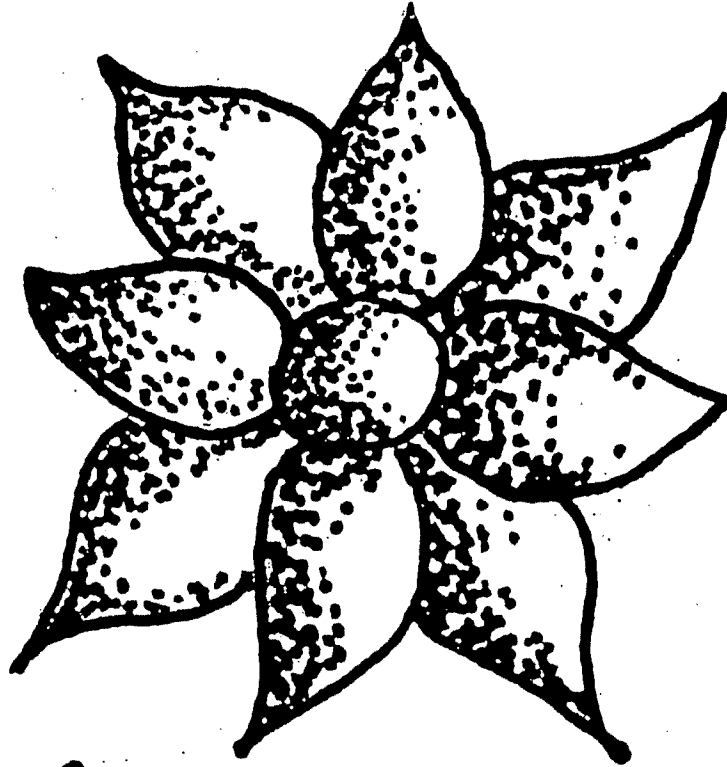
**FIND STRENGTH**



**IN THE LORD**

Even if we have not been perfect, Jesus wants us to have communion because Jesus ate with all kinds of people-rich and poor, children and adults, good and bad. But he wants us to tell God (confess) the things (the sins) that we have done that are bad so that we can be made right with God again. God always forgives us of our sins because God loves us and we are God's children. So, before we eat and drink we confess our sins.





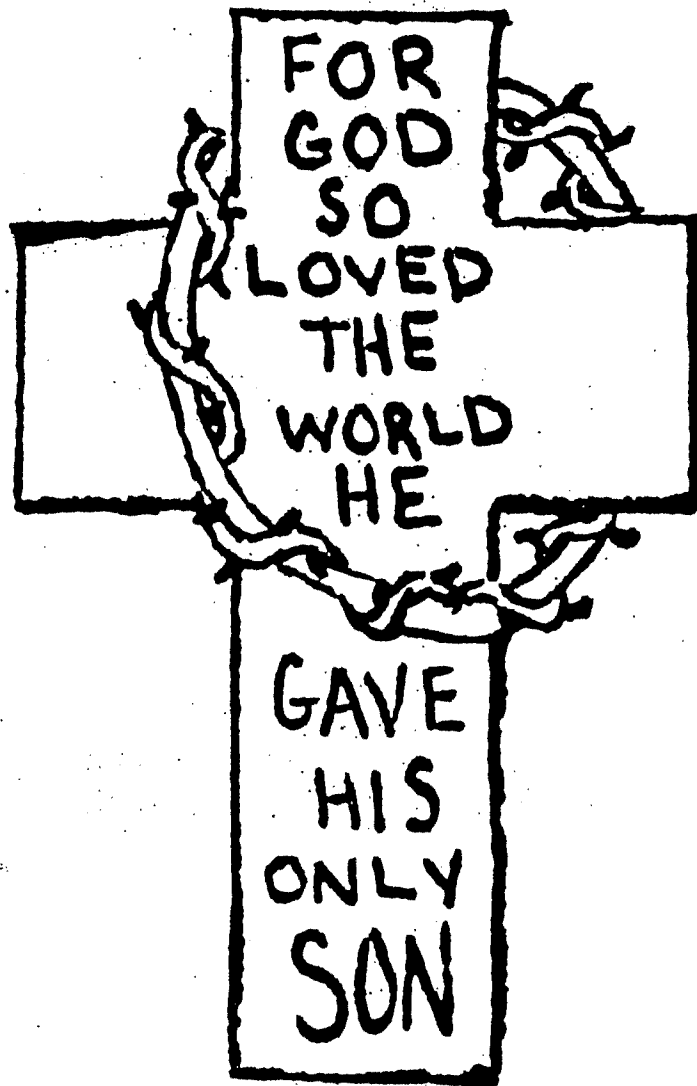
Grow in the grace  
and knowledge of  
our lord and  
savior, Jesus Christ.

-2 Peter 3:18

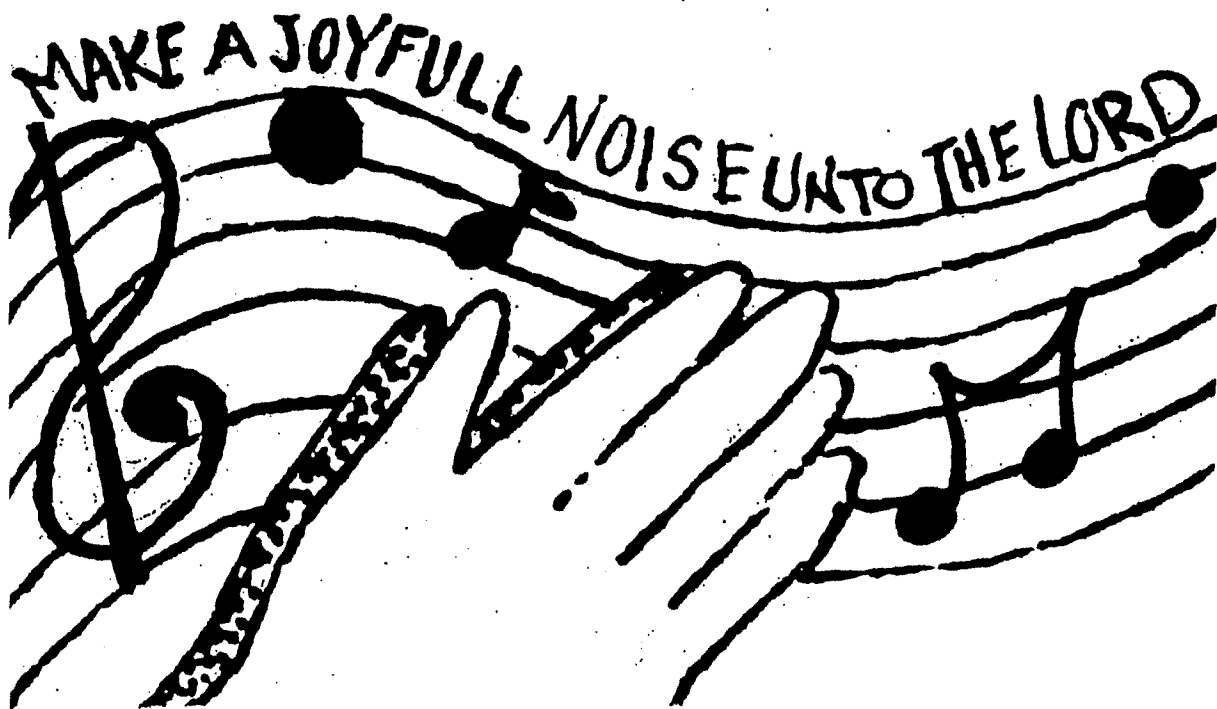
Jesus is God's son, who died on a cross, because people do evil things called "sins".

Communion is how we remember the last supper that Jesus had with his disciples (his students) before he died on a cross.

After Jesus died he rose from death to make God's promise come true, that through him good would always win out over evil. When we eat the bread and drink the juice, we remember that good won the battle.



Jesus' last supper was a feast. It is a feast for us to know that we can be together as Christ's church and have this special food. Isabella Long called it "The Big Drink" and she was right. We are so happy about this that we finish communion with a thanksgiving prayer and a song.



All kinds of churches all around the world have communion. Even if we can't speak the same language, and even if we do communion differently, we still use bread and grape juice or wine, so no matter how different we are, we are the same when it comes to knowing that Jesus loves us.

When Jesus rose from the dead his disciples (students) didn't know who he was until they ate together. Then they recognized him. We feel closer to Jesus, we feel closer as a church and know more of who Jesus is when we eat and drink together in communion.

