Welcome to Worship on this





French River Lutheran Church Duluth, MN

March 3, 2024 ~10:00 a.m. Reverend Kim Sturtz ~ Presiding

<u>Worship Assistant</u>: ArMand Nelson <u>Lector</u>: Steve Baker <u>Altar Guild</u>: Lynne Compton <u>Musicians</u>: Organist – David Fiebiger & French River Choir

* <u>Coffee fellowship to follow worship! Join us!</u>

Welcome to all in Jesus' Name!

Please follow the current FRLC Preparedness Plan for COVID-19. Details are located under announcements in this bulletin. LARGE PRINT worship folders are available from an usher. A family restroom and nursery are to the left of the sanctuary; again, follow the Preparedness Plan for use. To contact the pastor or church office, you are invited to complete a pew card and return the information portion either to an usher or by way of the offering plate. Please keep the bookmark and worship with us again! We appreciate electronic devices set on "mute" during the service.

Bold Print signals places where the assembly speaks in unity in worship * Indicates where to stand as you are able in body or in Spirit.

<u>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>: <u>PRELUDE</u>:

ORGANIST: David Fiebiger

————GATHERING———— The Holy Spirit gathers us together as people of God

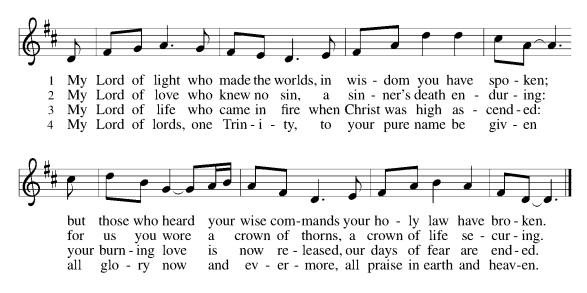
*GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*GATHERING HYMN: "My Lord of Light"

ELW #832

My Lord of Light



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune

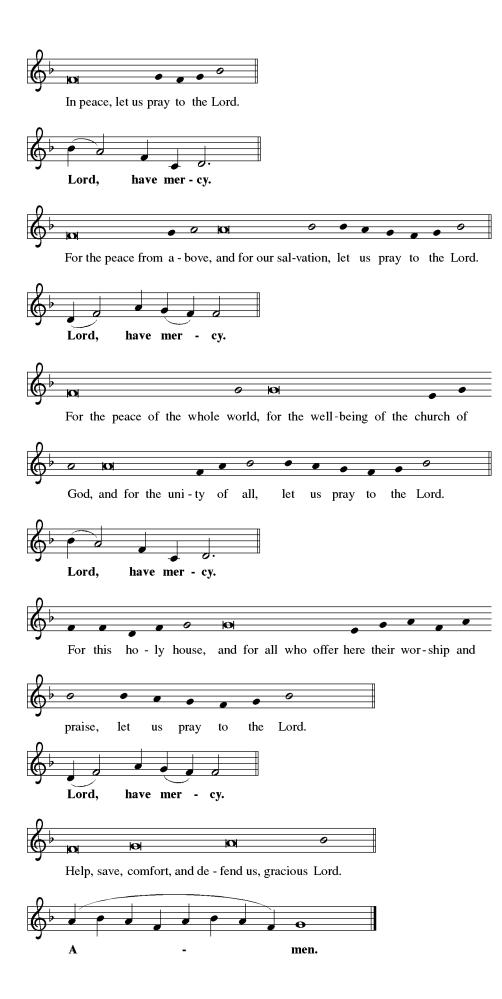
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*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Inspired by Psalm 19 If you ask the sky who God is, **the sky will tell you of God's reach.** If you ask the day who God is, **the sun will tell you of God's warmth.** If you ask the night who God is, **the moon will tell you of God's comfort.** "The heavens are telling the glory of God" (Psalm 19:1). Are you listening? **We are listening! We will sing of God's glory.** Let us worship Holy God.

*<u>KYRIE</u>: Setting 6 ELW Pg. #165 (on following page)



*<u>CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS</u>:

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*<u>PRAYER OF THE DAY</u>:

Holy Word, For generations people have bowed their heads, have prayed the Psalms, have asked for your presence in their lives. For generations people have whispered, "May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable and pleasing to you, O God." For generations we have gathered here, we have quieted our minds, we have prayed to feel your presence in our midst. So once again, just as the generations before, we turn our hearts to your Word. Still our busy minds so that we might truly comprehend what you have to say to us today. With joy and hope we pray, **amen.**

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song.

A reading from Exodus:

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

Steve Baker

God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19

<u>I SALM</u> . I Sullin 17
The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)
The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,
their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of
the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.
It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to
the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get
dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great

offense. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this

age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



*GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to *Matthew 16:13-20.* Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you of Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

The Reverend Kim Sturtz

SERMON:

The Reverend Kim Sturtz

*<u>HYMN OF THE DAY</u>: "Lord Christ, When First You Came To Earth" ELW #727



Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882–1969, alt. Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, medieval European tune

***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 holv catholic church. the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins. the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

<u>PEACE</u>: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.** Please share this peace with your neighbors.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Steve Baker

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

(A brief silence.)

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY INTERLUDE:

ORGANIST: David Fiebiger

*<u>OFFERING PRAYER:</u>

(If you did not place your offering in the plate as you entered the sanctuary, please feel free to hand it to an usher upon dismissal. During the week, offerings may be placed in the secure lockbox by the lower doors [slot is right of the door]. Mail and online giving are also available. Thank you for your generous support of our ministry together!)

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. **Amen.**

--MEAL----

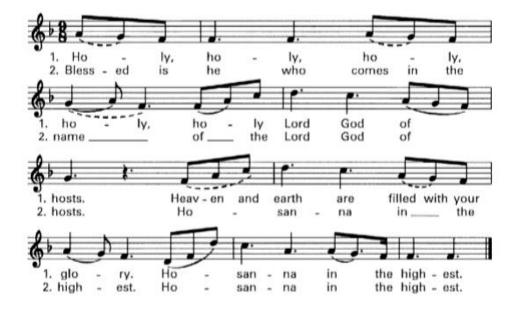
God feeds us in goodness and grace with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(All are welcome to receive the true presence of Jesus in the bread and wine or juice provided. Today we offer two ways to commune, at the front or in the pew. If you wish to receive grape juice instead of wine, please pick up the colored tab of paper in the envelope holder in the pew and show it to the server. Today, communion will be distributed continuously at the altar rail. If you cannot come to the altar, please indicate to an usher and communion will be brought to you. Children not communing may come forward for a blessing. Gluten free wafers are available; please inform the pastor if you prefer one. For those who wish to receive communion while in the pew but did not pick take a packet upon entering the sanctuary, please signal for an usher and a packet will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available from their own basket.)

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION & BLESSING:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*<u>PREFACE</u>: Lent



*<u>HOLY, HOLY, HOLY</u>: by Grayson Brown

*<u>WORDS OF INSTITUTION:</u>

*LORD'S PRAYER:

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

*<u>COMMUNION MEDITATION</u>:

ORGANIST: David Fiebiger

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

God blesses us and equips us as disciples sent into the world.

*<u>A BENEDICTION FOR THE SERIES</u>:

Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve. May you look for God in every face. May you find the courage to get out of the boat, to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith. And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid." You are called. You are blessed. In both your ups and downs, you always belong to God. Go now in peace. Go trusting the good news. **Amen.**



O God, My Faithful God

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT, Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629–1701

*<u>SENDING</u>: Go in peace. Share your bread. Thanks be to God.

(For those in pews, please remain seated until invited by an usher to depart.)

POSTLUDE:

ORGANIST: David Fiebiger

Thank you for joining us wherever you are. Remember, you are beloved and blessed!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Covid-19 Preparedness

In the care and consideration of others, the wearing of masks is optional for worship. However, if you or a family member are experiencing any fever, cough, stomach issues, or are recovering from an illness or other ailments within 48 hours before gathering in worship, we strongly advise the wearing of a mask while in worship. A simple mask in these moments and places helps us protect loved ones, especially the weak and elderly, front-line medical personnel and their families, our faith community and larger communities. Thank you for this kindness.



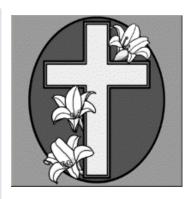
Coming Up:

3/3 Sun: 10a – 10a – Third Sunday in Lent; Blended Worship Worship In-Person/Online: Rev. Kim Sturtz 10:45a – Sunday School 11:15a – Coffee Fellowship
3/4 Mon: 7p – Exec. Council
3/5 Tues: 9a – Bulletin Deadline; 7p – AA
3/6 Wed: 5:30p – Lenten Soup/Supper; 6:30p – Holden Eve. Prayer Service; 7p – Choir
3/7 Thurs: 5p – Riversong Rising; 5:30-7p – 1st Communion Class
3/10 Next Sun: 10a – Fourth Sunday in Lent; Contemporary Worship In-Person/Online: Rev. Kim Sturtz 10:45a – Sunday School 11:15a – Coffee Fellowship



FRLC Council has chosen to equally split our special Lenten and Easter offering to Second Harvest Northland and The Seafarers Center (Twin Ports Ministry to Seafarers). Thank you for your generosity.

(Please note: there are two opportunities for giving on March 31, those being the traditional Sunday offering and a special Easter offering. If using numbered envelopes, the distinction is already made. All other gifts should be designated accordingly. Thank you.



Welcome to French River Lutheran Church

You are welcome to keep this bulletin, however, we recycle when possible so you may leave it on the ushers' stand.



Immediate: Marlene Miller, prayers for healing from eye surgery; prayers for peace and comfort both as she travels to be with Dennis as he is nearing the end of his journey.; Deb Sodomka (cousin of Bill & Susie Lannon).

Long-Term: Phil Strom, for Parkinsons; Julie Moe-Hommerding; 5-year-old great niece of Susie Lannon (heart surgery 6/26/17, still not healthy); Kathy Johnson (Carol Leppala's friend); Bruce Sundberg; Angela Debelak, (niece of Gail Johnson) is currently in remission from for her brain cancer and recovering slowly; please continue to pray for no recurrence.; Alex Peterson – military service; Todd Sironen.

WHEN SUBMITTING A NAME TO THE TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN, PLEASE INDICATE IF IT IS PERMISSABLE TO LIST IN THE BULLETIN.

Called by the Spirit	March 3	March 10
Worship Leader	Rev. Kim Sturtz	Rev. Kim Sturtz
Lector	Steve Baker	Kevin Stroom
Altar Guild	Lynne Comtpon	Heather Mindestrom
Ushers	Sue & Steve Baker	Chris & Ann Rankila
Counters/Worship	Ann Rankila/	Rolf Carlson/
Assistant*	ArMand Nelson*	Sandy Dahlberg*
Coffee Fellowship	Bethlehem	Bethlehem
Prayer Chain	Babs Strom 218.525.6200	

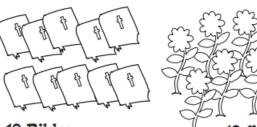
French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Rd, Duluth, MN 55804
Church: (218)525-5659; frlc5310@gmail.com
Pr. Kim Sturtz: (218)393-7444; frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com
Office hours vary so please call ahead.
FRLC webpage: www.frenchriverlutheran.org.
FRLC Mission: "To live and love as God commands, accept His grace,
and share the Good News."Watch services at FRLC anytime! YouTube live streaming of the service at
https://www.youtube.com/c/FrenchRiverLutheranChurchThis link is also found on our church homepage and Facebook group. If you are
unable to watch it live, you can view it any time after the service by following the

same link.

🕆 We're glad you worshiped with us today. Thanks be to God! 芐

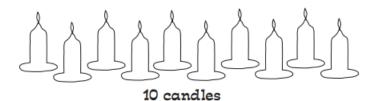
God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. These were rules for the Israelites to follow. The Ten Commandments helped the Israelites live in a relationship with God. They also helped the Israelites live together peacefully.

Can you find 10 of these things in your worship space? Color them in when you find them.

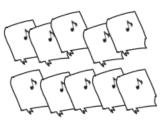


10 Bibles

10 flowers







10 smiles

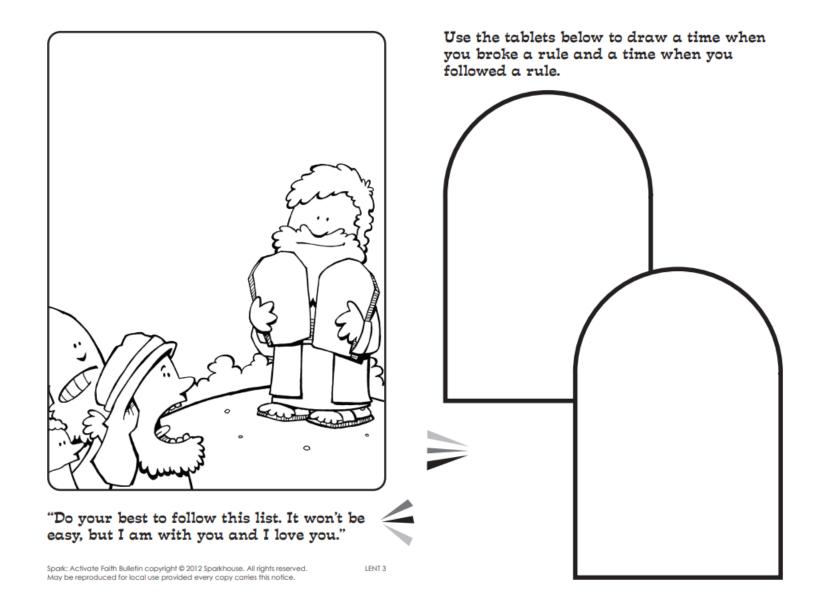
10 hymnals



- Today is the 3rd Sunday in **Lent**.
- Lent lasts 40 days.
- During Lent, we ask for **forgiveness**.
- Jesus forgives our sins.

Which week of Lent is it? Circle the correct sandal to show which week of Lent it is.





Keeping the Sabbath

One of the Commandments tells us to remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. When you worship on Sunday, the Sabbath, you are following this commandment. You are honoring God by remembering the Sabbath and keeping it holy. Take a look at this list. It tells many different parts that are usually found in a worship service. What parts do you think help you honor God the most? Circle them, and write any parts on the list you think are missing.

[
HYMNS AND SONGS	
SPECIAL MUSIC	
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS	
PRAYERS	
READINGS FROM THE BIBLE	
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	
SERMON	
PASSING OF THE PEACE	
OFFERING	
COMMUNION	



- Today is the 3rd Sunday in Lent.
- During Lent we focus on ways to serve others.
- Following the Ten Commandments helps us serve others.

The Golden Rule

Jesus taught us to love thy neighbor. Who are our neighbors? Everyone in the whole wide world! See if you can match the word for love with their languages.

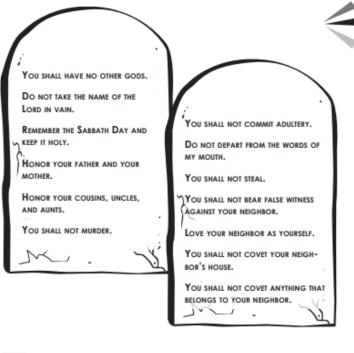
	liefde	Finnish
dragoste rakkaus		French
		Romanian
	kärlek	Dutch
	ljubav	Swedish
	amour	Italian
	amore	Croatian
	cinta	Indonesian
	mapenzi	Swahili
	amor	Spanish



When the Bible uses LORD in capital letters, it stands for another Hebrew name for God, Yahweh.

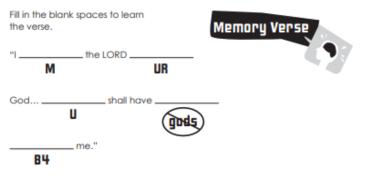
Not Quite

Which of the rules below aren't in the Ten Commandments? Cross those out!



LOOK IT UP! There's another story about the Ten Commandments in the Bible, too. Check it out in Deuteronomy 5!

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- Exodus 20:2-3

Some Rules Are Harder than Others

Some rules are easier than others to follow. Take a look at three rules below. For each one, draw a line to the place on the continuum that shows how hard or easy you think it is to follow it. Then write a few of your own rules and connect them to the continuum.

