

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Children's Activity



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church®

# WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

## Children's Activity



*This children's activity connects with the children's message, children's bulletin, sermon starter, liturgy and offering talk "Let the Children Come" based on Mark 10:13-16.*

### You will need:

- World map or globe
- Either blue paper plates or white paper plates and blue paint
- Printout of the attached template: <https://craftingthewordofgod.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/jesus-loves-the-little-children.pdf>
- Depending on the time allowed and age of students, you may want to cut out the designs in the template ahead of time.
- Crayons or markers
- Photo of Cleber Lizardo de Assis <https://umcmmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2-1.jpg>

## LET THE CHILDREN COME

“God’s kingdom belongs to people like these children.”

Mark 10:14, CEB

### INTRODUCTION

Do you know the song “Jesus Loves the Little Children”? Let’s sing it together (if singing is not advisable yet, listen to a recording instead. Please note the lyrics have been updated):

Jesus loves the little children  
All the children of the world  
Every child in every land  
Jesus holds them in His hand  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

This song is based on a time that Jesus welcomed the children to him (Mark 10:13-16 CEB).

People were bringing children to Jesus so that he would bless them. But the disciples scolded them. When Jesus saw this, he grew angry and said to them, “Allow the children to come to me. Don’t forbid them, because God’s kingdom belongs to people like these children. I assure you that whoever doesn’t welcome God’s kingdom like a child will never enter it.” Then he hugged the children and blessed them.

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Today in our church we observe World Communion Sunday. We remember the special meal that Jesus shared with his friends. (Hold up the paper plate.)

We also remember how Jesus' love is shared with and through people all over the world. Our church family includes children and adults from around the globe. (Hold up map or globe.) We will join with other churches to help support the dreams of young leaders who are building up God's kingdom.

For example, in Brazil (point to Brazil on the globe) Cleber Lizardo de Assis works with children and teenagers to help them have a better life. In this photo (show photo), he is playing music for children and sharing his new children's book. When he wanted to go to school to learn about ways to help the children in the community, he was concerned that he didn't have enough money. But because of a World Communion Sunday scholarship, he was able to receive the education that will help him be a stronger leader (full story here: <https://umcmmission.org/reconciliation/world-communion-scholar-puts-the-social-in-social-science/>).

### Craft

Say, "As part of our World Communion Sunday activity today we are going to create a 'Jesus loves the little children of the world' craft."

Assemble the project with the students, placing the continents on the blue plate and adding the cross at the top with the cutouts of the children glued around the edges. Color in the children encouraging a diversity of clothing and skin tones.

### Prayer

Thank you, Creator God, for making the world. Thank you for loving your children so much that you sent us Jesus.

Thank you for giving us big dreams and for a church family who helps us become leaders who share your love. Be with the students who are building up your kingdom with support from World Communion Sunday offerings. Give them strength, patience and wisdom so that they will be able to do your work all around the world. Amen.

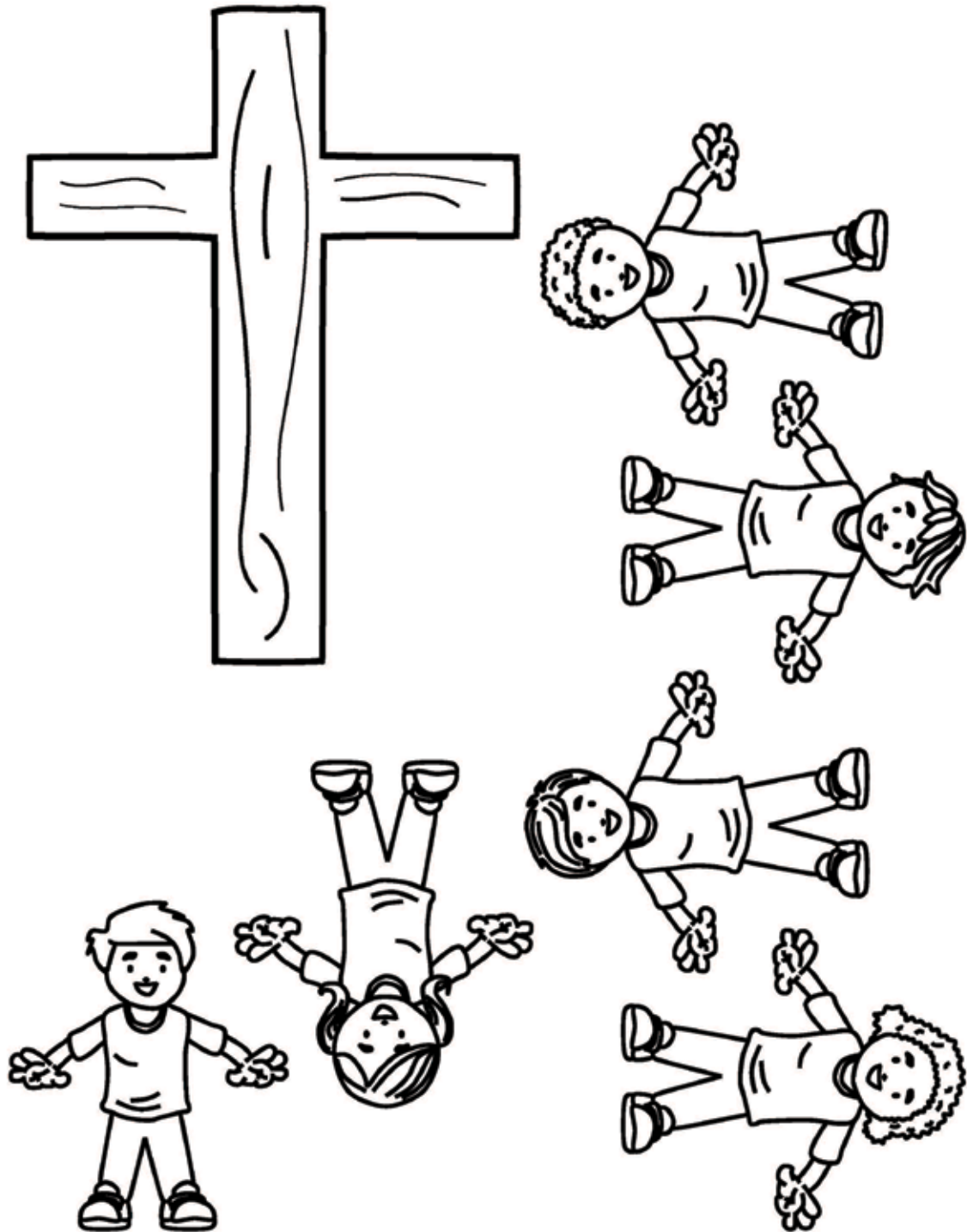


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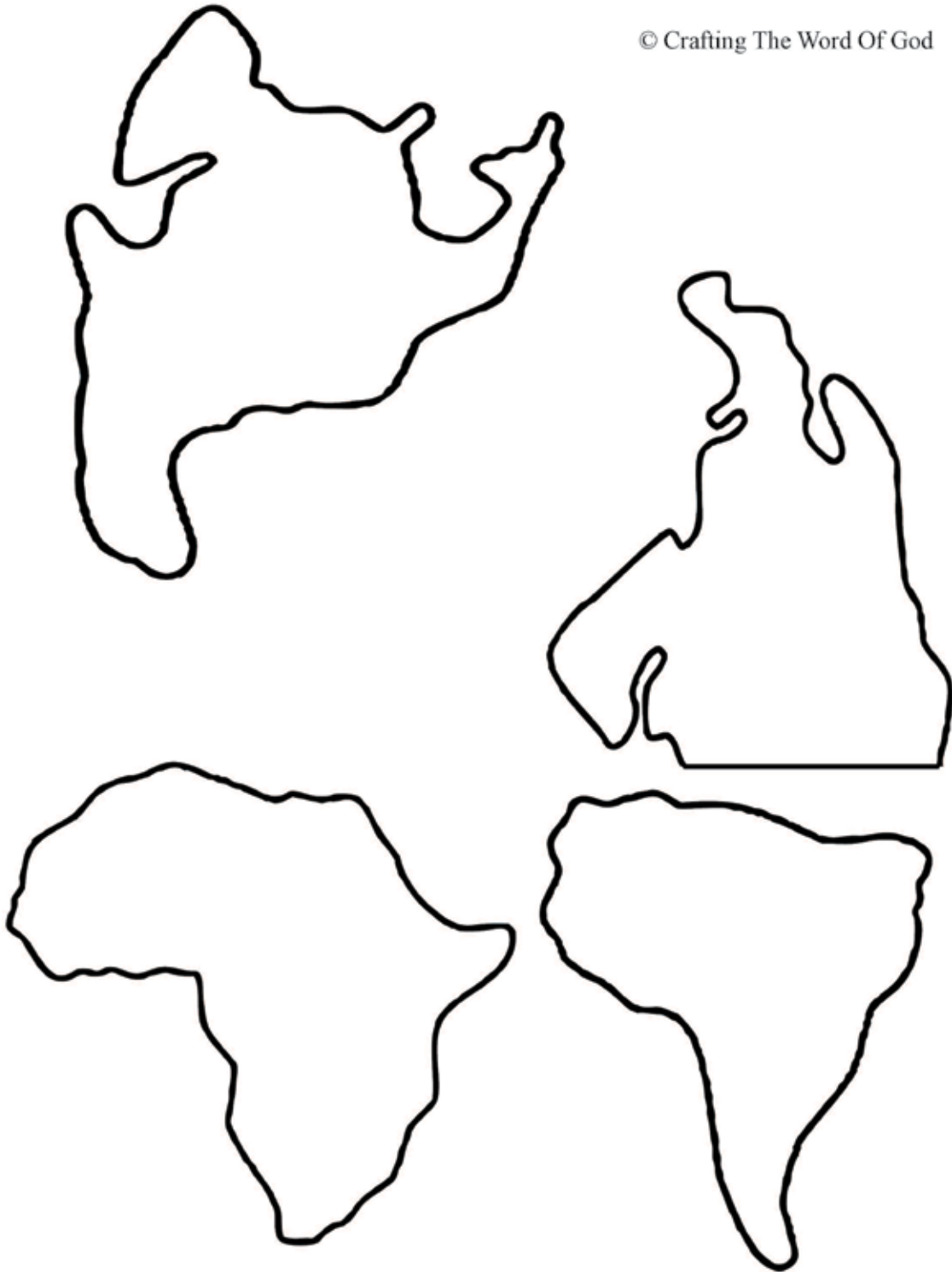
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Photo of Cleber Lizardo de Assis

<https://umcmmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2-1.jpg>