



BAPTISM OF JESUS

Matthew 3:13-17



STORY TIME - MATTHEW 3:13-17

We have provided you with a paraphrase of the scripture passage to read below. After you read the scripture, you may want to have your kids tell the story back to you using the Illustrated Story Cards provided at the end of the devotion.

Jesus left Galilee and went to the Jordan River so John would baptize him. John didn't understand, saying, "Why do you want me to baptize you, Jesus? You should be baptizing me!"

But Jesus said, "Allow this to happen. This is right and needed."

When John baptized Jesus, the sky opened. Jesus saw God's Spirit come down like a dove that rested on him. Then a voice from the sky said, "This is my Son whom I love so much. He makes me so happy."



IMAGINING TOGETHER

This is not so much a time to make sure they received the information or facts of the story, but rather, an opportunity for your children to share what stood out to them and what they imagined when they listened to the story.

- What is something that might seem ordinary to someone else but is actually really special or amazing?
- Discuss who in your family has been baptized or whether any of you would like to be baptized.
- What are your shared memories around baptism? E.g.: Who have you seen get baptized? What was it like when you were baptized, if you were?
- Baptism is an outward sign of our place in God's family and our calling to be a part of God's story in creation. How might you be a part of God's story? How might your gifts be used to fulfill God's dreams in the world?



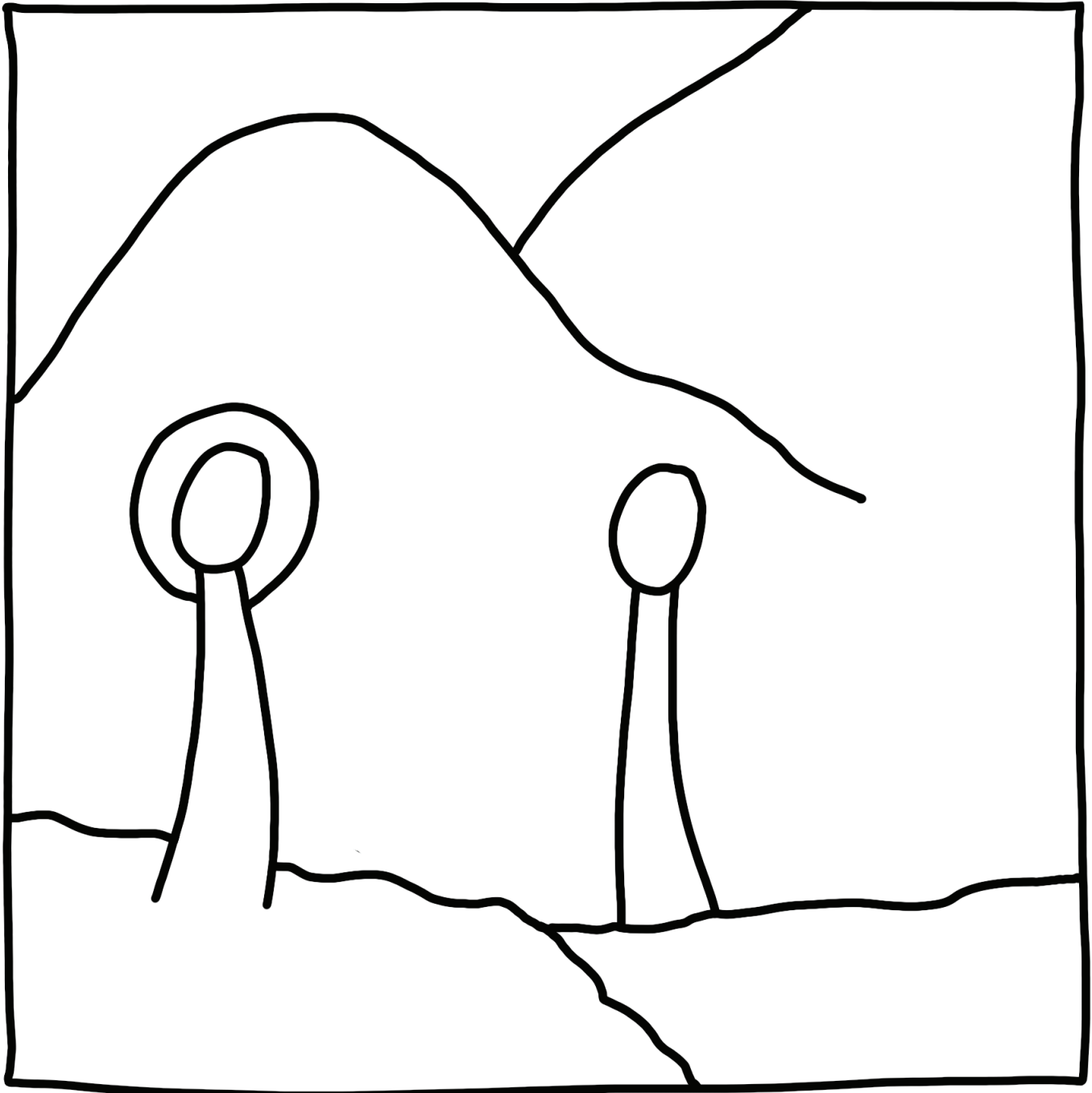
COLORING

Feel free to continue the conversation you are having while coloring your coloring sheets. Or save this for an activity throughout the week, when you can revisit the story, and talk about the words, phrases and symbols you can find in the coloring sheet.

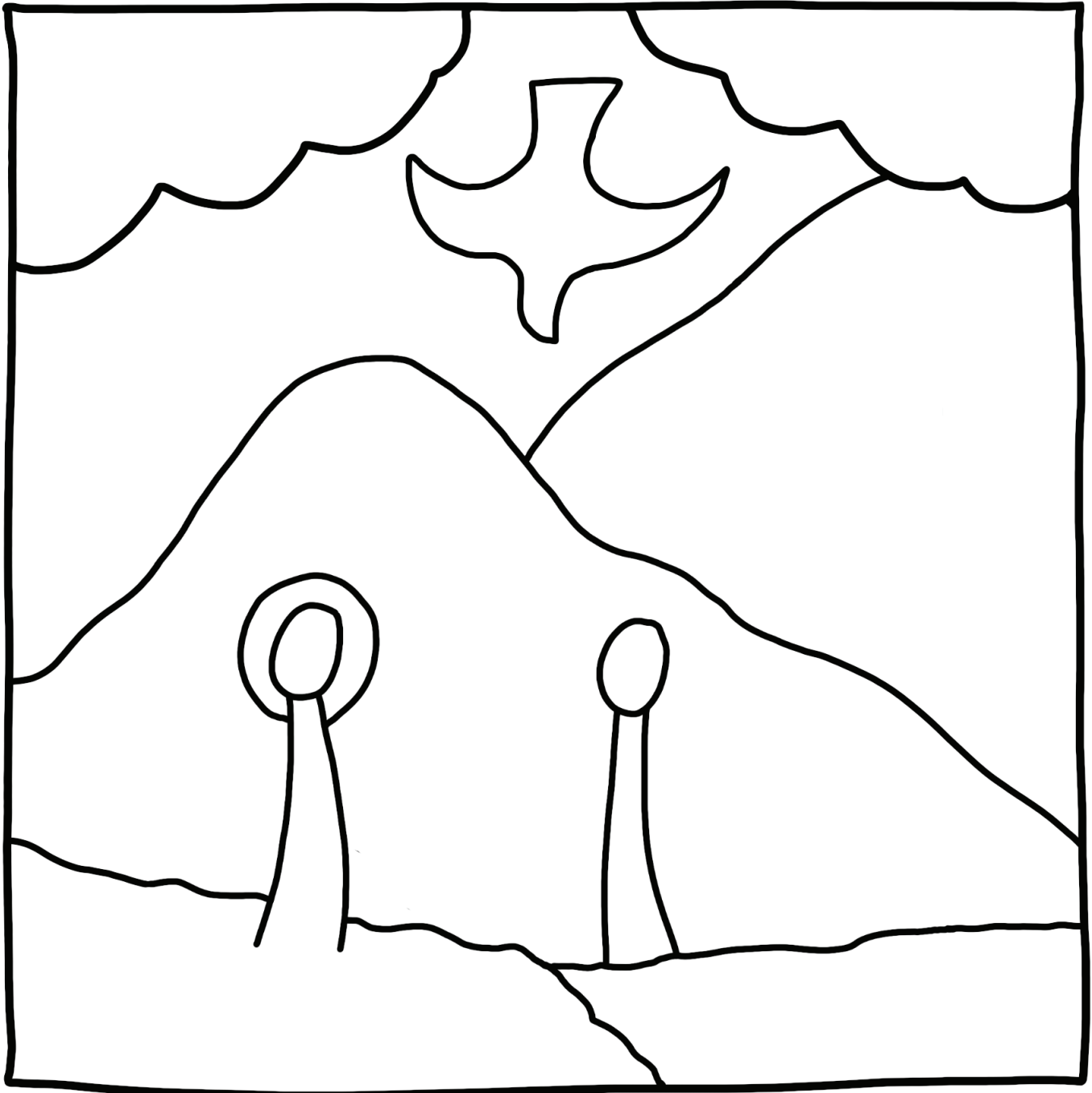


CLOSING PRAYER

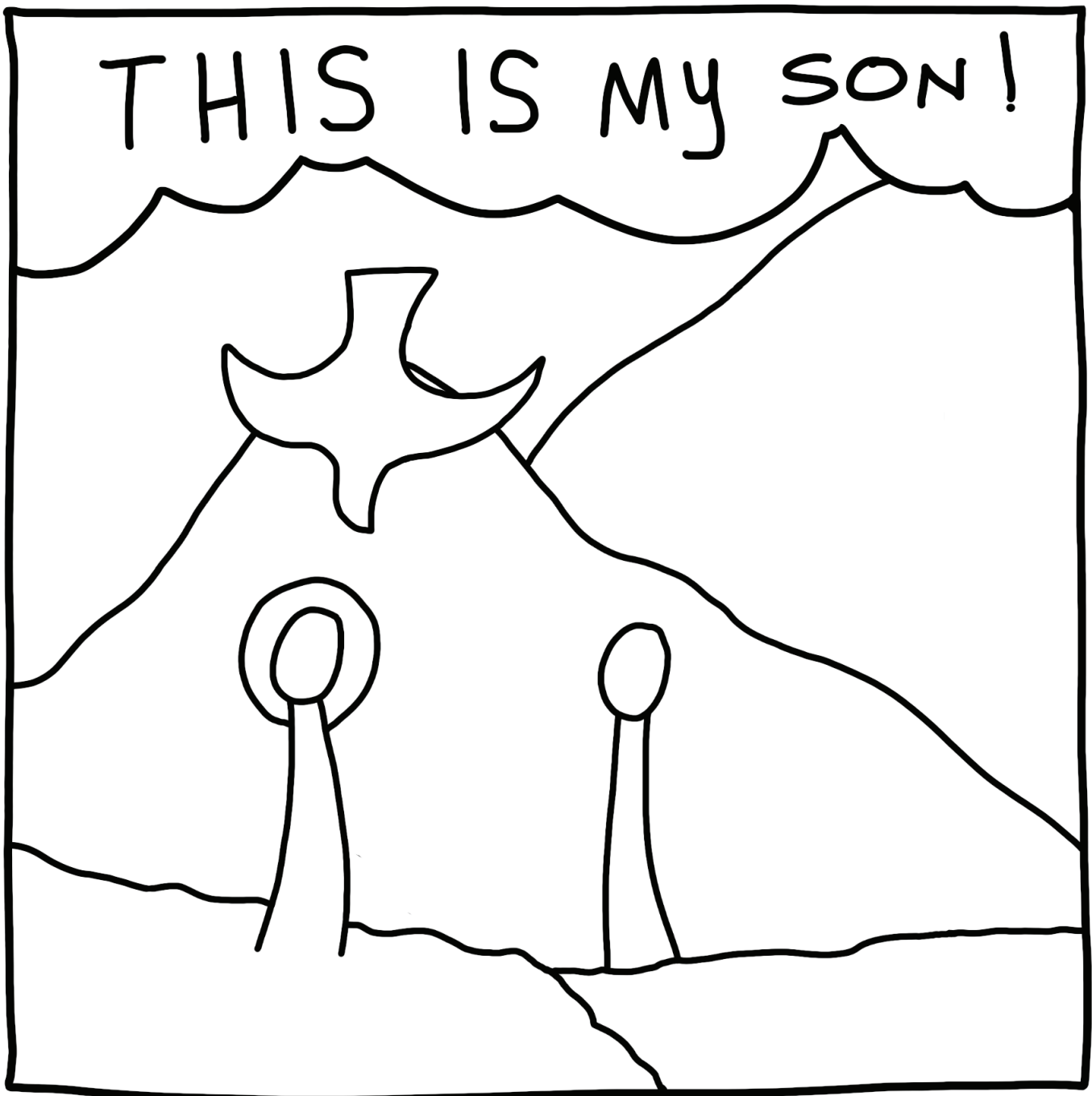
Loving God,
Thank you for baptism water
and how it frees us to live
with joy and hope as your children.
Help us remember we
are enough in your eyes.
Amen.



JESUS WENT TO THE JORDAN RIVER, WHERE JOHN THE BAPTIST WAS.



WHILE JOHN BAPTIZED JESUS, THE SKY OPENED AND A DOVE
CAME DOWN.



A VOICE FROM THE SKY SAID, "THIS IS MY SON WHOM I LOVE SO MUCH AND MAKES ME SO HAPPY."

