



Bible Verse

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. John 3:16-17

Catechism

THE LORD'S PRAYER: FIFTH PETITION

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.



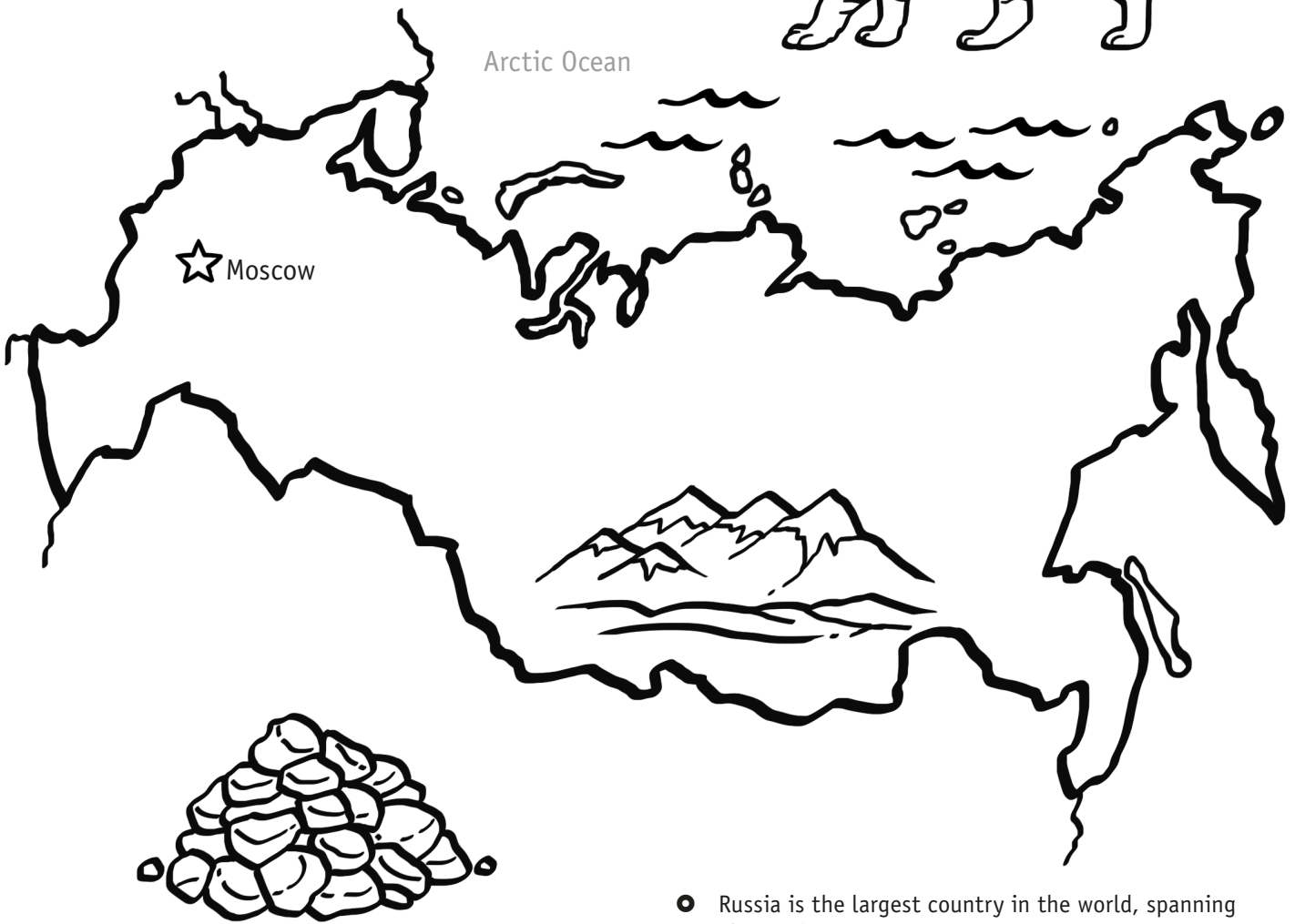
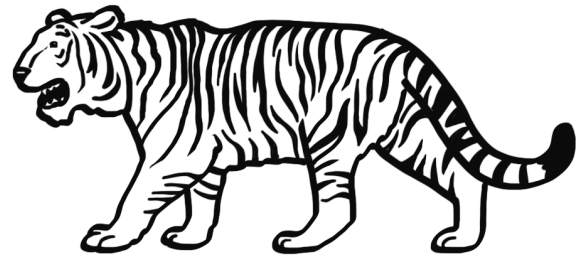
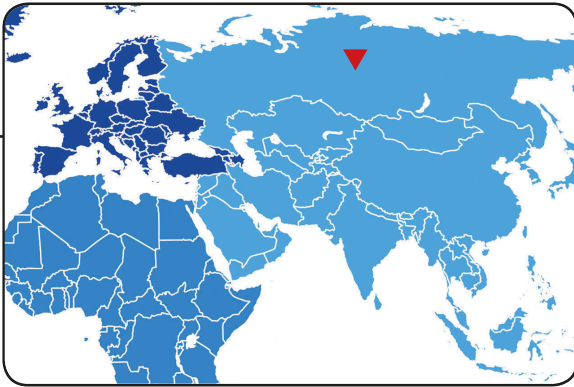
Mission Moment

Throughout this world, countries face many different challenges. Some face many wars, others deal with poverty, and others deal with bad weather. Throughout all these countries and over this whole world, God wants to show how much He loves all people. Over the years, the country of Russia has seen many different changes. But God has sent LCMS missionaries there to tell people how much God loves them through Jesus. Pray for our missionaries that they might travel safely throughout this vast country (one of the largest on the planet) and tell people about Jesus.

Russia



Russia



- Russia is the largest country in the world, spanning eleven time zones.
- Siberia makes up three-quarters of Russia and is known for its cold, snowy northern climate.
- Russia's most famous animal species is the Siberian tiger, the largest cat in the world.
- Russia has a vast supply of natural resources, including oil, coal, iron ore, gold, and aluminum.



RECIPE

Russian Tea Cakes

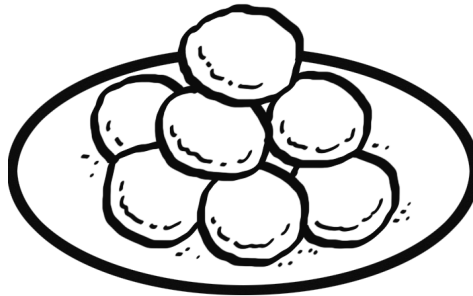
Yield: 2 dozen

Ingredients:

- 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
- ½ cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2¼ cups all-purpose flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- Optional: chopped nuts

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 400°F.
- Mix butter, powdered sugar, and vanilla in a large bowl.
- Stir in flour, salt, and nuts (optional). Mix and knead until dough forms.
- Shape dough into small balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet.
- Bake 12–14 minutes or until set.
- Roll warm cookies in powdered sugar. Let cool completely.



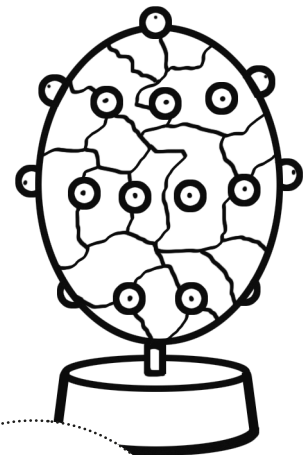
Fabergé Eggs

Materials:

- Styrofoam eggs
- Toothpicks
- Metallic tissue paper
- Foam brushes
- Glue
- Water
- Sequins, beads, or other decorative elements

Instructions:

1. Insert a short skewer or toothpick into the egg and then into a base.
2. Tear tissue into small, irregular pieces.
3. Dilute glue with water in a 2:1 ratio. Use foam brush and mixture to cover egg with tissue paper.
4. Using glue, sequins, beads, or other elements, decorate the outside of egg.



These elaborate Easter eggs were first made for the Russian czar and his family.



CRAFT



mission FRIENDS

Become a Missionary Friend at Home

Russia



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Visit missionfriends.lcms.org
for additional activities.

Devotion and Prayers



Read John 3:1–17.

Nicodemus was a smart man and asked Jesus what he thought was a good question. He asked: “How can a man be born when he is old?” Jesus had just told him that unless a man is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. To Nicodemus, the teaching of Jesus simply did not make sense.

Jesus wasn't teaching about a physical birth, like a baby being born to its mother. Jesus was teaching about a spiritual birth, a birth given to us through the waters of Holy Baptism. By the Word of God joined with simple water, our sinful selves are drowned and a new life created by the Holy Spirit. Through Word and water, we receive the forgiveness of sins won for us by Jesus on the cross. Through Word and water, we become children of God who now live to serve others, to love and forgive one another. Nicodemus would later help bury Jesus and likely learned of Jesus' resurrection too. We hope that, through the Holy Spirit, Nicodemus was born again in the Spirit, granting him the faith to believe in Jesus and have eternal life.

MEALTIME PRAYER

Dear Jesus, forgive us when we fail to understand all that You desire to teach us. Nourish us with Your Word and by daily remembering our Baptism. Bless our missionaries in Russia who work to teach Your Word and truth to those who do not yet believe in You. In Your name we pray. Amen.

BEDTIME PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, bless us and all missionaries serving You in Russia with restful sleep and renewed strength to better serve our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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