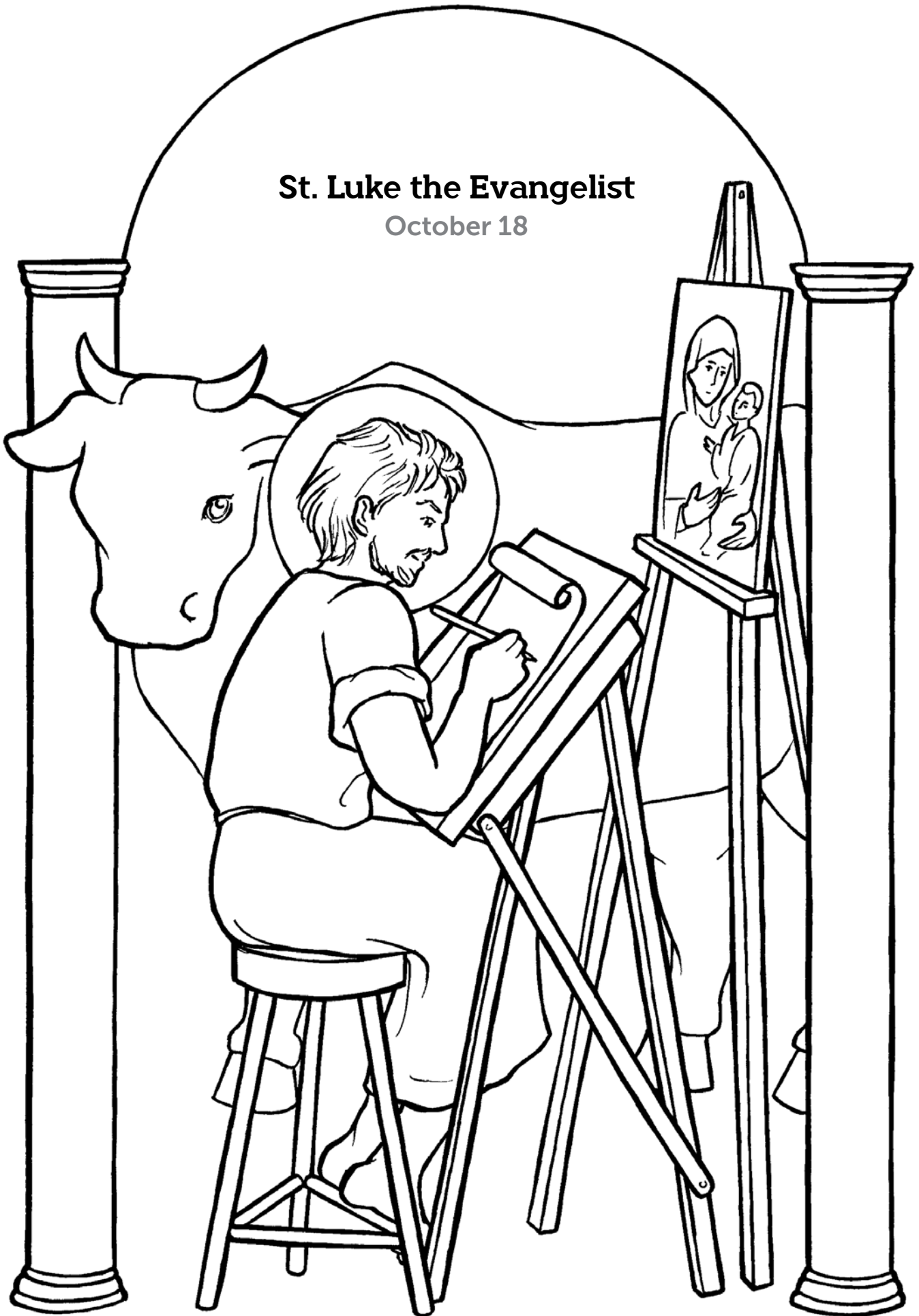


# St. Luke the Evangelist

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Biblical figure

Luke was a Greek physician. He probably learned his medical skills as a slave and worked to earn his freedom. One of the first Christian converts, he was a friend of the Apostles and, in particular, of St. Paul, who called Luke "the beloved physician" (Col. 4:14).

Sailing with Paul to Greece and Rome, Luke shared the joyful news that Jesus died for each and every one of us to free us from our sins.

When Paul was arrested for preaching the Word of Jesus, Luke visited him often to keep him company. During this time, Luke wrote the book of the Acts of the Apostles, which is a book about the beginnings of the Church. You can read this book in the Bible!

Luke was faithful to Paul and was the last to stay at his side when Paul was martyred. Afterward, he continued his travels, sharing his love for Jesus with everyone he met.

Tradition says that he paid visits to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He wrote the Gospel of Luke in the Bible, which includes special stories about Mary and the birth of Jesus that only she could have told him!

It is said that Luke was a wonderful painter and that he painted the earliest pictures of Mary. He also painted pictures with his words, as the Gospel of Luke is the longest and most beautiful of the Gospels.

Artists often show Luke with an ox at his side. That is because he begins his Gospel with the story of the angel Gabriel's appearance to Zechariah as he was burning incense to God in the Temple. Zechariah was a priest, and priests sacrificed oxen to God, making the ox a symbol of the priesthood.

St. Luke, help me to learn more about Jesus by reading your Gospel!