



# PRAISING GOD *for a Lifetime*

Children's Worship  
Written by Carol Jones



## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

---

### Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley

The Rev. Dr. Leanne Ciampa Hadley is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and has specialized in children's spirituality for her entire career. She is a graduate of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio where she received her BA and United Theological Seminary where she received both her MDiv and DMin degrees.

Leanne currently serves on staff at Christ Church United Methodist in Louisville, Kentucky and oversees the Children's and Youth Ministries and works as a trainer and mentor for congregations across the nation through her personal ministry, *A Time for Children*. Before coming to Christ Church she served as the founder and president of the *First Steps Spirituality Center*, dedicated to providing spiritual care to hurting children at no cost to the children or their families. She also served as the Children's Minister at First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado for 25 years.

In addition to working in the church and center, Leanne travels nationally and internationally leading retreats, workshops and training events centered around the spirituality of children and teens. Leanne is the author of several books including *Touching Heaven: Real Stories of Children, Life and Eternity* and *Blessed to be a Blessing: Sacred Circle Time for Preschoolers*.

To learn more about Leanne and please feel free to contact her at [leannecaresaboutkids@gmail.com](mailto:leannecaresaboutkids@gmail.com) or visit her website, [www.leanne-hadley.com](http://www.leanne-hadley.com).



### Carol Jones

I learned at my mother's knee. Every night my mom read our Bible story book to my brother, sisters and me. Each Sunday I attended Sunday school learning Bible stories. Every summer I went to Bible school absorbing songs, mission stories and the Bible. These early experiences gave me a solid foundation and love for the Word of God. I became a Christian when I was nine years old.

As an adult, my love for scripture and how God speaks to me through His Word has continued. My husband, Galvin, is a master teacher and we share many discussions over scripture. I have been fortunate to have attended churches and had Christian friends who nurtured my soul.

For 13 years I was first grade teacher, where I was introduced to brain based learning. Experiential education makes sense to me and increases enjoyment and involvement for my students. I believe the environment of the classroom and developing a feeling of safety and acceptance are important in how a child learns.

Finally, and most importantly, I love children! I love my two children, my grandchildren and children in general. I love the mischievous ones and the precise ones. I love the deep thinkers and the ones who blurt out whatever comes into their heads. I love seeing them learn and process. I love their creative art and their messy experiments. I especially love to hear their impressions and visions of God.

My prayer is that God will use these plans to help you inspire children at your church to become life long worshippers. Today in my Bible Study class, I read Revelation 7 out loud to the group. My friend, Elizabeth Gibbs, sat by my side rubbing my back as I tearfully read about how we will all one day worship together before the throne.

In Him,  
Carol Jones



## INTRODUCTION

---

Leading children to grow into life-long worshipers is the goal of these plans. These are plans, not lessons, because the emphasis is not on teaching, but guiding children into discovering and experiencing what worship is, what worship involves and how worship connects them to God. The word worship has in its roots, the word worth. For children to develop an understanding of ways to personally and collectively express God's worth underlies these plan.

The structure of the plans reflects a traditional worship format. Each month a different aspect of worship is highlighted. Sometimes the plans follow a seasonal theme as in Advent, Easter and Pentecost. Other times the plans deal with sacraments such as baptism and communion. Order of worship components are additional topics for plans.

In children's worship, children begin to see the connection between what is taking place in sanctuary worship and Children's Chapel worship. They begin to understand that symbols and Sanctuary furnishings have meanings. As much as possible, during children's worship, these symbols and furnishings are pointed out so the next time the children enter the Sanctuary, the wonder and exploration of these meanings can be pondered. As children sit in the Sanctuary they can look around recalling stories that the stain glass windows portray, realize that candles, crosses and colors have religious significance and understand that music, readings, prayers, scripture and times of silence are ways to express worship to God.

The worship plan year begins at the beginning of the church year in December after Christ the King day. Advent becomes the first worship theme in this calendar of worship. The worship year for children begins in August, when the kindergarten children are invited to participate in children's worship. Until this time, many of the children have not experienced Sanctuary worship. On the Saturday before their first children's worship, the entering kindergarteners and their parents are invited to a Saturday event where they parade around the Sanctuary and are introduced to the various parts of the Sanctuary.

These worship plans are repeated each year. Children love the tradition of repetition. They become excited when they recognize an activity or concept they have experienced previously. As children grow in their knowledge, understanding and spirit, the concepts of worship become more incorporated into their being. Repetition reinforces these concepts in different ways and at different times in children's lives as their experiences change and they mature. Children become "expert" as an area of worship is repeated and mastery is achieved.

## GETTING STARTED

---

Each session begins with children focusing attention on entering their own place of worship, the Children's Chapel, and learning to respect this area as a holy place. As the children enter the room they place their hand on the open Bible, placed on a table outside the door and say, "The word of God, for the people of God." The children are then directed to the prayer area of the room. Children are asked to share praises and concerns. As each praise or concern is expressed a small electric candle is lit.

The children then move to the area in front of the altar table. Electric candles are lit to represent the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is brought in, laid on the altar table and the scripture for the month is found and read from the Bible. A portion of the scripture is presented in sign language. Some of the signs are American Sign Language, others are a more simple illustration of the scripture. The children stand and the scripture with sign language is repeated, once for the Father, then in a lower voice and on knees, once for the Son and finally in a whisper and sitting, once for the Holy Spirit. The room is quiet now and after a few deep breathes a full 60 seconds is spent in silence with eyes closed, thus calming the heart and mind to receive the presence of God. It is amazing that children can spend 60 seconds in complete silence, but doing this allows the quiet and focus to be completely on God.

A box on the altar table is a source of mystery and interest. Each month an item connected to the worship theme is placed in the box. The children are invited to guess what might be in the box and to explain their guess. When the item is revealed the topic is introduced and the experience for the day unfolds.

The experiences are general outlines without a prescribed script. This allows the worship leader to tailor the plan to fit their own resources and presentation style. Most of the materials needed are listed. Collecting the materials in boxes labeled for the month helps to minimize the preparation stress for the worship leader. Some of the presentations are scientific in nature, others are creative.

At the end of the worship experience children are guided to recap and ponder what they have experienced. As children leave the room, they receive a blessing with the "blessing balm" (chapstick). A cross drawn on children's hand or forehead gives the worship leader a chance to look into a child's eyes and express affirmation to the child.

The room can be set up in various ways. Low light (overhead, florescent light is not recommended), soft surroundings, framed photos of the Sanctuary and as many Sanctuary items as possible make the space a worship center for children. This space is for children and if possible should not be used for other purposes.

Have fun with this. Make it your own. Incorporate your own ideas. Expand on these plans. God will lead you as you lead these precious lambs in experiencing worship and becoming life-long worshipers.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| <b>December</b>                    |    |
| Advent Week 1.....                 | 8  |
| Advent Week 2.....                 | 10 |
| Advent Week 3.....                 | 12 |
| <b>January</b>                     |    |
| Baptism Week 1.....                | 14 |
| Baptism Week 2.....                | 16 |
| Baptism Week 3.....                | 20 |
| <b>February</b>                    |    |
| Communion/Liturgy Week 1.....      | 22 |
| Communion/Liturgy Week 2.....      | 24 |
| Communion/Liturgy Week 3.....      | 28 |
| <b>March</b>                       |    |
| Lent/Prayer Week 1.....            | 32 |
| Lent/Prayer Week 2.....            | 38 |
| Lent/Prayer Week 3.....            | 40 |
| <b>April</b>                       |    |
| Empty Cross/Empty Tomb Week 1..... | 42 |
| Empty Cross/Empty Tomb Week 2..... | 44 |
| Empty Cross/Empty Tomb Week 3..... | 48 |
| <b>May</b>                         |    |
| Pentecost Week 1.....              | 52 |
| Pentecost Week 2.....              | 54 |
| Pentecost Week 3.....              | 56 |
| <b>June</b>                        |    |
| Empty Cross/Empty Tomb Week 1..... | 42 |
| Empty Cross/Empty Tomb Week 2..... | 44 |
| Empty Cross/Empty Tomb Week 3..... | 48 |
| <b>July</b>                        |    |
| Praise Week 1.....                 | 68 |
| Praise Week 2.....                 | 70 |
| Praise Week 3.....                 | 72 |
| <b>August</b>                      |    |
| Affirmation of Faith Week 1.....   | 74 |
| Affirmation of Faith Week 2.....   | 78 |
| Affirmation of Faith Week 3.....   | 82 |
| <b>September</b>                   |    |
| Lord's Prayer Week 1.....          | 86 |
| Lord's Prayer Week 2.....          | 88 |
| Lord's Prayer Week 3.....          | 90 |
| <b>October</b>                     |    |
| Sermon Weeks 1-3.....              | 92 |
| <b>November</b>                    |    |
| Offering/Doxology Week 1.....      | 94 |
| Offering/Doxology Week 2.....      | 96 |
| Offering/Doxology Week 3.....      | 98 |

## CHILDREN'S WORSHIP THEMES

| Month     | Theme-Worship Element  | Sanctuary Item (Box)  | Scripture  | Focus   | Pondering Activity   |
|-----------|------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| December  | Advent                 | Advent Wreath (manger, heart, infinity symbol)                      | Matt 1:23<br><i>Listen, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which means God with us.</i> | The Coming of Jesus in the flesh, in our hearts, forever. | 1. Christmas story with nativity-kids retell<br>2. Making cards<br>3. Mirror to show infinity/contemplative prayer |
| January   | Baptism                | Baptismal Font (Box-water poured from pitcher to bowl in box/shell) | Matt 3:13-17<br><i>He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him.</i>  | Baptism   | 1. Water separates ink<br>2. Baptism stations<br>3. Pearl in shell   |
| February  | Communion/Liturgy      | Cup and Bread (Box-chalice, tray)                                   | Luke 22:19<br><i>Do this in remembrance of me.</i>   | Remembering Jesus   | 1. Sensory stations<br>2. Hearts in loaf<br>3. Act out   |
| March     | Lent/Prayer            | Prayer Rail (Box-dry ice or scented candle)                         | Matt 26:36<br><i>Sit here while I go over there and pray.</i>  | Jesus Prayed  | 1. Prayer positions<br>2. Prayer walk<br>3. Write pastoral prayer  |
| April     | Empty Cross/Empty Tomb | Empty Cross/Empty Tomb (Box-empty)                                  | Matt 28:6<br><i>He is not here, He has risen.</i>  | Jesus is Alive  | 1. Three eyewitnesses<br>2. Drama<br>3. Resurrection eggs  |
| May       | Pentecost              | Rose Window (Box-dove, fan, candle)                                 | Acts 2:4<br><i>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.</i>   | We are the Church   | Holy Spirit is like fire and wind<br>1. Petals<br>2. Fans<br>3. Wind station                                       |
| June      | The Church             | Doors (Box-doorknob)  | Matt 28:18<br><i>Go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.</i>                      | Body of Christ  | 1. Mr. Potato Head<br>2. Rock to share<br>3. Interview   |
| July      | Praise                 | (Box-hymnal)  | Psalm 150:3-6<br><i>Praise with the sound...</i>   | Praise with Music   | 1. Instruments stations<br>2. Ways to praise<br>3. J & C Wesley  |
| August    | Affirmation of Faith   | Lecturn (Box-cross, globe, dove)                                    | Romans 15:6<br><i>Let us be of one voice.</i>  | Trinity   | 1. Three pipe cleaners braided<br>2. Reblev icon<br>3. Modius strip  |
| September | Lord's Prayer          | Prayer Rail (Box-prayer shawl)                                      | Luke 11:2<br><i>Lord, teach us to pray.</i>  | Explore the Lord's Prayer                                 | 1. Word meanings<br>2. Model-ACTS WITH centers<br>3. Bag items   |
| October   | Sermon                 | Pulpit (Box- Bible)   | Matt 5:1-2<br><i>When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountainside and sat down, His followers gathered around Him.</i>                           | Sharing God's Word  | Pastor show and tell. Each week interview one pastor.  |
| November  | Offering/Doxology      | Offering Plate (Box- offering plate)                                | Deut 15:10A<br><i>Give generously to Him and do so without a grudging heart.</i>   | Giving freely of Gifts, Prayers, Praise, Service          | 1. Draw/write out word meanings in Doxology<br>2. Commitment card<br>3. Create own motions for Doxology            |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## DECEMBER

Advent

Week 1

## SANCTUARY ITEM

Advent Wreath

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   | <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-manger<br/>-heart<br/>-infinity symbol (can make one with pipe cleaner)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Advent</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Advent Wreath</li> <li>Item in box: manger, heart, infinity symbol</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Jesus comes in flesh as a real human baby.</li> <li>Advent means, "Coming." Who is coming?<br/>These three things in the box show us three comings of Christ:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus comes in the flesh as a real human baby (manger)</li> <li>Jesus comes into our hearts every day (heart)</li> <li>Jesus comes in glory—means He is always with us (infinity symbol)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Tell the story of Jesus birth using the nativity figures.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises.</li> <li>Light a candle for each.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-two or three nativity sets (as needed for number of children)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Divide children into groups and let them act out the story of Jesus' birth using nativity sets.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt 1:23</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language, begin by saying an angel said this: <b>Listen, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which means God with us.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Listen</b>—hold hand to ear<br/><b>a virgin shall be with child</b>—hold hands in front of tummy to show pregnancy<br/><b>and shall bring forth a son</b>—rock baby in arms<br/><b>and they shall call his name Emmanuel which means God with us</b>—point to heaven, bring fist together, put hands on chest</p> | <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   | <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
|  |  | <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-decorations, art, etc.<br/>-picturing nativity scene</p>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nativity sets that have been donated. Art, cards, ornaments, decorations of nativity for children to explore.</li> </ul>   |
|  |  | <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## DECEMBER

Advent  
Week 2

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Advent Wreath

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises.</li> <li>Light a candle for each.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt 1:23</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language, begin by saying an angel said this: <b>Listen, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which means God with us.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Listen</b>—hold hand to ear<br/> <b>a virgin shall be with child</b>—hold hands in front of tummy to show pregnancy<br/> <b>and shall bring forth a son</b>—rock baby in arms<br/> <b>and they shall call his name Emmanuel which means God with us</b>—point to heaven, bring fist together, put hands on chest</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:  
-manger  
-heart  
-infinity symbol (can make one with pipe cleaner)

- Theme/Worship Element: Advent
- Sanctuary item: Advent Wreath
- Item in box: manger, heart, infinity symbol
- Main Idea:** Jesus comes into our hearts.
- Advent means, "Coming." Who is coming?  
 These three things in the box show us three comings of Christ:
  - Jesus comes in the flesh as a real human baby (manger)
  - Jesus comes into our hearts every day (heart)
  - Jesus comes in glory—means He is always with us (infinity symbol)
- Jesus comes into our hearts. In our every day life Jesus comes into our hearts:
  - Alone (how I feel)
  - Share (how to share God's love)
  - Receive (how I get God's love from others)

### PONDERING ACTIVITY

Items Needed:  
-materials to make cards

- Children make cards for others—staff, pastors, Sunday School teachers, worship leaders, etc.

### SACRED MOMENT

- Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

### SHARING

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

### DEEP DIVE

Items Needed:  
-decorations, art, etc.  
-picturing nativity scene

- Nativity sets that have been donated. Art, cards, ornaments, decorations of nativity for children to explore.

### BLESSING

- Bless each child as they leave.

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## DECEMBER

Advent  
Week 3

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Advent Wreath

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises.</li> <li>Light a candle for each.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt 1:23</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language, begin by saying an angel said this: <b>Listen, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which means God with us.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Listen</b>—hold hand to ear<br/> <b>a virgin shall be with child</b>—hold hands in front of tummy to show pregnancy<br/> <b>and shall bring forth a son</b>—rock baby in arms<br/> <b>and they shall call his name Emmanuel which means God with us</b>—point to heaven, bring fist together, put hands on chest</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:  
 -manger  
 -heart  
 -infinity symbol (can make one with pipe cleaner)  
 -two large mirrors

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-manger<br/>-heart<br/>-infinity symbol (can make one with pipe cleaner)<br/>-two large mirrors</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Advent</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Advent Wreath</li> <li>Item in box: manger, heart, infinity symbol</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Jesus comes in glory. He is always with us.</li> <li>Advent means, "Coming." Who is coming?<br/>       These three things in the box show us three comings of Christ:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus comes in the flesh as a real human baby (manger)</li> <li>Jesus comes into our hearts every day (heart)</li> <li>Jesus comes in glory—means He is always with us (infinity symbol)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Jesus will always be with us—forever.<br/>       —Focus on time. Using a timer have children run in place for one minute, do jumping jacks for one minute, etc.<br/>       —Was that forever?<br/>       —How long is forever?</li> <li>Use mirrors to show infinity—When two mirrors are parallel to each other, the number of reflections is infinite. Start with mirrors at 90% angle and put an object (candle) in middle— as angle closes, more images are reflected.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead the children in a contemplative prayer. Use a gong to begin and end prayer time. A phrase might be suggested for children's focus.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-decorations, art, etc.<br/>-picturing nativity scene</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nativity sets that have been donated. Art, cards, ornaments, decorations of nativity for children to explore.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

## Creating life-long worshipers

### JANUARY

Baptism  
Week 1

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Baptismal Font

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Matt 3:16</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened and...Children: He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>He saw the Spirit of God</b>— hold hands together as if in prayer and then raise hands over head in praise to God as you look up<br/><b>descending like a dove</b>— cross hands at wrist above head with thumbs slightly out and "flap wings." <a href="http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/f/fly.htm">http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/f/fly.htm</a><br/><b>and lighting on Him.</b>— bringing hands down to cross over on chest</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:  
-bowl  
-pitcher of water  
-dove

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-bowl<br/>-pitcher of water<br/>-dove</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Baptism</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Baptismal Font</li> <li>Item in box: Water. (Bowl and pitcher of water. Pour water from a pitcher into the bowl leaving the bowl inside the box.) Dove in box.</li> <li><b>Main idea:</b> Baptism celebrates our decision to follow Jesus for the rest of our lives. It is also the day when we decide to be part of the family of God. It makes God happy when we are baptized!</li> <li>Talk about how people are baptized—sprinkled, immersion. Tell the story of John Baptizing Jesus from Matthew 3:13-17 using "I wonder" statements. "I wonder...how John baptized Jesus..how heaven opened... how God's voice sounded." "I wonder how God felt? I wonder how Jesus felt?"</li> <li>Jesus was baptized by John at the Jordan River.</li> <li>When Jesus was baptized heaven opened and the Spirit of God came down in the form of a dove.</li> <li>A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son. I love Him. I am happy with Him."</li> <li>Jesus was baptized to give us an example to follow. When we are baptized we show that we belong to Him.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-coffee filters<br/>-black water soluble markers<br/>-paper plate<br/>-bowls of water</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talk about uses for water. Remember baptism when using water.</li> <li>Discuss what it means to follow Jesus... we make the choices Jesus would make. Discuss how when we are baptized, God is so happy!</li> <li>Have the children tell what a symbol is.</li> <li><b>Activity:</b> Children use black marker to make a circle on the filter. Put the filter on a plate and drip water in the middle of the circle. Observe. Discuss how happiness flows out of the line... that is how God feel when we are baptized. How do you feel about your baptism?</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Album of baptisms, art, photos.</li> <li>Explore baptismal font.</li> <li>Banners used on baptismal days.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

## Creating life-long worshipers

### JANUARY

Baptism  
Week 2

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Baptismal Font

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  | <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-bowl<br/>-pitcher of water<br/>-dove</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Baptism</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Baptismal Font</li> <li>Item in box: Water. (Bowl and pitcher of water. Pour water from a pitcher into the bowl leaving the bowl inside the box.) Dove in box.</li> <li><b>Main idea:</b> Baptism celebrates our decision to follow Jesus for the rest of our lives. It is also the day when we decide to be part of the family of God. It makes God happy when we are baptized!<br/>Review baptism.</li> <li>Use baby doll to demonstrate infant baptism at baptism font.</li> <li>"You are a child of God."</li> <li>Carry baby and give to member of congregation=becoming part of church.</li> <li>Discuss baptism by pouring and immersion and older child/adult baptism.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-dolls<br/>-recording of baptismal song<br/>-xylophone<br/>-items to feel<br/>-handout<br/>-basin, soap, towels<br/>-video on iPad</p> | <p><b>Sensory Stations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baptize dolls as demonstrated at baptismal font</li> <li><b>Hear:</b> Play song used at baptism or xylophone children play</li> <li><b>Feel:</b> water, cup and shells... just let them play in the water and experience it.</li> <li><b>See:</b> See video of baptism (baby, child, or adult immersion baptism if possible).</li> <li><b>Handwashing:</b> draw black X on children's hands to represent sin or bad choices. Children wash sin away with water and soap of Jesus.</li> <li>Worksheet with places to record responses for each station.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Matt 3:16</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened and...Children: He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>He saw the Spirit of God</b>— hold hands together as if in prayer and then raise hands over head in praise to God as you look up<br/><b>descending like a dove</b>— cross hands at wrist above head with thumbs slightly out and "flap wings." <a href="http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/f/fly.htm">http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/f/fly.htm</a><br/><b>and lighting on Him.</b>— bringing hands down to cross over on chest</p> | <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  | <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  | <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Album of baptisms, art, photos.</li> <li>Explore baptismal font.</li> <li>Banners used on baptismal days.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  | <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

| CENTER        | DESCRIBE OR DRAW YOUR FEELINGS |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| BAPTIZE DOLLS |                                |
| HEAR SONG     |                                |
| SEE PICTURES  |                                |
| FEEL          |                                |

| CENTER        | DESCRIBE OR DRAW YOUR FEELINGS |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| BAPTIZE DOLLS |                                |
| HEAR SONG     |                                |
| SEE PICTURES  |                                |
| FEEL          |                                |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## JANUARY

Baptism

Week 3

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Baptismal Font

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Matt 3:16</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened and...Children: He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>He saw the Spirit of God</b>— hold hands together as if in prayer and then raise hands over head in praise to God as you look up<br/> <b>descending like a dove</b>— cross hands at wrist above head with thumbs slightly out and "flap wings." <a href="http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/fly.htm">http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/fly.htm</a><br/> <b>and lighting on Him.</b>— bringing hands down to cross over on chest</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:  
-bowl  
-pitcher of water  
-dove

- Theme/Worship Element: Baptism
- Sanctuary item: Baptismal Font
- Item in box: Water. (Bowl and pitcher of water. Pour water from a pitcher into the bowl leaving the bowl inside the box.) Dove in box.
- Main idea:** Baptism celebrates our decision to follow Jesus for the rest of our lives. It is also the day when we decide to be part of the family of God. It makes God happy when we are baptized!
- Baptism is a sign of renewal.
- Show baptism with shell. Shell connects with water, fishermen.

### PONDERING ACTIVITY

Items Needed:  
-paper plates  
-fake pearls

- Prepare:** Fold a paper plate in half and place a fake pearl inside. Then staple it closed so that the pearl will not fall out. This makes a paper oyster with a pearl inside. Show the "oyster" to the kids. Do not open it. Explain to children that a pearl is made when a tiny grain of sand gets inside of an oyster and in the safety of the oyster, it becomes a pearl... of great value and worth! Open the oyster and show the kids the pearl inside.
- Say:** You are like a tiny grain of sand placed into God's loving hands! You grow into the valuable and precious person you are because of God's love and care I At your baptism, your parents and the congregation remember that all of us grow best in God's love and care I And that is why we sometimes use a shell at baptisms... to remind us that we grow best in God's love!
- Pass the pearl and invite each child, one at a time, to hold it and say: I am a precious gift from God!

### SACRED MOMENT

- Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

### SHARING

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

### DEEP DIVE

- Album of baptisms, art, photos.
- Explore baptismal font.
- Banners used on baptismal days.

### BLESSING

- Bless each child as they leave.

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## FEBRUARY

Communion

Week 1

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Cup and Bread

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Luke 22:19</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>Do this in remembrance of me.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Do this—</b> (Clasp hands.)<br/><b>in remembrance—</b> (Point to head. Twirl one finger.)<br/><b>of Me.—</b> (Make sign for Jesus, point to nail prints in hands.)</p>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:  
-table setting  
-chalice  
-tray  
-hollowed out bread with hearts inside  
-globe

- Theme/Worship Element: Communion
- Sanctuary item: Chalice and tray
- Item in box: Table setting
- Main idea:** The Bread and Juice remind us of Jesus.
- Take each item for table place setting out of box. Tell about family dinners memories are made (Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthday).
- Take chalice and tray out of box. Jesus gave us a special supper to remember Him.
- Jesus gave thanks. He broke the bread and said whenever you eat this bread remember me. Break the bread and let hearts fall out.
- Jesus held the cup and said whenever you drink from the cup, remember me.
- Jesus used ordinary things to help us remember how much He loves us. Churches in Louisville, Kentucky the United States and all over the world remember Jesus when they take communion (globe).

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-drawing supplies<br/>-paper plates</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draw something on the paper plates that helps you to remember Jesus. When you remember Jesus you remember how much He loves you.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>                |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they drew during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>                      |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Album of <i>Last Supper</i> art on iPad for children to look through.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## FEBRUARY

Communion

Week 2

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Cup and Bread

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Luke 22:19</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>Do this in remembrance of me.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Do this—</b> (Clasp hands.)<br/><b>in remembrance—</b> (Point to head. Twirl one finger.)<br/><b>of Me.—</b> (Make sign for Jesus, point to nail prints in hands.)</p>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:

- chalice
- tray
- globe

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Communion</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Chalice and tray</li> <li>Item in box: Globe</li> <li><b>Main idea:</b> The Bread and Juice remind us of Jesus.</li> <li><b>Review of Communion:</b> Communion is a meal of bread and juice that reminds us how much Jesus loves us.</li> <li>The bread reminds us Christ's body which was broken for us on the cross. Just as we eat regular bread to make our bodies strong and healthy, we eat the bread of Christ to make us strong and healthy spiritually.</li> <li>The wine or grape juice in the cup reminds us of the blood that Jesus shed for us. Jesus loves us.</li> <li>Churches in Louisville, Kentucky the United States and all over the world remember Jesus when they take communion.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-breads<br/>-grape juice<br/>-kneeling pads<br/>-plastic communion cups<br/>-other touch items<br/>-Powerpoint and laptop/iPad loaded with music<br/>-handout</p> | <p><b>Sensory Stations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> You will experience ways to remember Jesus and Communion through your 5 senses.</li> <li>Give procedure instructions and after describing the center say, "...and this will remind us again how much Jesus loves us." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Smell</b>-different kinds of bread broken in small containers</li> <li><b>Touch</b>-kneeling pads, communion cups, chalices, trays</li> <li><b>See</b>-looping PowerPoint of Last Supper art &amp; photos</li> <li><b>Hear</b>-iPads and iPhones set up with Communion music</li> <li><b>Taste</b>-bread and juice</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Draw or write about each station on handout.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> We have learned about Communion. We have spent time pondering about it. Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they drew during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Album of Last Supper art on iPad.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

| CENTER                     | DESCRIBE OR DRAW YOUR FEELINGS |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SMELL BREAD                |                                |
| HEAR SONGS                 |                                |
| SEE PICTURES               |                                |
| FEEL<br>COMMUNION<br>ITEMS |                                |
| TASTE<br>BREAD AND JUICE   |                                |

**FEBRUARY**

Communion and Liturgy

Week 3

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Cup and Bread

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Luke 22:19</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>Do this in remembrance of me.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Do this—</b> (Clasp hands.)<br/><b>in remembrance—</b> (Point to head. Twirl one finger.)<br/><b>of Me.—</b> (Make sign for Jesus, point to nail prints in hands.)</p>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:

- chalice
- tray
- globe

**PONDERING  
ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:

- bread loaves (gluten free)
- communion wafers
- juice
- playdough
- stole

**SACRED MOMENT**

- Theme/Worship Element: Communion and Liturgy
- Sanctuary item: Chalice and tray
- Item in box: Bread
- Main idea:** The Bread and Juice remind us of Jesus.
- Practice liturgy. Tell children to listen for these words.
  - Explain that the bread and juice begin as regular bread and juice and when we do the liturgy we are reminded that this bread is used for a holy purpose and so it is holy! (Show them the breads still in wrappers, with price tags, etc.)
- Learn parts of the liturgy.
- Great Thanksgiving:
  - The Lord be with you. (Arms sweeping out)
  - And also with you.** (repeat)
  - Lift up your hearts. (Hands on heart and up)
  - We lift them up to the Lord.** (repeat)
  - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (Kneel)
  - It is right to give our thanks and praise.** (Kneel)
- Remembering all God has done for us and it all leads up to Jesus, the best gift of all:
  - Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.** (motions: hold arms folded one on top of other start with right arm raised in L shape) Say: **Christ has died,** (move arm down) Say: **Christ has risen,** (move arm up in L shape) **Christ will come again,** (move hands together and raise over head, then separate)
- Invocation: We invite the Holy Spirit to make the bread holy. Ordinary bread and juice become special to remind us of the body and blood of Christ. We are one.
- Doxology—Song of Praise
  - The "Amen" is our way of saying, "Yes, this is our prayer too."
- The Meal: And then we share the bread together.

- Practice the liturgy both ways: Using intinction and being served. Break into groups and let them be the minister (Put on stole and lead and serve)
- Leader:** How did it feel to be a server? The minister? How did it feel to receive?
- When you go to the communion, which parts of the liturgy will you most look forward to?

- Leader:** We have learned about Liturgy. We have spent time pondering about it. Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

**DEEP DIVE**

- Mold playdough into bread.

**BLESSING**

- Bless each child as they leave.

**MARCH**

Lent and Prayer  
Week 1

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Prayer Rail

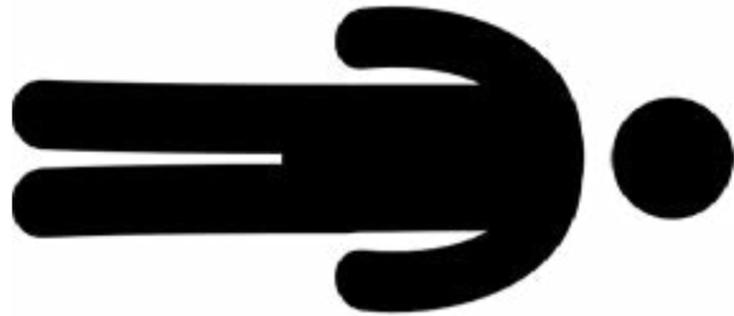
|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Matt 26:36</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and said to them,</b></li> <li>Children say: <b>Sit here while to go over there and pray.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sit</b>— (index finger and middle fingers from both hands, on top of one another)</li> <li><b>here</b>— (palms down, press down)</li> <li><b>while I go over there</b>— (motion with both hands to side)</li> <li><b>and pray</b>— (praying hands).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Briefly retell Christ in Gethsemane story.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-dry ice or scented candle  
-prayer rails with cushions

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Lent and Prayer</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Prayer rails with cushions</li> <li>Item in box: Dry ice or scented candle. A symbol of prayer is incense and as the vapors rise, it shows how our prayers go up to God (the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers Revelation 8:3-4).</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Jesus prayed in different ways and in different places. I can pray anywhere and at any time.</li> <li>What is prayer? Prayer is not only talking to God, but listening.</li> <li>Refer to places and times when Jesus prayed:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Before he fed 5,000 on a hillside, Jesus prayed and thanked God for food. Jesus prayed alone in the wilderness before he started his ministry. Jesus prayed in the temple.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Postures of prayer—when we pray, what position should we use?</li> <li>Practice positions as children name. Some to use are kneeling, lying down, holding up hands, in car, at table, rocking (probably how Jesus prayed because that is how Jews prayed). Tell children that we will spend time in prayer using three different prayer postures. Have children choose a prayer posture and hold it for 30 seconds while music plays. Do this three times.</li> </ul> |
| <p>Items Needed:<br/>-four charts with drawing of prayer position: kneeling, lying down, holding up hands, rocking, face down</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do different prayer positions feel?</li> <li>Which prayer posture did you like best? Give each child a sticker. Let children vote on one they liked best by placing their sticker on the chart showing the position they liked best.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pictures of prayer positions.</li> <li>Set up prayer rugs, cushions, prayer shawl.</li> <li>Copies of prayers/psalms.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

LYING DOWN



FACE DOWN



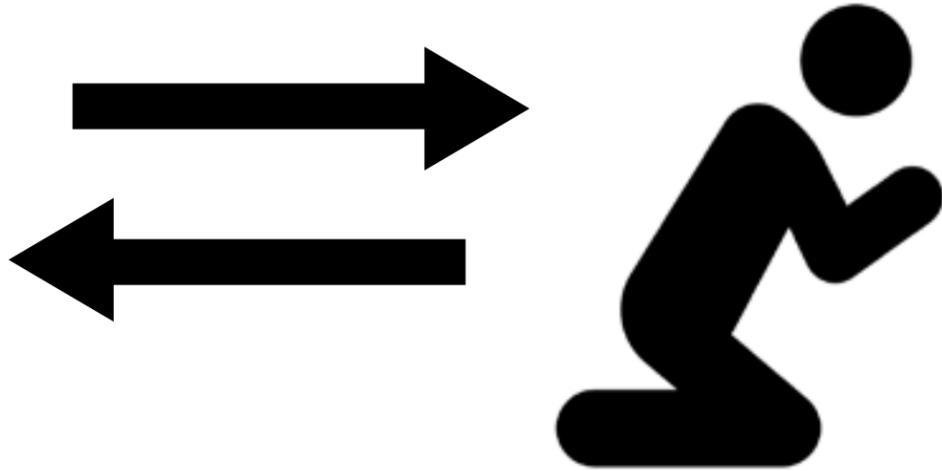
ARMS RAISED



KNEELING DOWN



ROCKING



**MARCH**

Lent and Prayer  
Week 2

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Prayer Rail

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Matt 26:36</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and said to them,</b></li> <li>Children say: <b>Sit here while to go over there and pray.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sit</b>— (index finger and middle fingers from both hands, on top of one another)</li> <li><b>here</b>— (palms down, press down)</li> <li><b>while I go over there</b>— (motion with both hands to side)</li> <li><b>and pray</b>— (praying hands).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Briefly retell Christ in Gethsemane story.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-dry ice<br/>-prayer rails with cushions<br/>-pretzel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Prayer</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Prayer rails with cushions</li> <li>Item in box: Dry ice. A symbol of prayer is incense and as the vapors rise, it shows how our prayers go up to God (the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers Revelation 8:3-4).</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Pretzel—something <i>ordinary</i> can remind us of prayer. A young monk in the early 600's in Italy was preparing a special Lenten bread of water, flour and salt. To remind his brother monks that Lent was a time of prayer, he rolled the bread dough in strips and then shaped each strip in the form of crossed arms, mimicking the then popular prayer position of folding ones arms over each other on the chest. The bread was then baked as a soft bread, just like the soft pretzels one can find today (To be fair, some traditions date the story to even the 300's).</li> <li>Prayer walk—Ordinary places can remind us to pray. Take the children on a prayer walk. As you walk around the building (or outside if weather permits) stop and ask children to look around and find something that reminds you of prayer (can be something to pray for, a way to pray, etc.).</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-paper<br/>-crayons</p>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Back in room have children draw a picture of something they saw that reminded them of prayer.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use playdough to make pretzels or something ordinary that reminds them of prayer.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

**MARCH**

Lent and Prayer  
Week 3

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Prayer Rail

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today is <b>Matt 26:36</b> in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>The leader will read the first part of the scripture from the Bible: <b>Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and said to them,</b></li> <li>Children say: <b>Sit here while to go over there and pray.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sit</b>— (index finger and middle fingers from both hands, on top of one another)</li> <li><b>here</b>— (palms down, press down)</li> <li><b>while I go over there</b>— (motion with both hands to side)</li> <li><b>and pray</b>— (praying hands).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Briefly retell Christ in Gethsemane story.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
 -dry ice or scented candle  
 -prayer rails with cushions  
 -sentence strips or strips of paper for each child  
 -markers  
 -5-6 strips with "God hears our prayers" written on each one  
 -tape

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
|                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Prayer</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Prayer rails with cushions</li> <li>Item in box: Dry ice or scented candle. A symbol of prayer is incense and as the vapors rise, it shows how our prayers go up to God (the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers Revelation 8:3-4).</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> We can write a prayer.</li> </ul> <p>When do we pray during the worship service?<br/>     Discuss pastoral prayer. What is included—thanks, requests, praise, confession.<br/>     We will write a pastoral prayer.<br/>     Have each child write a sentence for a pastoral prayer. For those who need help writing-let child draw a picture and then adult can write what child wants to say.<br/>     After each child has written a sentence, tape the sentences on the wall, one under another. After every 5th sentence put in a strip with <b>God hears our prayers.</b></p> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b></p> | <p>Read the prayer four times.<br/>         1st time—each child reads their sentence. All children read <b>God hears our prayers.</b><br/>         2nd time—teacher reads a sentence—children repeat sentence.<br/>         3rd time—whole group reads together.<br/>         4th time—have children recall postures of prayer. Have each child assume their preferred position and teacher reads whole prayer.</p>   |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Picture of prayer positions.</li> <li>Set up prayer rugs, cushions, prayer shawl.</li> <li>Copies of prayer/psalms.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## APRIL

Empty Cross/Empty Tomb  
Week 1

## SANCTUARY ITEM

Empty Cross/Empty Tomb

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt. 28:6</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li><b>He is not here; he has risen.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>He is not here</b>— (put hand over eyebrows as if you are searching)<br/><b>He has risen.</b>— (raise arms over head with hands open)</p>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-cross<br/>-Resurrection Eggs</p>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Empty Cross</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Cross</li> <li>Item in Box: Box is empty.</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Christ is risen.</li> <li>Use Resurrection Eggs to tell the Resurrection story (buy from Christian book store, make own or find on the Internet)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-cross<br/>-flowers (real, paper, artificial)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decorate empty cross with flowers (called Flowering the Cross)</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-collect different crosses</p>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of crosses.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

**APRIL**

Empty Cross/Empty Tomb  
Week 2

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Empty Cross/Empty Tomb

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt. 28:6</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li><b>He is not here; he has risen.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>He is not here</b>— (put hand over eyebrows as if you are searching)<br/><b>He has risen.</b>— (raise arms over head with hands open)</p>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b></p>               | <p>Items Needed:<br/>-cross<br/>-script (attached)<br/>-costumes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Empty Cross</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Cross</li> <li>Item in Box: Box is empty.</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Christ is risen.</li> </ul> <p><b>Four Eyewitnesses</b> - see script<br/>Thomas, Peter, Cleopas, Mary Magdalene tell their story. Walk around building, or if weather permits, outside to "encounter" these eyewitnesses.</p> |
| <p><b>PONDERING<br/>ACTIVITY</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children will ponder what it would have been like to have lived shortly after Jesus arose. Would they have seen him? What would that be like? What would they be saying to one another?</li> <li>How do you know Jesus is alive? Where does Jesus live today?</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>              | <p>Items Needed:<br/>-collect different crosses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of crosses.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

## Empty Tomb Script

Four persons that Jesus saw after His resurrection tell their stories. Make these stories your own. Embelish with your own words.

### Mary Magdalene

- Matthew 28:1-10
- Mark 16:1-11
- Luke 24:1-12
- John 20:1-18 (This is the one used)

Tell the story of how Mary saw the risen Christ. Include these points.

Mary Magdalene:

- Was at the cross and saw Jesus die.
- Went to the tomb with some other women to put spices on Jesus' body at sunrise.
- Saw 2 angels in the tomb who asked her why she was crying.
- Turned around and saw a man who she thought was the gardener who asked, "Why are you crying?"
- Asked this man. "If you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.
- When the man said her name—Mary—she knew it was Jesus.
- Jesus told her not to touch him because he had not yet returned to the Father.
- Mary went to the disciples and told them she had seen Jesus. He was alive.

**SAY:** Christ has risen.

Prompt children to say: He has risen indeed.

### Cleopas

- Luke 24:13-35

Tell the story of the Emmaus Road. Include these points.

Cleopas:

- Was walking with a friend and they were talking about Jesus' death. They were very sad.
- Was joined by another man who they did not know. This man asked who they were discussing.
- Said some of the women had amazed them by saying they saw an angel at the tomb who said Jesus was alive.
- The stranger told them scripture about Jesus from the Old Testament. This talk gave them a funny feeling. Their "hearts burned within them."
- Asked the stranger to stay with them and have dinner.
- Recognized Jesus when he gave thanks, broke the bread and gave them some of it.
- Told the disciplines they had seen Jesus. He was alive.

**SAY:** Christ has risen.

Prompt children to say: He has risen indeed.

### Thomas

- John 20:24-29

Tell the story of "Doubting Thomas". Include these points:

Thomas:

- Was one of the 12 disciples. He was always asking questions (John 14:5).
- Was not with the rest of the disciples when Jesus appears to them the first time.
- Did not believe the other disciples when they told him they had seen Jesus and that Jesus was alive.
- Said, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and touch him, I will not believe it."
- Was with the disciples a week later in a room with the door locked because since they were followers of Jesus they

were afraid they might be killed too.

- Was with the rest of the disciples the next time when Jesus came and stood among them.
- Saw Jesus, touched him, talked to him and then he believed. Jesus was alive.

**SAY:** Christ has risen.

Prompt children to say: He has risen indeed.

### Peter

John 21:1-25

Tell the story of the picnic on the beach. Include these points:

- Went out in his boat with six other disciples who were fishermen too and fished all night but didn't catch anything.
- Saw a man standing on the beach early the next morning while they were still fishing. The man asked if they had caught anything.
- The man told them to throw their net out on the other side of the boat and when they did they got some many fish they couldn't haul the net in.
- John said, "It is the Lord!"
- Peter jumped in the water.
- Jesus fixed them breakfast on the beach.
- The disciples knew it was Jesus. Jesus was alive!

**SAY:** Christ has risen.

Prompt children to say: He has risen indeed.

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## APRIL

Empty Cross/Empty Tomb  
Week 3

## SANCTUARY ITEM

Empty Cross/Empty Tomb

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt. 28:6</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li><b>He is not here; he has risen.</b></li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>He is not here</b>— (put hand over eyebrows as if you are searching)<br/><b>He has risen.</b>— (raise arms over head with hands open)</p>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-cross<br/>-costumes</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Empty Cross</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Cross</li> <li>Item in Box: Box is empty.</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Christ is risen.</li> </ul> <p>Storytelling: Resurrection story. Use children to act out as teacher tells story. Use scriptures for background John 20:1-18.</p> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-plastic eggs<br/>-story script (attached)<br/>-colored pencils</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give each child an empty egg. How does the empty egg remind us of what happened to Jesus at Easter? Children draw story on script.</li> <li>How do you know Jesus is alive?</li> <li>Where does Jesus live today?</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-collect different crosses</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of crosses.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

**Empty Tomb Drama**

Characters:

Mary Magdalene

John

Peter

Two angels

Jesus

Children will play the parts. Teacher will tell the story as children act out.

Table with dark cloth over it represents tomb. White folded cloth inside.

Bold is teacher's instruction to child.

This is Mary Magdalene one of Jesus' friends.

(Teacher tells story in own words)

- Early on first day of week. Describe situation.

**Mary Magdalene, walk over to the tomb.**

- Stone is gone.
- Goes to find Jesus' disciples, Peter and John.

**Mary Magdalene, go back and get Peter and John (2 children).**

- Someone took Jesus from the tomb.
- She doesn't know where they have put him!
- She tells Peter and John to come and look.

**Peter and John, act like you are running and John gets there first.**

**John, you get to tomb and bend down and look in.**

- John sees the pieces of linen cloth but doesn't go in.

**Peter, you go in the tomb.**

- Peter sees the linen cloth lying there and the handkerchief used to cover Jesus' head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself.

**John, go in tomb too.**

- Peter and John see the linen cloths. They see that Jesus is gone. They believe that Jesus rose from the dead. Peter and John leave to go home.

**Mary Magdalene, come back to the tomb kneel down and start crying.**

**Two angels, get in tomb**

- The angels ask Mary Magdalene why she is crying.
- Mary says, "Someone has taken Jesus and I don't know where they have put him."

**Jesus, walk up behind Mary Magdalene.**

- A man asks Mary Magdalene why she is crying and who she is looking for.

- Mary Magdalene thinks this man is the gardener and says, "If you took Jesus, tell me where you put him so I can care for him."

- The man says in a tender voice, "Mary!"

**Mary Magdalene, look up at the man.**

- (read dramatically) and.....then she recognizes Jesus and says, "Teacher?.....Teacher!!"
- Jesus tells her not to hug him because he has not yet ascended to the Father. Jesus tells her to go tell his disciples.
- Mary Magdalene runs out saying:

I have seen Jesus! He is alive! The tomb is empty!.

Have all the children say:

***He is alive.***

***The tomb is empty!***

**Story Script**

|     |      |      |     |
|-----|------|------|-----|
| 1st | Then | Next | End |
|-----|------|------|-----|

**MAY**

Pentecost

Week 1 — Fire

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Rose Window/Dove

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Acts 2:1-4</b> is in our Bible (show them). • Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.—</b> (move both arms out to include all ending with hands set down in front)<br/> <b>Suddenly—</b> (grasp fists together and pull towards chest)<br/> <b>a sound—</b>(hand to ear)<br/> <b>like the blowing of a violent wind—</b> (flap hands side to side quickly)<br/> <b>came from heaven—</b> (point up)<br/> <b>and filled the whole house—</b> (raise hands up)<br/> <b>where they were sitting.—</b> (bring hands back down)<br/> <b>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire—</b> (spread out fingers and wiggle)<br/> <b>that separated and came to rest on each of them.—</b> (move fire above head)<br/> Repeat this part of Scripture three times (see below)<br/> <b>All of them were filled—</b> (palm down and raise to chin)<br/> <b>with the Holy Spirit.—</b> (pinch fingers and pull apart, one up, one down)</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:

- electric candle
- fan
- dove
- United Methodist symbol
- red rose petals
- someone to drop rose petals from balcony or window

-Ask acolytes to come light candles in Children's Chapel

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:

- large piece of cardboard with outline of United Methodist symbol (cardboard will pull moisture out of petals)

**SACRED MOMENT**

**SHARING**

**DEEP DIVE**

Items Needed:

- collect pictures and symbols of Holy Spirit and of rose petals falling at Pantheon.

**BLESSING**

- Theme/Worship Element: Holy Spirit
- Sanctuary item: Candles
- Item in box: Electric candle, fan, dove
- **Main Idea:** The Holy Spirit is like fire.
- Background of Pentecost.
- Today's lesson of fire as symbol of Holy Spirit. Discuss fire.
- Acolytes light candles on altar table in Children's Chapel. Discuss how this represents Holy Spirit's presence during worship.
- Show the United Methodist Church symbol—flame and cross
- Take children to a place where rose petals can be dropped (windows, stairs, balcony). Start talking about Holy Spirit and His presence there. Rose petals will begin to fall. This comes from an ancient tradition in Rome where rose petals are dropped from the "eye of God" in the Pantheon on Pentecost Sunday.  
[www.italymagazine.com/news/pentecost-pantheon-rainfall-rose-petals](http://www.italymagazine.com/news/pentecost-pantheon-rainfall-rose-petals) and <http://anamericaninrome.com/wp/2016/05/raining-rose-petals-at-the-pantheon/>
- Ask children what red rose petals could represent (Acts 2:1-4).

- Take rose petals back to Children's Chapel and lay out on cardboard design in shape of United Methodist Church flame/cross symbol. The rose petals will be left to dry. Dried rose petals will be used next Sunday to make potpourri.

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

- Explore different pictures.

- Bless each child as they leave.

**MAY**

Pentecost

Week 2 — Wind

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Rose Window/Dove

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Acts 2:1-4</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.—</b> (move both arms out to include all ending with hands set down in front)<br/> <b>Suddenly—</b> (grasp fists together and pull towards chest)<br/> <b>a sound—</b>(hand to ear)<br/> <b>like the blowing of a violent wind—</b> (flap hands side to side quickly)<br/> <b>came from heaven—</b> (point up)<br/> <b>and filled the whole house—</b> (raise hands up)<br/> <b>where they were sitting.—</b> (bring hands back down)<br/> <b>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire—</b> (spread out fingers and wiggle)<br/> <b>that separated and came to rest on each of them.—</b> (move fire above head)<br/> Repeat this part of Scripture three times (see below)<br/> <b>All of them were filled—</b> (palm down and raise to chin)<br/> <b>with the Holy Spirit.—</b> (pinch fingers and pull apart, one up, one down)</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
 -electric candle  
 -fan  
 -dove  
 -feathers  
 -ribbons  
 -tissue paper  
 -other things to blow

- Theme/Worship Element: Holy Spirit
- Sanctuary item: Candles
- Item in box: Electric candle, fan, dove
- **Main Idea:** The Holy Spirit is like the wind.
- Background of Pentecost.
- Today's lesson of wind as symbol of Holy Spirit. Discuss wind and it's characteristics.
- Use fan to talk about wind. Use feathers, ribbons, tissue paper
- Breathe. Refer to God breathing into Adam, Gen. 2:7. Jesus breathing on disciples. John 20:22.
- Teach breath prayer:  
 Breathe in say: **Come Holy Spirit**  
 Breathe out say: **I am Yours.**
- Practice breath prayer.

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
 -paper fans  
 -crayons/markers  
 -recipe for rose petal potpourri  
 -bag for each child to have potpourri

- Make fans to spread the Holy Spirit.
- Recall last week's lesson fire and rose petals. Make potpourri.
- Connect potpourri to Holy Spirit (rose petals represent tongues of fire, smell).

**SACRED MOMENT**

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Use breath prayer: Come Holy Spirit (breathe in), I am Yours (breathe out). Repeat three times.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

**DEEP DIVE**

Items Needed:  
 -collect pictures and symbols of Holy Spirit  
 -feathers  
 -ribbons  
 -tissue paper

- Symbols of Holy Spirit collection.
- Children can use their fans to blow feathers, ribbons, tissue paper.

**BLESSING**

- Bless each child as they leave.

**MAY**

Pentecost

Week 3— Dove

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Rose Window/Dove

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Acts 2:1-4</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Teach scripture with motions.</li> </ul> <p><b>When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.—</b> (move both arms out to include all ending with hands set down in front)<br/> <b>Suddenly—</b> (grasp fists together and pull towards chest)<br/> <b>a sound—</b>(hand to ear)<br/> <b>like the blowing of a violent wind—</b> (flap hands side to side quickly)<br/> <b>came from heaven—</b> (point up)<br/> <b>and filled the whole house—</b> (raise hands up)<br/> <b>where they were sitting.—</b> (bring hands back down)<br/> <b>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire—</b> (spread out fingers and wiggle)<br/> <b>that separated and came to rest on each of them.—</b> (move fire above head)<br/> Repeat this part of Scripture three times (see below)<br/> <b>All of them were filled—</b> (palm down and raise to chin)<br/> <b>with the Holy Spirit.—</b> (pinch fingers and pull apart, one up, one down)</p> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-electric candle  
-fan  
-dove

- Theme/Worship Element: Holy Spirit
- Sanctuary item: Candles
- Item in box: Electric candle (fire), fan (wind), dove
- **Main Idea:** The Holy Spirit is with us.
- Background of Pentecost.
- Today's lesson of dove as symbol of Holy Spirit. Discuss characteristics of a dove.
- Recall dove stories from Bible: Flood-Gen. 8:6-12. Jesus' baptism-Matt. 3:13-17
- God through the Holy Spirit has moved throughout the Bible.
- Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Retell John 16:5-16.
- What are jobs of Holy Spirit?
- Have children act out disciples getting sadder and sadder (shrinking down, lower, sad, bodies limp). Then the Holy Spirit comes! (act out)
- Worship is time to connect with Holy Spirit. Draw attention to ( on rose window photo over altar)

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-box with items to describe Holy Spirit—piece of candy, cotton ball, feather, ribbon, flower, fire, shell big enough to listen, other items, bottle filled with colored water

- When we say, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the part that is with you.
- What does that feel like? Box of items to describe Holy Spirit. Ask children other items to describe Holy Spirit.
- Use bottle of colored water to experience feelings—calm, exciting, rocking, etc.
- Pass around bottle and let children act out. How do you feel, hear, know, the Holy Spirit?

**SACRED MOMENT**

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Use breath prayer: Come Holy Spirit (breathe in), I am Yours (breathe out). Repeat three times.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

**DEEP DIVE**

Items Needed:  
-collect pictures and symbols of Holy Spirit

- Symbols of Holy Spirit collection.
- Children can use box of items to describe Holy Spirit to feel, blow, hear, the Holy Spirit.

**BLESSING**

- Bless each child as they leave.

**JUNE**

The Church  
Week 1— The Body of Christ

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Doorknob

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>• Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt. 28:19</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>• Teach scripture with motions.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Go—</b> (point)</li> <li><b>and make disciples—</b> (two thumbs up)</li> <li><b>of all nations—</b> (two fingers spin around -like world-and then land on other fist)</li> <li><b>baptizing—</b> (two thumbs up, "immerse" sideways)</li> <li><b>them in the name of the Father—</b> (point to heaven)</li> <li><b>and of the Son—</b> (point to nail prints in hands)</li> <li><b>and of the Holy Spirit—</b> (pinch two fingers and raise from palm of other hand)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>• Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-doorknob  
-Mr. Potato Head

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-doorknob<br/>-Mr. Potato Head</p>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theme/Worship Element: Congregation</li> <li>• Sanctuary item: Doors/doorknob</li> <li>• Item in box: Mr. Potato Head</li> <li>• <b>Main Idea:</b> The Body of Christ—we are the parts</li> <li>Use 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 to describe the church as the body of Christ. Make these points:</li> <li>• Review the Great Commission—verse repeated in introduction.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> How do we do this BIG job? Reference Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came.</li> <li>• The church (us) is the body of Christ.</li> <li>• Each part is important.</li> <li>• Each part must work together.</li> <li>• We are the body of Christ and we each have a part to play.</li> <li>• Use Mr. Potato Head game to discuss the parts of the church.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-potatoes with eyes<br/>-soil in cups</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut up potato and plant pieces (may need to google). Relate that each part with grow with proper nourishment. Compare how part (person) in the church grows with proper "nourishment".</li> <li>• Ask children to consider their gifts—"What am I good at?" and how can God use that to tell others about Jesus?"</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>• Use breath prayer: Come Holy Spirit (breathe in), I am Yours (breathe out). Repeat three times.</li> <li>• Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE:</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-puzzles</p>                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Puzzles—parts making a whole.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

**JUNE**

The Church  
Week 2— Our Church Family

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Doorknob

**PROCESSION**

from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel

- The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."
- Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."

**PRAYERS**

table with candles in back corner

- Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.

**GATHERING**

- **Leader:** Our scripture for today **Matt. 28:19** is in our Bible (show them).
- Teach scripture with motions.
  - Go—** (point)
  - and make disciples—** (two thumbs up)
  - of all nations—** (two fingers spin around -like world-and then land on other fist)
  - baptizing—** (two thumbs up, "immerse" sideways)
  - them in the name of the Father—** (point to heaven)
  - and of the Son—** (point to nail prints in hands)
  - and of the Holy Spirit—** (pinch two fingers and raise from palm of other hand)

**PRAYING**

- **Leader:** And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.
- Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.
- **Leader:** first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.
- **Leader:** Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-doorknob

- Theme/Worship Element: Congregation
- Sanctuary item: Doors/doorknob
- Item in box: doorknob
- **Main Idea:** The Body of Christ is the Church —our church family.
- Review the Great Commission—verse repeated in introduction.
- **Leader:** How do we do this BIG job? Reference Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came.
  - The church (us) is the body of Christ—church family.
  - Each person in the church is like a part of the body of Christ.
  - Look at potatoes from last week and discuss. (Each piece can grow if it has things to help it grow.—relate to us and church)
  - Our church is like a family—brothers, sisters.
  - How do we get along in our family?
  - Bible tells us over and over to love one another—Romans 12:16 says: *Live together in peace with each other. Don't be proud, but be willing to be friends with people who are not important to others. Don't think of yourself as smarter than everyone else.*
  - If we are to live the Great Commission and be the Body of Christ, what would that look like? (keep connecting Body of Christ with family of God).

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

- One way we can live the Great Commission and be the family of God is the way we treat one another.
- Activity: Partner children with someone they do not know.
- Children interview their partner—leader gives some sample questions.
- One question should be: What are you good at? How can you use that in God's family?
- Get back in circle and have each child introduce their partner. Be sure to have them tell something they are good at. Children may need help telling how God can use that characteristic.
- At close, have each child turn to their partner and say, "You are a blessing."

**SACRED MOMENT**

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Use breath prayer: Come Holy Spirit (breathe in), I am Yours (breathe out). Repeat three times.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>SHARING</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>DEEP DIVE</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blessing/Appreciation Circle</li> </ul> <p>Leader models Blessing/Appreciation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Tyler, you are a blessing because you made Cassie feel welcome when you picked her for your partner.”</li> <li>• “I appreciate your smile.”</li> </ul> <p>After leader does a few, ask children to give blessing sentences or appreciations.</p> |
| <b>BLESSING</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

**JUNE**

The Church  
Week 3— Going Out Into The World

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Doorknob

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>• Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt. 28:19</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>• Teach scripture with motions.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Go—</b> (point)</li> <li><b>and make disciples—</b> (two thumbs up)</li> <li><b>of all nations—</b> (two fingers spin around -like world-and then land on other fist)</li> <li><b>baptizing—</b> (two thumbs up, "immerse" sideways)</li> <li><b>them in the name of the Father—</b> (point to heaven)</li> <li><b>and of the Son—</b> (point to nail prints in hands)</li> <li><b>and of the Holy Spirit—</b> (pinch two fingers and raise from palm of other hand)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>• Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-doorknob

**PONDERING  
ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-a rock for each child  
-markers  
-stickers  
-decals to decorate rocks

**SACRED MOMENT**

- Theme/Worship Element: Congregation
- Sanctuary item: Doors/Doorknob
- Item in box: doorknob
- **Main Idea:** Taking the love of Christ into the World
- Review the Great Commission—verse repeated in introduction.
- **Leader:** How do we do this BIG job? Reference Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came.
- The church (us) is the body of Christ—church family.
- Each person in the church is like a part of the body of Christ.
- Bible tells us over and over to love one another—Romans 12:16 says: *Live together in peace with each other. Don't be proud, but be willing to be friends with people who are not important to others. Don't think of yourself as smarter than everyone else.*
- Teach the children to "Pass the Peace."
  - Turn to person next to you and say: **Peace be with you.**
  - Response: **And also with you.**
- This week we will talk about how we take Christ into the world.
- Talk about missionaries.
- Tell a short version of Paul as a missionary.
- How can you be a missionary? Think about what you are good at and how you can use that to let others see God's love in you.

- One of the symbols of the Church is a rock.
- Decorate a rock with symbols showing God's love.
- This week give this rock to someone and tell them that God loves them. (Try this at home first, might want to make a bookmark instead.)

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Use breath prayer: Come Holy Spirit (breathe in), I am Yours (breathe out). Repeat three times.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

**DEEP DIVE**

- Blessing/Appreciation Circle

Leader models Blessing/Appreciation:

- “Tyler, you are a blessing because you made Cassie feel welcome when you picked her for your partner.”
- “I appreciate your smile.”

After leader does a few, ask children to give blessing sentences or appreciations.

**BLESSING**

- Bless each child as they leave.

**JULY**  
Praise  
Week 1

**SANCTUARY ITEM**  
Hymnal

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Psalm 150:3-6</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture and demonstrates "body percussion." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Praise—</b> (praise in sign language—hold hands next to face and wiggle all fingers. Do this each time you say, "Praise.")</li> <li><b>Him with the sounding of trumpets—</b> (toot make believe trumpet—ta-a-tada)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with the harp and lyres—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with timbrel and dancing—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with strings and pipe—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with the clash of cymbals—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with resounding cymbals—</b> (act out)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Repeat this part of scripture three times (see below)</li> <li><b>Let everything—</b> (open arms to include all)</li> <li><b>that has breathe—</b> (bring open hand to mouth and pull breathe out by closing fingers)</li> <li><b>Praise—</b> (wiggle fingers)</li> <li><b>the Lord.—</b>(point to heaven)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-letters P-R-A-I-S-E hidden inside hymnal<br/>-hymnals for each child</p>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Praise</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Hymnal</li> <li>Item in box: Hymnal with P-R-A-I-S-E hidden inside.</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Praise shows God how much we love Him.</li> <li>Discuss why we praise God.</li> <li>Discuss when we praise God (just when we're happy?)...</li> <li>Discuss ways to praise God...<br/>Hymnals—explore. Pass out hymnals. Let children explore. Pick a hymnal and teach them how to follow from one verse line to the next.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-basket of instruments<br/>-ribbons<br/>-scarves or streamers for dance</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ways to praise God—stations. Different instruments at each station. Children will rotate through the stations, praising God with the instruments provided.</li> <li>Liturgical dance. Demonstrate and practice.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children can continue to explore hymnals and instruments.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

**JULY**

Praise

Week 2— Wesley's Music

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Hymnal

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Psalm 150:3-6</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture and demonstrates "body percussion." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Praise—</b> (praise in sign language—hold hands next to face and wiggle all fingers. Do this each time you say, "Praise.")</li> <li><b>Him with the sounding of trumpets—</b> (toot make believe trumpet—ta-a-tada)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with the harp and lyres—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with timbrel and dancing—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with strings and pipe—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with the clash of cymbals—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with resounding cymbals—</b> (act out)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Repeat this part of scripture three times (see below)</li> <li><b>Let everything—</b> (open arms to include all)</li> <li><b>that has breathe—</b> (bring open hand to mouth and pull breathe out by closing fingers)</li> <li><b>Praise—</b> (wiggle fingers)</li> <li><b>the Lord.—</b>(point to heaven)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-letters P-R-A-I-S-E hidden inside a hymnal

- Theme/Worship Element: Praise
- Sanctuary item: Hymnal
- Item in box: Hymnal with P-R-A-I-S-E hidden inside.
- **Main Idea:** Praise shows God how much we love him.
- Hymns of John and Charles Wesley-select one or two and give the history.  
This is good background info from: <https://cardiphonia.org/2010/09/14/collection-of-john-and-charles-wesleys-hymns/>
- Hark the Herald Angels Sing  
Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
Rejoice the Lord is King  
Christ the Lord is Risen Today

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-hymnals  
-spoons

- Give out hymnals and look up hymns of Charles Wesley.
- You could play "spoons" looking up hymns that Charles Wesley wrote. (To play spoons, place the children in groups of 4 or 5, put one less spoons than children in middle of circle. Call out number of hymn and as children find, they silently pick up spoon.)

**SACRED MOMENT**

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

**DEEP DIVE**

Items Needed:  
-instruments  
-hymnals

- Children can continue to explore hymnals and instruments.

**BLESSING**

- Bless each child as they leave.

**JULY**  
Praise  
Week 3

**SANCTUARY ITEM**  
Hymnal

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Psalm 150:3-6</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture and demonstrates "body percussion." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Praise—</b> (praise in sign language—hold hands next to face and wiggle all fingers. Do this each time you say, "Praise.")</li> <li><b>Him with the sounding of trumpets—</b> (toot make believe trumpet—ta-a-tada)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with the harp and lyres—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with timbrel and dancing—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with strings and pipe—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with the clash of cymbals—</b> (act out)</li> <li><b>Praise Him with resounding cymbals—</b> (act out)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Repeat this part of scripture three times (see below)</li> <li><b>Let everything—</b> (open arms to include all)</li> <li><b>that has breathe—</b> (bring open hand to mouth and pull breathe out by closing fingers)</li> <li><b>Praise—</b> (wiggle fingers)</li> <li><b>the Lord.—</b>(point to heaven)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-letters P-R-A-I-S-E hidden inside a hymnal

- Theme/Worship Element: Praise
- Sanctuary item: Hymnal
- Item in box: Hymnal with P-R-A-I-S-E inside
- **Main Idea:** Praise shows God how much we love him.
- Discuss how we praise God.  
(The children will write their own praise songs. Have children suggest some sentences of praise. Suggest some easy tunes—Mary had a little lamb, ABC song. Sing these together. Try to fit the words into the tunes.)

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-paper  
-pencils

- Ask the children to write a praise song that he or she could sing to the melody of one of the songs. Remind them that their songs do not have to have rhymes.
- Allow children to write alone or in groups.
- Let children share songs.

**SACRED MOMENT**

- **Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Sacred moment (1 minute using timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

**DEEP DIVE**

- Children can continue to explore hymnals and instruments.

**BLESSING**

- Bless each child as they leave.

**AUGUST**

Affirmation of Faith  
Week 1

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Lectern

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Romans 15:6</b> is in our Bible (show them). <b>Let us be of one voice.</b><br/> <b>Let us</b>—(motion to include everyone)<br/> <b>be</b>—(palms together as you twist hands)<br/> <b>one</b>— (one finger)<br/> <b>voice.</b>— (fingers in a V move from throat up and out mouth).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>see next page</p>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: Affirmation of Faith</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Lectern</li> <li>Item in box: globe, cross, dove (Trinity)<br/>                     Globe—God as creator<br/>                     Cross—God as Jesus—both human and Devine. This is the way in which God experienced what it was to be human.<br/>                     Dove—God as the Holy Spirit—God in me.</li> </ul>   |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-small globe  
-cross  
-dove  
-"God" written on a round (about five inches) piece of cardboard

- Main Idea:** We believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Put the God disc in the middle of the circle. Put the globe, cross and dove in a triangle around disc. Use this diagram to explain the Trinity-Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all God.
- Affirmation of Faith is what we believe. Discuss Affirmation of Faith in bulletin each Sunday.
- Practice the following Affirmation of Faith  
**Leader:** We believe in a God of Love, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe in the Holy Spirit that is the wind of life, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe that we are the Church, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader says each line of the following and children repeat:**  
 Lord, we are here today to worship You,  
 Come and be with us,  
 Inspire us to give our lives to You  
 So You can use us to build Your kingdom here.

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-pipe cleaners— blue, white, purple, blue

- Show colors of pipe cleaners. Ask what color would represent the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- Have children braid the three colors together to represent God.

**SACRED MOMENT**

- Children hold trinity braid and point their finger in the air to make the triangle as they say, The Father (top point of triangle), the Son (point to one side of triangle) and the Holy Spirit (point to other side of triangle).
- Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

**SHARING**

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

## DEEP DIVE

Items Needed:

-gather symbols of the Trinity— shamrocks, Celtic cross, triangles, pretzel, etc.

- In a circle, practice holding hands crossed across your chests and turning to face outwards without letting go hands.

(Begin facing inwards, not holding hands.)

**Dear God, you are three people in one circle of love.**

(Hold hands, as practiced, with arms crossed across chests)

**We are (20? 30?) people in a circle.**

(Turn to face outwards without letting go hands)

**Help us to welcome others into our community.**

(Lift up arms together)

**Amen**

- Let the children explore different trinity symbols.

## BLESSING

- Bless each child as they leave.

**AUGUST**

Affirmation of Faith  
Week 2

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Lecturn

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Romans 15:6</b> is in our Bible (show them). <b>Let us be of one voice.</b><br/> <b>Let us</b>—(motion to include everyone)<br/> <b>be</b>—(palms together as you twist hands)<br/> <b>one</b>— (one finger)<br/> <b>voice.</b>— (fingers in a V move from throat up and out mouth).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>see next page</p>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: Affirmation of Faith</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Lectern</li> <li>Item in box: globe, cross, dove (Trinity)<br/>                     Globe—God as creator<br/>                     Cross—God as Jesus—both human and Devine. This is the way in which God experienced what it was to be human<br/>                     Dove—God as the Holy Spirit—God in me.</li> </ul>  |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-small globe  
-cross  
-dove

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-Rablev's icon— make a large copy to use  
-crayons  
-paper  
-clay

**SACRED MOMENT**

**SHARING**

- Main Idea:** We believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Affirmation of Faith is what we believe. Discuss affirmation of faith in bulletin each Sunday.
- Practice the following Affirmation of Faith  
**Leader:** We believe in a God of Love, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe in the Holy Spirit that is the wind of life, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe that we are the Church, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader says each line of the following and children repeat:**  
 Lord, we are here today to worship You,  
 Come and be with us,  
 Inspire us to give our lives to You  
 So You can use us to build Your kingdom here.

- Show large copy of Rablev's icon.
- Ask questions about the icon.
- If you need help go to [www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/what-christians-believe-about-the-trinity-a-classroom-activity/](http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/what-christians-believe-about-the-trinity-a-classroom-activity/)
- Have children create their own icon for the trinity—can be picture, in body language, clay. What can you create to show somebody who doesn't know God was he is like?

- Children hold their icon and point their finger in the air to make the triangle as they say, The Father (top point of triangle), the Son (point to one side of triangle) and the Holy Spirit (point to other side of triangle).
- Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

## DEEP DIVE

Items Needed:

-gather symbols of the Trinity— shamrocks, Celtic cross, triangles, pretzel, etc.

- In a circle, practice holding hands crossed across your chests and turning to face outwards without letting go hands.

(Begin facing inwards, not holding hands.)

**Dear God, you are three people in one circle of love.**

(Hold hands, as practiced, with arms crossed across chests)

**We are (20? 30?) people in a circle.**

(Turn to face outwards without letting go hands)

**Help us to welcome others into our community.**

(Lift up arms together)

**Amen**

- Let the children explore different trinity symbols.

## BLESSING

- Bless each child as they leave.

**AUGUST**

Affirmation of Faith  
Week 3

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Lecturn

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Romans 15:6</b> is in our Bible (show them). <b>Let us be of one voice.</b><br/> <b>Let us</b>—(motion to include everyone)<br/> <b>be</b>—(palms together as you twist hands)<br/> <b>one</b>— (one finger)<br/> <b>voice.</b>— (fingers in a V move from throat up and out mouth).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>see next page</p>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: Affirmation of Faith</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Lectern</li> <li>Item in box: globe, cross, dove (Trinity)<br/>                     Globe—God as creator<br/>                     Cross—God as Jesus—both human and Devine. This is the way in which God experienced what it was to be human<br/>                     Dove—God as the Holy Spirit—God in me.</li> </ul>  |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-small globe  
-cross  
-dove  
- make Mobius strip  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVsIAa2XNKc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVsIAa2XNKc)  
This makes a two loop Mobius strip. To make a three loop Mobius strip, before taping the ends together, twist the strip one more time. Start cutting 1/3 of the strip width. Now you should have two loops. Cut one of the loops again and there will be three loops.  
-bulletins from current Sunday service

**PONDERING ACTIVITY**

Items Needed:  
-construction paper  
-tape  
-glue  
-scissors

**SACRED MOMENT**

**SHARING**

- Main Idea:** We believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Affirmation of Faith is what we believe. Discuss affirmation of faith in bulletin each Sunday.
- Practice the following Affirmation of Faith  
**Leader:** We believe in a God of Love, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe in the Holy Spirit that is the wind of life, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader:** We believe that we are the Church, do you?  
 Children: Yes we do!  
**Leader says each line of the following and children repeat:**  
 Lord, we are here today to worship You,  
 Come and be with us,  
 Inspire us to give our lives to You  
 So You can use us to build Your kingdom here.

- Make a Mobius strip with three loops. Ask how does this demonstrate the trinity?
- Show examples of trinity icons (shamrock, Celctic knot, triangle, interlocking circles, etc.) Give children time to discuss and then one minute of silence to create a trinity icon in their head.
- Create your own icon of the trinity using paper. You may want to have another piece of paper for them to glue their creation or it could be three dimensional (use your imagination to expand this).

- Children hold their icon and point their finger in the air to make the triangle as they say, The Father (top point of triangle), the Son (point to one side of triangle) and the Holy Spirit (point to other side of triangle).
- Leader:** Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.
- Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.
- Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).

- Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.

## DEEP DIVE

Items Needed:

-gather symbols of the Trinity— shamrocks, Celtic cross, triangles, pretzel, etc.

- In a circle, practice holding hands crossed across your chests and turning to face outwards without letting go hands.

(Begin facing inwards, not holding hands.)

**Dear God, you are three people in one circle of love.**

(Hold hands, as practiced, with arms crossed across chests)

**We are (20? 30?) people in a circle.**

(Turn to face outwards without letting go hands)

**Help us to welcome others into our community.**

(Lift up arms together)

**Amen**

- Let the children explore different trinity symbols.

## BLESSING

- Bless each child as they leave.

**SEPTEMBER**

Lord's Prayer  
Week 1

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Prayer Rail/Prayer Shawl

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>• Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   | <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-prayer shawl<br/>-prayer rail<br/>-Lord's Prayer written out on sentence strips or large poster</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theme/Worship Element: Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• Sanctuary item: Prayer rail</li> <li>• Item in box: Prayer shawl</li> <li>• <b>Main Idea:</b> Jesus taught us to pray.</li> <li>• Start saying the Lord's Prayer</li> <li>• Discuss history. Why did Jesus say, to who, where, when, etc.?</li> <li>• Read Lord's Prayer from poster with children following as you point to words.</li> <li>• Are there any words you don't understand?</li> <li>• Discuss prayer line by line.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-prayer shawls</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have children sit in small groups with a prayer shawl on their lap.</li> <li>• Say Lord's Prayer slowly together.</li> <li>• If time give each child a line of the prayer and have them draw a small picture to represent that part.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Luke 11:1</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>• Leader says scripture using sign language. <b>Lord teach us to pray.</b><br/> <b>Lord</b>— (move hand from shoulder to opposite waist -like a banner)<br/> <b>teach</b>— (pinch fingers of both hands together and touch side of forehead)<br/> <b>us</b>— (motion to all children)<br/> <b>to pray</b>— (fold hands in prayer)</li> </ul>  | <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>• Children can keep prayer shawl on lap as they pray silently.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>• Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li>• <b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> | <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
|  |  | <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-arts and craft supplies</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have arts and craft materials available for children to use for a time of self reflection and discernment of what they experienced.</li> </ul>  |
|  |  | <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## SEPTEMBER

Lord's Prayer  
Week 2

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Prayer Rail/Prayer Shawl

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Luke 11:1</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language. <b>Lord teach us to pray.</b><br/> <b>Lord</b>— (move hand from shoulder to opposite waist -like a banner)<br/> <b>teach</b>— (pinch fingers of both hands together and touch side of forehead)<br/> <b>us</b>— (motion to all children)<br/> <b>to pray</b>— (fold hands in prayer)</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-prayer shawl<br/>-prayer rail<br/>-Lord's Prayer written out on sentence strips or large poster</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Lord's Prayer</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Prayer rail</li> <li>Item in box: Prayer shawl</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> Jesus taught us to pray.</li> <li>Start saying the Lord's Prayer</li> <li>This is a model prayer. Introduce ACTS model:</li> </ul>  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b></p>  | <p><b>A-adoration</b><br/><b>C-confession</b><br/><b>T-thanksgiving</b><br/><b>S-supplication (asking)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go over prayer line and line and have children decide how each line fits into one of these categories.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-ribbons<br/>-streamers<br/>-straw<br/>-rocks<br/>-cross<br/>-butcher paper<br/>-markers<br/>-strips of paper<br/>-pencils</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss and demonstrate each prayer station.</li> <li>Divide children into four groups and have them move through stations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Adoration-</b> have children make a adoration shaker (can be ribbon/streamers on stick/straw).</li> <li><b>Confession-</b> rocks and cross. Children take a rock and think about something "heavy" in their life. Pray and move rock to cross that you set up.</li> <li><b>Thanksgiving-</b> large piece of butcher paper taped to wall. Draw or write things for which to thank God.</li> <li><b>Supplication-</b> On small pieces of paper, children write or draw prayer requests. Put in "Prayer box" (decorated box with slot to insert paper request)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Children can keep prayer shawl on lap as they pray silently.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children can continue to explore prayer stations.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## SEPTEMBER

Lord's Prayer  
Week 3

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Prayer Rail/Prayer Shawl

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Luke 11:1</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language. <b>Lord teach us to pray.</b><br/> <b>Lord</b>— (move hand from shoulder to opposite waist -like a banner)<br/> <b>teach</b>— (pinch fingers of both hands together and touch side of forehead)<br/> <b>us</b>— (motion to all children)<br/> <b>to pray</b>— (fold hands in prayer)</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul> |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:  
 -prayer shawl  
 -prayer rail  
 -Lord's Prayer written out on sentence strips or large poster  
 -picture of a loving father  
 -God's name in fancy picture frame  
 -globe  
 -loaf of bread  
 -no trespassing sign  
 -play money  
 -cookie  
 -crown  
 -ring or rainbow

- Theme/Worship Element: Lord's Prayer
  - Sanctuary item: Prayer rail
  - Item in box: Prayer shawl
  - Main Idea:** Jesus taught us to pray.
  - Start saying the Lord's Prayer
  - Go over prayer line by line as you pull things out of shopping bag.
    - Our Father, who art in heaven**—collage of people and animals showing love. (Discuss fatherly love)
    - Hallowed be thy name**—GOD's name sign (Research Halloween as this is likely to come up)
    - Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven**-globe. (How does God want the earth to be?)
    - Give us this day our daily bread-loaf of bread.** (Providing for needs)
    - And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us**—NO TRESSPASSING sign. (Confession and forgiving others)
    - And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil**-something that tempts (cookie, play money, shiny "gem")
    - For thine is the kingdom and power and the glory forever** (crown)
    - AMEN** (means let it be, a promise. Ring or rainbow)
- Use this website for more.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-prayer shawls</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have children sit in small groups with a prayer shawl on their lap.</li> <li>Say Lord's Prayer slowly together.</li> </ul>                          |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Children can keep prayer shawl on lap as they pray silently.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>                           |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children can explore Lord's Prayer props.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## OCTOBER

Sermon

Week 1-3 (all weeks are the same)

## SANCTUARY ITEM

Pulpit

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Matt 5:1-2</b> is in our Bible (show them).</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language: <b>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His followers came to him, and he began to teach them.</b><br/> <b>When Jesus</b>— (point to each palm, nailprints)<br/> <b>saw</b>— (point to eyes)<br/> <b>the crowds</b>— (hold all fingers up and wiggle)<br/> <b>He went up on a mountainside</b>— (mountain with hands in V)<br/> <b>and sat down</b>— (two fingers on hand "sit" on two fingers on other hand)<br/> <b>His followers</b>— (palms flat, one following other move forward)<br/> <b>gathered around him.</b>— (hands open and pull together as gathering)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |

## LEARNING

Items Needed:

-Bible

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Sermon</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Bible</li> <li>Item in box: Bible</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> The pastor shares God's Word with us.</li> <li>The Bible tells us that Jesus shares God's Word. Our pastor shares God's Word. We call that the sermon. Introduce pastor for the week (could be Bible teacher). Ask pastor to bring stolls, Bible, and other items they might use.</li> <li>If you need questions ask:<br/> How do you share God's Word?<br/> Why did you become a pastor?<br/> What is your favorite job at church?<br/> How does God speak to you?</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b></p>                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> How do you respond to the sermon? How can we pray for our pastor?</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-arts and craft supplies</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask children to write thank you notes to pastor.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Creating life-long worshipers

## NOVEMBER

Doxology/Offering

Week 1

### SANCTUARY ITEM

Offering Plate

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Deut 15:10A</b> is in our Bible (show them)</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language: <b>Give generously to Him and do so without a grudging heart.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Give</b>— (palms up in giving motion)</li> <li><b>generously</b>— (roll hands one over the other)</li> <li><b>to Him</b>— (point to heaven)</li> <li><b>and do so without</b>— (fists together, then move apart and open hands)</li> <li><b>a grudging</b>— (pull fists together, squeeze shoulders, make mean face)</li> <li><b>heart</b>— (draw heart on chest)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |

### LEARNING

Items Needed:

- offering plate
- crayons
- pencils
- markers
- four large sheets of paper taped to the wall. At the top of each one write one line of the Doxology.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-paper<br/>-pencils</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Offering/Doxology</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Offering plate</li> <li>Item in box: Offering plate</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> We give back to God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talk about the order of service. Let children act out as you explain how we worship in each of these actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collecting offering</li> <li>Bringing offering plates forward</li> <li>Singing doxology</li> <li>Pastors lifting offering plates to God</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>This week the worship emphasis is: Doxology</li> <li>Wonder activity—"I wonder what each line of the doxology means?"</li> <li>Discuss each line. Have children give examples and words to describe.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children can continue to draw/write on doxology papers.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

**NOVEMBER**

Doxology/Offering  
Week 2

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Offering Plate

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Deut 15:10A</b> is in our Bible (show them)</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language: <b>Give generously to Him and do so without a grudging heart.</b><br/> <b>Give</b>— (palms up in giving motion)<br/> <b>generously</b>— (roll hands one over the other)<br/> <b>to Him</b>— (point to heaven)<br/> <b>and do so without</b>— (fists together, then move apart and open hands)<br/> <b>a grudging</b>— (pull fists together, squeeze shoulders, make mean face)<br/> <b>heart</b>— (draw heart on chest)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>                |

**LEARNING**

Items Needed:  
-offering plate  
-commitment cards  
-large piece of paper taped to wall or pocket chart with sentence strips

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-offering plate<br/>-commitment cards<br/>-large piece of paper taped to wall or pocket chart with sentence strips</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: Worship Element: Offering/Doxology</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Offering plate</li> <li>Item in box: Offering plate and commitment cards</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> We give back to God.</li> <li>Talk about Commitment Sunday. All our stuff is God's and He has given us the privilege to take care of it for Him. (Watch time to be sure enough time is allowed for children to fill out cards and go to Sanctuary)</li> <li>Brainstorm ways we can take care of this stuff and give back to God:</li> <li>List these ideas on the paper.<br/>Include money but also service ideas. (ideas for sharing, giving projects, time, talents) If you need help with this go to: <a href="http://cogop.org/children/allmy-stuff-belongs-to-god-stewardship-for-kids/">http://cogop.org/children/allmy-stuff-belongs-to-god-stewardship-for-kids/</a></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PONDERING ACTIVITY</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-commitment cards<br/>-pencils</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give out commitment cards and explain.</li> <li>Short prayer time.</li> <li>Children copy from chart or list other commitments to God and the church on their card.</li> <li><b>TAKE CHILDREN TO SANCTUARY AND LET THEM PLACE THEIR COMMITMENT CARDS ON THE ALTAR.</b></li> <li>Come back to Children's Chapel for follow up and dismissal.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process and discuss: How did it feel to do this?</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>   |

**NOVEMBER**

Doxology/Offering

Week 3

**SANCTUARY ITEM**

Offering Plate

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p><b>PROCESSION</b><br/>from Sanctuary to Children's Chapel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is open on the table outside the Chapel. As the children enter they will touch the Bible and the leader or child will say, "The Word of God, for the people of God."</li> <li>Leader carries the Bible into the room and says, "The Word of God for the people of God. Prompt the children to say, "Thanks be to God."</li> </ul>  | <p><b>LEARNING</b><br/>Items Needed:<br/>-offering plate<br/>-commitment cards<br/>-large piece of paper taped to wall or pocket chart with sentence strips</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme/Worship Element: Offering/Doxology</li> <li>Sanctuary item: Offering plate</li> <li>Item in box: Offering plate</li> <li><b>Main Idea:</b> We give back to God.<br/>Talk about the order of service. Let children act out as you explain how we worship in each of these actions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collecting offering</li> <li>Bringing offering plates forward</li> <li>Singing doxology</li> <li>Pastors lifting offering plates to God</li> </ul> </li> <li>This week the worship emphasis is: Doxology<br/>Review charts.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PRAYERS</b><br/>table with candles in back corner</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather children in back corner and ask for prayer concerns or praises. Light a candle for each and then pray.</li> </ul>   |   |  |
| <p><b>GATHERING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Our scripture for today <b>Deut 15:10A</b> is in our Bible (show them)</li> <li>Leader says scripture using sign language: <b>Give generously to Him and do so without a grudging heart.</b><br/> <b>Give</b>— (palms up in giving motion)<br/> <b>generously</b>— (roll hands one over the other)<br/> <b>to Him</b>— (point to heaven)<br/> <b>and do so without</b>— (fists together, then move apart and open hands)<br/> <b>a grudging</b>— (pull fists together, squeeze shoulders, make mean face)<br/> <b>heart</b>— (draw heart on chest)</li> </ul> |   |  |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> And now, let's enter a time of prayer by repeating the scripture three times, once for the Father, once for the son and once for the Holy Spirit. And each time we say it, let's get quieter.</li> <li>Repeat the scripture with motions. Once for Father, once for Son and once for Holy Spirit.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> first time standing, second stooped, third sitting.</li> <li><b>Leader:</b> Let's spend one minute in prayer letting the word of God speak to our hearts and souls. Silent prayer (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>                | <p><b>SACRED MOMENT</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leader:</b> Now let's be still and let God speak to our hearts.</li> <li>Ask each child to praise God in their heart silently.</li> <li>Sacred moment (one minute-use timer).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>   | <p><b>SHARING</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each group leader will invite their children to share what they thought during the pondering time and silence.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>   | <p><b>DEEP DIVE</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children practice their motions with Doxology music.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>  | <p><b>PRAYING</b></p>   | <p><b>BLESSING</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bless each child as they leave.</li> </ul>  |

A young boy with short hair is smiling and reading a dark-colored book. He is holding the book with both hands. The background is a soft-focus field of tall grass or reeds. The entire image has a light blue-green tint.

PRAISING GOD  
*for a Lifetime*