

Summer Church 2022

Readings and Activities for Children and Families

adapted from Lesson Plans that Work

lessonplans.episcopalchurch.org

Trinity Episcopal Parish
trinityoldswedes.church

Join us live on Sundays at 10am in English and 12 pm in Spanish
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Year C

Pentecost Proper 7

June 19, 2022

Opening Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for calming our fears and being with us. Thank you for loving each of us. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story (Luke 8:26-39)

A man was going crazy with all kinds of demons. A demon is something that makes you afraid and makes you act differently than you normally would. This man was suffering from all the demons and fear he had. Jesus did not want the man to be afraid. So Jesus said to the demons: "You come out of that man this instant and go away and do not ever come back to him. I am sending you demons off the cliff and into the ocean and you are to never come back!" Well, the man felt better right away. He said "Thank you, thank you, thank you to Jesus." The man went home to his friends and told them Jesus had sent his demons away, never to come back.

Activity: Give our fears to God

Have you ever had a bad dream? What happened?

Give your child(ren) pieces of paper and crayons. Tell them we are all going to draw our bad dreams and then tear up our drawings into a zillion pieces and put the pieces in the trash.

Getting Closure:

Tell your child(ren) that IF the bad dream or fear (or whatever they named) comes back, you can tell it you have already gotten rid of it, and it is not allowed to come back! Tell your parents to come into your room and remind the bad dream that it has been torn into a zillion pieces.

Closing Prayer:

Thank you, God, that you want us to be happy and live a peaceful life. When things make us scared, help us to remember that you are there for us. **Amen.**

adapted from a lesson by Shannon Kelly

Year C

Pentecost Proper 8

June 26, 2022

Opening Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for showing us ways we can follow you. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story: (Luke 9:51-62)

Tell the children you need their help to show this story. Ask someone to volunteer to be Jesus, and the rest of us will be Jesus' friends.

Adult: "Jesus, tell us to go on ahead to the next town to get things ready for you. And off we will go." (Invite the volunteer who is Jesus to tell the friends to go and then you and the rest get up and move from one end of the room to the other.)

Adult: "But guess what? The people don't want to hear about Jesus in that silly town! Are we furious, or what? How do you think we can show that we are angry over this?" (Show outrage, stamp feet, etc. then quiet down.)

Adult: But what does Jesus say? He tells us we will just keep on going to another town. (Invite Jesus to tell the friends to go to another town.)

Adult: So let's walk and walk to the next town. We are saying to Jesus, "We want to follow you." Jesus says to us, "to follow me, you have to do what I tell you to do." (Invite Jesus to say, "to follow me, you have to do what I tell you to do.")

Adult: What does Jesus tell us to do? Jesus says following Jesus is praying for those Jesus loves. (Invite Jesus to say, "If you want to follow me, then pray for people I love.")

Activity: **Praying for those Jesus loves**

Who does Jesus love?

(answers include: us, grandma, grandpa, my teacher, our dog, everyone)

What's a gesture we make when we pray?

(let the child(ren) come up with anything they want, but if they get stuck, you might show them hands folded in prayer.)

Take a walk around your house/neighborhood/beach. Whenever you pass someone or something for whom/which you would like to pray, make the gesture you came up with.

Getting Closure:

Invite your child(ren) to tell about a place we went, or something they saw, that they want to be sure we do not forget

Closing Prayer:

In your closing prayer, thank Jesus for the places the children remember, naming each in the prayer.

Loving God, thank you for teaching us to follow you in prayer. We remember those special places we visited today (especially_____). Be with us all and help us to follow you in love and prayer. **Amen**

adapted from a lesson by Shannon Kelly

Year C

Pentecost Proper 9

July 3, 2022

Opening Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus, for sending us with friends to help us do our work. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story: (Luke 10:1-11, 16-20)

Jesus said to his friends, "You are ready! You have listened to me and learned from me, and now it is time for you to go do the work I have for you to do. Now, I don't want you to take any extra stuff to take with you: no extra shoes, no money, not even a snack, because I do not want you to be loaded down. But, I am not sending you out alone: each one of you will have a partner to go with you. Work is better when you have someone to work with you."

Activity: **Two by Two is Better!**

Tell your child(ren) to pretend a basket or box is VERY heavy. Invite the partners to have just one person try to lift it. Then, share the work with a partner on each end.

and/or

Show them a sheet or towel and ask one child to fold it up alone. Then show the partners how to hold opposite ends of the cloth, walk toward each other, and one grab both ends, repeating until the cloth is folded.

If time permits, give the children paper and crayons and invite them to draw a picture, together, of themselves working as a team of two.

Getting Closure:

What sorts of things are better with two people?

Closing Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus, for the partners we discovered today. Help us see new ways to work with others so that we may better serve you. **Amen.**

adapted from a lesson by Shannon Kelly

Year C

Pentecost Proper 10

July 10, 2022

Opening Prayer:

Jesus, you teach us to love God with everything we have and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Help us as we try to do this. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story: (Luke 10:25-37)

A man asked Jesus, "Just who is our neighbor? Who are the people we are supposed to help?" So Jesus said, "I have a story to tell you. Once upon a time, there was a man. He had to travel far from his home on business. He was coming back one night and some really bad guys hit him, took all his money, and then beat him up. They left him by the side of the road."

Jesus continued, "While the man was lying there, hurting so very badly, and moaning, a person came by. This person saw the man, crossed over to the other side and just kept on going." Another person came by, and the man lying by the road sat up a bit in hopes this one would stop. This person **ALSO** crossed the road and kept right on going. The man by the side of the road was just about to give up all hope when along came a person we call The Good Samaritan.

That person, the Good Samaritan, saw the hurting man and stopped. This person bandaged up the man's wounds. The Good Samaritan helped the man get up, walked gently with him, and took him to a motel. The Good Samaritan told the motel owner to let this man stay there until he was well enough to go on to his home. The Good Samaritan gave the motel owner a bunch of money and told him that if there not enough money, he would pay him some more the next time he came by.

Activity:

Ask your child(ren) to reenact the story to tell it to you. Help them if they get stuck

and/or

Ask your child(ren) to draw a picture or tell a story of how they might help someone in need. If they get stuck, ask them what they would do if they saw that one of their friends scraped their knee.

Getting Closure:

Jesus says that the best way to live is by loving God and loving our neighbor as our self. Who is our neighbor? EVERYBODY!

Closing Prayer:

Keep us, O Lord, mindful of who our neighbors are and how we are to treat our neighbors. Help us to reach out to those in need. **Amen.**

adapted from a lesson by Shannon Kelly

Year C

Pentecost Proper 11

July 17, 2022

Opening Prayer:

Thank you, God, for times to hear stories about Jesus. Help us remember to stop and be with you no matter how much we have to do. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story: (Luke 10:38-42)

Martha and Mary were sisters. They were very good friends of Jesus. One day, Martha invited Jesus to come to their house. When Jesus got there, they both said, "Come in! We are so glad you have come to our house." Mary sat right down beside Jesus and asked him about his trip and listened to everything he was saying. Martha went right to the kitchen to fix a really nice dinner for Jesus. And she raced around setting the table. Then she started to dust things in the living room. She was angry that she had to do all the work. So Martha said to Jesus: "Tell Mary to come help me with all this work." Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, calm down. You are getting too carried away with all this housework. Mary is doing the more important thing: Mary is listening to me."

Activity:

Ask your child(ren) what jobs they have at home to help out around the house. Does anyone set the table, load the dishwasher, or help with the dusting, feed the dog?

What would the house be like if NO ONE did these jobs?

What is your favorite job to do at home?

What is your least favorite job?

Getting Closure:

What would life be like if ALL we ever did was work?

Prayer is a time to put work down and be with Jesus.

Closing Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus, for the stories you give us. Help us to be like Martha and help those around us and like Mary who stopped to listen to your teaching. Amen.

adapted from a lesson by Shannon Kelly

Year C

Pentecost Proper 12

July 24, 2022

Opening Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

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

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story:

Lots of times Jesus would go off by himself to pray to God. His friends wanted to be able to pray like Jesus did, so they said to Jesus, "Please teach us what to pray." So Jesus taught them the prayer we call The Lord's Prayer. "Here is how you do it," said Jesus. Start by calling God our father, for that is who God is. Then say, 'Hallowed be your name' which means God's name is very, very special. Next say, 'Your Kingdom come.' This means we really want to do the things right here, right now, that God wants us to do. Then, 'Give us each day our daily bread.' We are not going to worry about stuff, we just ask for what we need today. Then, 'Forgive us our sins as we ourselves forgive those who have sinned against us.' And that means we tell God we are sorry for bad stuff we have done and we tell God we won't be mad anymore at people who have done bad stuff to us. Then, 'Save us from the time of trial.' Which really means help us to do what we know is right, and not do what we know is wrong."

Activity:

Invite your child(ren) to work with you to come up with a movement activity

to express the parts of the prayer. Ask them, for example, to come up with a motion for hallowed or holy. (It could be arms raised high in the air, arms extended out to the sides and swaying in a circle. Whatever you and the children find that fits for you.) Once you have gone through the prayer and movements once, do it a few more times so everyone can catch on and do it easily.

Getting Closure:

Tell the children that Jesus also told his friends that God wants them to pray, to ask for things they need, and to tell God what is worrying them. God wants us to tell God about all the things we are thinking about. Invite them to name some of the things they would like to pray for or for those things that they give thanks.

Closing Prayer:

*Pray, together, The Lord's Prayer, using the motions you practiced earlier. **Amen.***

adapted from a lesson by Shannon Kelly

Year C

Pentecost Proper 13

July 31, 2022

Opening Prayer:

Thank you, God, that we have homes to live in and toys to play with, but keep us keep you in our mind and do what you ask us to do. **Amen.**

The Gospel Story: (Luke 12:13-21)

A person came up to Jesus. This person was not at all happy and was whining to Jesus. (In a whining voice) "Jesus, make my brother give me half of all his stuff! I want half of his." Jesus just looked at that person for a minute, hoping the person would notice what a selfish thing that was to ask. Then Jesus said, "Be careful! Greed is not a good thing. Greed makes you want stuff you do not need, stuff that does not belong to you. There are much more important things in life than just getting lots of stuff. What is important is that we are rich in our connection with God."

Activity:

Tell your child(ren) we are going to go on a pretend trip. Let the children help you set up an obstacle course (a table to crawl under, a row of chairs to walk between, whatever you have at hand to make an obstacle course). Then, in single file, go through your obstacle course.

Now, give the child(ren) a couple of bags, suitcases, or other objects to carry. This is all our stuff. Have them repeat the obstacle course carrying lots of stuff.

Getting Closure:

What was it like to do the obstacle course without the bags full of our stuff?

What was it like to do the obstacle course with the bags full of our stuff?

I wonder why the experiences are so different?

We had a great lesson today about not wanting too much and needing to stay connected with God. I wonder if there are prayers you would like to offer to God today?

Closing Prayer:

God, thank you for all you have given us and all those special people in our lives. Thank you for being with us. Today we especially pray for _____ (insert the prayers from your child(ren) or have them do it themselves). Help us to keep our minds on you. **Amen.**

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