

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY LESSON PLAN

LITURGICAL DATE: Year A      3rd Sunday Easter

THEME: He is risen

Grab the children's bible and/or lectionary and battery operated candle from the room and take it with you when Father calls us the children to gather in front of the altar.

- Ask children to help carry the bible and light on the walk to Liturgy room.
  
- 1. Greet the children, asking them their names. Introduce yourself and your helper if you have one. Place candle and materials on the table. Do a head count and write the numbers on the sheet on the wall.
  
- 2. **Sing the Opening Prayer Song:** Following the tune of 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' ( there is chart paper on the wall)

"Hello, Hello how are you?  
We have many things to do.  
Read some stories, dance and play,  
Learn about our God today.  
God our Father, we ask you,  
Bless us in the things we do."

### 3. Read the gospel:

"A reading from the Gospel of Luke 24:13-35". Have the children model you making the sign of the cross on their foreheads ("to keep Jesus on our minds"), their lips ("to keep Jesus in our words") and their chest ("to keep Jesus in our hearts"). The gospel is in the lectionary and also in this packet. There are a few questions you and the kids can discuss (3-5 min is a great goal).

- 4. **Intercessions:** Give each child a prayer rock (on window ledge). Ask the children to close their eyes and bring quiet to their hearts as they rub the rock. When the children are ready, see if a few of the children have an intention they would like to pray for.

After a few individual intercessions, read our group general intercessions and allow the children to respond (R) Lord hear our prayer:

We pray for our church.    R

We pray for Pope Francis    R

We pray for our families R

We pray for all Holy People R

The children can take a moment to whisper a private prayer while holding the rock.

As a group say “Lord hear our prayers” and respond with singing “Ever Loving God (spread out left arm), Faithful God (spread right arm out), Hear the prayers of your people.

**5. Activity: Risen Christ cut out**

- 6. Closing Prayer:** Say this prayer with the children (on chart paper) – “Jesus lay your hand on me; Bless me and take care of me. Amen”. End with the sign of the cross, “In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit”.

Ask the children to collect their craft and line up at the door. There is a rubber stamp and inkpad in the supply area if you wish to distribute. **Remind children mass is still happening and many are praying, it’s important they quietly return to their parents. We have a new bulletin board hanging on a brick column opposite the entrance to the church. Feel free to direct kids to hang up their work for display.**

**Thank You for volunteering today and making a positive impact on our parish!**

**Gospel Reading    Luke 24:13-35**

Two of Jesus’ disciples were going to a village outside Jerusalem. As they were walking, Jesus started to walk beside them. But they did not know who he was. They were looking gloomy and sad. Jesus asked them “ What are you talking about?”

“Are you the only person from Jerusalem who didn’t know what’s been happening ?” they asked the man they didn’t recognize {Jesus}. “What do you mean?” Jesus answered?

They replied “ the prophet Jesus of Nazareth was arrested and then crucified. Then three days later some women went to the tomb and found it open and his body gone. He appeared to Mary Magdalene but no one else has seen Jesus yet.” They all kept walking and talking until it was getting dark. They asked this man to stay and eat dinner with them. At the table he blessed the bread, broke it and gave it to them. At once they realized it was Jesus but he had disappeared.

They found the apostles and told them that the risen Jesus had appeared to them.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Questions for discussion:**

Q: Why do you think the two disciples didn't recognize Jesus? {Sometimes when we are sad or upset we might not pay as good attention to something}.

Q: Had something really big happened to upset the disciples? {Yes, their savior was crucified. They knew he was innocent and that it was God's plan but it still made them sad and miss Jesus.

Jesus also likely looked a little different. When we die and go to heaven our bodies are given back to us but they are a little different more perfect. For example, if we have a boo boo small or big, when we are in heaven, it will have gone away.

**Catechists: We're going to sing a new song to the kids to the same tune as our opening hymn ('Twinkle Twinkle'). I have included a printout with a short script. The children can color a photo of the risen Christ and I have made a tomb out of a tissue box that we can use as the prop.**