

## PMR First Third Ministry

### Online Children's Church

Program Outline: June 14, 2020

Based on Matthew 9:35-10:23 (Revised Common Lectionary)

Purpose of this Outline:

- This Outline is for you to help run a 'virtual Sunday School' program for your Children in your congregation, feel free to use this just as a jumping off point or as a Program outline

Preparations ahead of Online Gathering:

- Families should be sent an email with the Zoom link for the gathering ahead of time
- If there is anything that they need for this gathering, this should be included in the email as well
  - For this Gathering, ask Children beforehand to draw 3 things/people/places that they love about God's creation
- You will need to gather the following supplies: Christ Candle, Lighter/Matches,
- Security Measures:
  - When planning a Zoom Meeting it is important to remember the following: enable the **waiting room** feature so that you are in control of who you allow into your Zoom meeting, require a **meeting password** for you Zoom meeting so that it is more secure and not at risk for hacking, and email Zoom meeting link to your families and do not post on Social Media sites with the link (it is easier for hackers to find links this way)

### **Program Outline (30 minutes of total programming)**

- **Greeting & Welcome** (4-5 Minutes)
  - Greet each child as they log on to Zoom (by each child's name)
  - Lighting of the Christ Candle (feel free to say the words that you say as you light the Christ Candle)
    - "There was once someone who said and did amazing things and people started to follow him, and as they followed him they just had to ask who he was, and one time when they asked he said, I am the Light of the World."
- **Check in** (2-3 minutes)
  - Check-in Question
    - What is it that you are good at or like to do? How do you love God?
- **Gathering Prayer** (3 minutes)
  - Mini- Meditation
    - *Offer slowly and leisurely, allowing time for each action to take place*
    - "Get into a comfortable sitting position. Take three lo-o-ng breaths and become limp and heavy as you can. Forget about everything else, for now, by gently closing your eyes and thinking only about your breath going in and out of you. Then, imagine there is a little light in your heart. Imagine that light growing slowly, bigger, and brighter, filling up every part of your body. Look how bright you are! Like a shining star! Imagine your lovely light growing bigger and spilling out of you onto everyone around you, and into your house, your street, and then your town. Do you feel the happiness of sharing your

lovely light? (*pause.*) Now, when you are ready, wiggle your fingers and toes, and slowly open your eyes and say, “Thank you, God!” and off you go, feeling great!”

- Written by Jani Francis. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2020, page 59. Used with permission.
- **Share the Story** (4-5 minutes)
  - Read from the “Family Story Bible”, ‘Things Jesus Said’, page 192.
- **Reflection** (6-8 minutes)
  - Pose some questions to the children and allow them to respond in their own time, by taking turns, or by mutual invitation
    - Questions:
      - Jesus had 12 friends/followers that he called disciples, who are your friends? And how are you a good friend to them?
        - Each one of these disciples was different and unique, sharing Jesus’ teachings with others in ways that were special and unique to them
      - God wants us to share the good news with each other, but in ways that are unique and special to us. How can we share God’s love with others?
- **Closing Prayer** (2 minutes)
  - Repeat after me prayer
    - “Dear God, thank you for your 12 disciples, they taught others about God and your teachings to others. Help us to feel brave that we can share God’s love with everyone in our own special ways. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”
  - “Kindness Homework”
    - Encourage Children to do 2-3 random acts of kindness this coming week and then next week they can share what they did with the group