CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Children's Liturgy

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Song *Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me this I know, For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong
Jesus loves me this I know, For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me, for the Bible tells me so

Leader:
This is a time to collect our thoughts and give them to the Lord.

Collect for Purity:

Prepare our hearts to worship God. Open our minds and hearts. **Amen.**

Collect for the Day

Loving God, be with us today as we hear your word. Let your love be engraved in our hearts that we may always love you and love others as you have taught us to do. Help us to experience and feel your love, help us to give and share your love in the world. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Lesson:

This reading from the Bible was written after the birth of Jesus. In the lesson, Jesus teaches us to be more like Him.

In this season after Pentecost, we hear stories of Jesus' ministry in the world and our call to engage in that mission. This season is also known as Ordinary Time coming from the word "ordinal" which means counted time. This time is not ordinary as in common or regular, but it is the time of counted weeks between Pentecost and Advent. The color for this season is green and it is often referred to as the green growing time as we hear stories of what God is calling us to do in the world. The theme for today's lesson is "The Greatest Commandments."

Leader: A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 22:34-46

In today's lesson, Jesus gave us the foundational commandments, the greatest commandments that are the foundation of all other commandments.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The question Jesus asks them about whose son the Messiah is a way of engaging them in further conversation about God and God's expansiveness. Jesus wants them to think bigger, wants them to understand that God is more than they can imagine, that the Messiah surpasses the lineage as they know it.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Creed: *All stand.*

All: **We believe in God / Who made us and everything / We believe in Jesus Christ / Who is God's son / We believe in the Holy Spirit / Who helps us grow. Amen.**

Prayers of the People: *All kneel.*

Leader: We pray for our clergy: Dean Beverly and everyone in the church.
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the leaders of the world, so we can live in peace.
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for our families, that Your love may fill our hearts
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the boys and girls and their families who are hungry, and give thanks for those who help them.
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all people who are sick or sad.
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all who have died.
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We ask all these things in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.
All: **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

Confession: *Remain kneeling and repeat after the leader.*

All: **Dear God / I am sorry that I have done things, / and I should not have done. / I ask you to forgive me / for hurting friends and those I love. / Please help me to do better. / Thank you, God, for your love. Amen.**

Leader: **Thank you God for hearing us. / We know that you forgive us. / We know that Jesus loves us. / We know that the Holy Spirit / Keeps us in God's care. Amen.**

Closing Prayer

All: **Oh, Lord Jesus, I praise you this day. / I give myself to you this day / I ask you to help me this day. Amen.**

The Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All: **And also with you.**

Song — *This Is My Commandment*

This is My commandment,
That you love one another,
That your joy may be full.

This is my commandment,
That you love one another
That your joy may be full

Activity

Go out with your children and find two rocks to paint.

God gave us the greatest commandments that are the foundation of all other commandments. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Because these are foundational, you are going to create foundation rocks to help us remember these rules that were given to us by God.

Paint one rock to remind you to love God with heart, soul and mind. Paint the other rock to remind you to love others as you love yourself.

Have your children share a few of their ideas of how we can love God and love each other.