



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

## Children's Liturgy

Sunday, July 12, 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, we ask you to be with us as we explore what your words mean for our lives.  
Guide us as we seek to understand these words and how to sow the seeds you have given  
to us. **Amen.**

### *All sit.*

*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, we join in that call, and we grow in our faith.*

### **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.*

### *Leader:* A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jesus left the house and went to sit on the beach. Soon a crowd of people were gathered around him. There were so many people there that he was forced to get into a boat and from the boat, he taught the crowd of people telling them this story. A farmer went out to plant seed. As the farmer scattered the seed, some fell onto the dirt road and the birds ate it. Some fell on the gravel where it grew quickly, but the roots of the plant couldn't put down roots, so it withered and died. Some of the seeds fell among the weeds and when the seed sprouted, the weeds did not let it grow. Some seeds fell on good soil and made a harvest bigger than we can imagine.

Jesus asked those around him, “Are you listening? Really listening? This is what the story is about.” Then Jesus explained to them that the seeds are God’s word falling in various places. When the seed falls on the dirt path, or the gravel, or the thorny ground, the seed does not take root and thrive because it is not nourished. When God’s word is heard but not nourished in us, those words may also wither like the seeds. But when our hearts are ready to hear God’s word, they are like the seeds that fell on good soil and grew and created many, many plants. When God’s word is in our hearts and souls, we will grow and so will those around us.

Here are a few questions that you may answer at home:

I wonder if you have ever planted seed?

Is it easy or hard?

What do we have to do to take care of the seeds after they are planted?

If the seeds are God’s word, I wonder what we can do to take care of them?

*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**

*His Banner Over Me Is Love*

The Lord is mine and I am His  
His banner over me is love  
The Lord is mine and I am His  
His banner over me is love  
The Lord is mine and I am His  
His banner over me is love  
His banner over me is love!

### **Follow-Up Activity**

You can pick and activity or do both of them. At the end ask them to share what they learned about seeds and to show their pictures.

**Sowing Seeds:** Invite your children to create a picture of the path, rocky ground, thorny ground and good soil. They can glue the seeds in various places and then draw what they think it will look like form the parable story we heard.

**Planting Seeds:** Show your children pictures of a dirt path, rocky ground, thorny ground, and good soil. Talk about which ones might help seeds grow. Which ones won't? Why? Invite them to use containers, soil, and seeds to plant their own seeds.