

## **PMR First Third Ministry**

### **Online Children's Church**

Program Outline: May 24, 2020

Based on Acts 1-11 (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 to see things in the past week where people have been good and kind to others, loving others, and see people acting out Jesus's teachings in the world
- 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** (3-4 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)
- **Check in** (3-4 minutes)
  - Check-in Question
    - What was the best thing that happened to you this week what was a not-so-good thing that happened to you this week?
      - I find it's always good for Children and Youth to remember that we have to recognize the good and the bad that happens in our lives, but with God we are loved just as we are!
- **Gathering Prayer** (3 minutes)

- Ask Children to stand up as you go through the actions and words of the Body Prayer, repeat twice through together
  - This was done last week, so it might be nice to continue it so that children get to know the actions and words (and when Church is back in session, they can show it to the congregation!)
- Body Prayer (Courtesy of Illustrated Children’s Ministry)
  - **(3 deep breaths)**
  - God, you are above (**reach toward the sky**), below (**touch your toes**), inside (**hands to heart**) and all around (**big arm circles**).
  - I worship you (**reach toward the sky**) and give my life to you (**touch your toes**).
  - And I love you (**hands to heart**) with all that I am (**big arm circles**).
  - **(3 deep breaths)**
- **Share the Story** (2 minutes)
  - Play this Video Clip from **4:14 to 5:17** (courtesy of Sparkhouse “Family Sunday School Lessons”) - Remember to click “Share Screen” on your Zoom meeting so that all the Children can watch and listen to the video together
    - Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TAL-fX0xvE&feature=youtu.be&redirected=true>
- **Reflection** (7-8 minutes)
  - Ask Children to share one at a time, where they have seen people being kind and loving one another in their past week
  - After all the children have shared, remind them that in the story Jesus asked his disciples to be ‘witnesses’ in the world, but for us that means that we need to share Jesus’s teachings with people and practice what he has taught us
    - Pose the question to the children: “What has Jesus taught us that we can share with other people?”
      - Being kind to others, loving our enemies, loving God, being good to creation, etc.
- **Closing Prayer** (4-5 minutes)
  - 5 Finger Prayer
    - Ask Children to hold up one of their hands, explain that each finger represents something that we can prayer for, then ask them to name each of the things relating to each finger
      - **Thumb:** “God, thank you for my friends and family. Protect them and give them joy. Heal those who are sick or having a hard time.”
      - **Pointer Finger:** “God, thank you for my leaders and teachers who point the way for me to go. Give them rest and clear minds.”
      - **Middle Finger:** “God, thank you for the people with power. Give the police, government and military wisdom and open hearts.”

- **Ring Finger:** “God, strengthen those who feel weak, those who are struggling or in need. Help me to see them and offer help when I am able.”
- **Pinky:** “God, help me learn your ways, surround me with good friends and strengthen me in mind, body and spirit.”