

CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW) – FALL 2016

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

Did you have a great summer?

Who went to Vacation Bible School?

What do you remember from Vacation Bible School? ”

God give us what?

- Hope
- Special Abilities
- Wisdom
- Forgiveness
- Family

Who is new to Children’s Liturgy?

Welcome! We are delighted to have you.

Who can tell us what Children’s Liturgy of the Word is?

A: We hear and learn the Word of God.

- What is the word of God? A: THE BIBLE
- What is the Bible? A: THE WORD OF GOD

Here’s how it goes:

1. When you gather in front of the altar, face the priest so he can give you a blessing. What do you do after a blessing or a prayer? A: Sign of the Cross
2. Then we will QUIETLY leave the church in an ORDERLY fashion, and proceed to this room. The younger children, Kindergarten and younger, will go to the St. Clare room where we used to meet. But you older children, 1st grade and older, will come here.
3. Please stay w/ the group and come directly here w/ everyone. No detours for water, the bathroom, or run off somewhere. If you do, you will have to return to your parents. We don’t want to lose anybody. If you have to go to the bathroom, do so BEFORE mass.
4. Once here, we will begin w/ a song, and an opening prayer.
5. Then we will read the Sacred Word of God from the Bible. These are the same readings your parents are listening to in church. But we will discuss what God is trying to tell us, in your terms, for your lives, for you.
6. We will then return QUIETLY to church and your parents for communion, the Liturgy of the Eucharist. How do we return to your parents? QUIETLY
7. Any questions?
8. Let’s begin...

CHILDREN'S LITURGY WILL BEGIN SEPT 4TH, 2016 IN THE ST. MARK CLASS ROOM

PROCEED TO: 23RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

22ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME: YEAR C (SEPT 1, 2013)

I. Welcome

II. Introduction — Prayer of the Day, pg 108

Please repeat after me:

*Loving God,
We are full of joy
Because you care for us,
In spite of all our faults.
Stay close to us;
Fill us with your life,
For without you we are nothing.
We make this prayer to you
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

III. 1st Reading — Sirach 3:17-19

Leader 1: This is a reading from the Book of Sirach.

Conclude with:

Leader 1: The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Discussion

~~Q: What book in the Bible is today's first reading from?~~

~~A: the Book of Sirach.~~

~~Q: Where in the Bible do we find Sirach? Old Testament or New Testament?~~

~~A: Old Testament.~~

~~Q: What is the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament?~~

~~A: The books in the Old Testament were written before Jesus was born.~~

~~— The books in the New Testament are about Jesus and were written after he was born.~~

~~Q: Who was Sirach?~~

~~A: A wise and holy man who lived in Jerusalem about 200 years before Jesus was born. Sirach teaches the people how to live good and Godly lives.~~

~~Q: How does Sirach tell the people of Jerusalem to behave? What does he say?~~

~~A: Open discussion.~~

- Be gentle
- Be humble

~~Q: What are some ways you can be gentle?~~

~~A: open discussion~~

~~Q: What does humble mean?~~

~~Q: What are some ways you can be humble?~~

~~Q: Can you think of a role model of someone who is Gentle and Humble?~~

~~A: open discussion.~~

~~Q: Have you heard the saying: “It’s nice to be important,

 It’s more important to be nice.”~~

~~Q: Who is the ultimate role model of Gentleness and Humility?~~

~~A: JESUS!!!~~

IV Alleluia

V. Gospel—Luke 14:1, 7-14

~~Leader 1: The Lord be with you.~~

~~Response: And with your spirit.~~

~~Leader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke~~

~~Response: Glory to you, oh Lord. (*sign of the cross on forehead, lips, heart*)~~

~~Conclude with:~~

~~Leader 1: This is the Gospel of the Lord~~

~~Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ~~

Discussion:

~~Q: What happens in this story about Jesus?~~

~~A: open discussion~~

~~Q: Have you ever had this happen to you? Or seen this happen?~~

~~—Someone tries to be first to the table, first to the front of the line, first one out the door, first one to grab the biggest cookie?~~

~~—What would you do differently?~~

~~—Do you exclude others from your games? Or do you include others?~~

~~—Going back to school there will be a lot of new kids. How should you treat them?~~

—How would Jesus treat new kids at school?

VI. Conclusion

A Boy Scout leader taught me some wonderful words to live by—“**Me 3rd.**”

[*show your thumb and 1st 2 fingers*]

Can you guess what that means? “**Me 3rd”?**

➤—God 1st

➤—Others 2nd

➤—Me 3rd

How do you put God first in your life?

How do you put others ahead of your own needs? Family? friends? Business colleagues?

Do you put yourself 3rd?

VII. Apostles’ Creed

VIII. Final Song

23RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME: YEAR C (SEPTEMBER 4, 2016)

I. Welcome

II. Introduction – Prayer of the Day, pg 110

God of mercy,
Jesus showed us how much
You really love us
By dying on the cross
For our sake.
Give us the generosity
To follow him
And spend our lives
Helping other people.
We make this prayer to you
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

III. 1st Reading – Wisdom 9:13, 16-18

Leader 1: This is a reading from the Book of Wisdom.

Conclude with:

Leader 1: The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Discussion

Q: What is God telling you in today's reading from the Book of Wisdom?

A: open discussion

Q: So who can really understand God completely?

Q: Do you always understand your parents? Your teachers?

Q: Do you always understand what's going on?

A: Sometimes we just have to put our trust in others, who are doing what is best for us.

A: We especially have to put our trust, and our faith, in God.

Q: Why should we put our trust and faith in God?

Q: God is IN CHARGE!

Q: What do we pray in the Lord's Prayer? – **THY WILL BE DONE!**

Q: Who did God the Father give us to help us understand Him?

A: The Holy Spirit. (also, his Son, Jesus Christ)

Q: Why did God send us the Holy Spirit?

To give us what gift?

A: The gift of Wisdom.

Q: What is the gift of Wisdom? To help us get straight A's on every test?

A: open discussion...

To help us know God.

To help us know what God wants us to do.

To help us know right from wrong.

To help us know how to pray.

IV Alleluia

V. Gospel – Luke 14:25-30, 33

Leader 1: The Lord be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Leader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Response: Glory to you, oh Lord. (*sign of the cross on forehead, lips, heart*)

Conclude with:

Leader 1: This is the Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Discussion:

Q: What is a disciple?

A: A follower of someone's teachings.

Q: What must we do to be Jesus' disciple?

A: "Follow Me".

Q: How do we follow him?

Q: What was the example Jesus gave, of preparing to be his disciple?

A: If you want something you have to plan for it.

Q: Can you give some examples of events you might plan for?

Q: And how do you plan for them?

- Getting ready for bed?
- Getting ready for school?
- Going on a trip
- Planning a party
- Making dinner
- other

Q: When you are going on a trip, do you take everything in your bedroom?

Q: How do you decide what to take with you?

We have to make choices. Some things we may have to give up or leave behind.

Q: If you are planning for your eternal life, a trip with Jesus, are there some things you might need to leave behind? To let go of?

A: Bad habits? Bad thoughts? Bad behaviors? Bad choices?

A: Just like we have to make choices when we prepare for a trip, we have to make choices if we are going to travel with Jesus.

Q: What type of choices do we need to make to walk with Jesus?

Q: If you want to build a relationship with Jesus, to walk with Jesus, how do we plan?

- 1st: make a decision that you want to follow him. Say, “**I want to be a disciple of Jesus**”.
- *Discipleship is a choice, and it requires daily decisions.*
- pray to him, talk to him, every day.
- learn about him, Bible Camp, pay attention in church, pay attention and participate in Children’s Liturgy.
- understand what **He** wants, not what **you** want.
-

VI. Conclusion

Discipleship, following Jesus, is a choice, and requires daily decisions.

- Don’t give up.... What do you do when your family is driving somewhere and you make a wrong turn? You turn around and find your way back.
- How does that relate to your friendship with Jesus?

VII. Apostles’ Creed

VIII. Final Song

24TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME: YEAR C (SEPTEMBER 11, 2016)

I. Welcome

II. Introduction – Prayer of the Day, pg 112

Forgiving God,
Jesus died to wash away our sins.
We are sorry
for all the wrong we have done,
And we promise, with your help,
To love you even more.
We make this prayer to you
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

III. Introduction to the First Reading

Q: Today's first reading is from the book of Exodus, the second book in the Old Testament. Who can tell me something about the Old Testament?

Q: When were the books of the Old Testament written?
Before or after the birth of Jesus?

Today's first reading occurs after Moses led the early Jewish people out of slavery in Egypt, and now they are wandering in the desert for 40 years! That was about 4,000 years ago! Let's listen carefully to what happened.

III. 1st Reading – Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Leader 1: This is a reading from the book of Exodus.

Conclude reading with:

Leader 1: The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Discussion

Q: What happens in this reading from the Old Testament?

A: Open discussion

Q: Why was God angry at the people?

A: they turned away from Him; they were worshipping false gods.

Q: Do we ever do that today? How?

Do we make other things more important than God?

Can you think of some examples?

A: brief discussion - money, food, fashion/style, popularity, etc.

Q: What was he going to do?

A: punish them

But Moses prayed for the people.

Q: What did he say?

A: These are your people, that you chose. Don't be angry with them.

Q: What did God decide to do?

A: Decided not to punish them.

Q: Why did God decide not to punish them?

A: He was very merciful and forgiving.

He forgave them.

God is always ready to forgive.

Q: How does that make you feel, knowing that no matter what happens, God is always ready to forgive?

A: open discussion.

IV Alleluia

V. Gospel – Luke 15:1-10

Leader 1: The Lord be with you.

Response: And with your spirit.

Leader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Response: Glory to you, oh Lord. (*sign of the cross on forehead, lips, heart*)

Conclude with:

Leader 1: This is the Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Discussion:

Q: Who do you think the lost sheep might be?

Q: Have you ever been lost?

Q: What was it like?

Q: How did you feel?

Q: How did you feel when you were found?

Q: Who is the shepherd?

Q: Why did the shepherd rejoice?

Q: Who do you think the lost coin is?

Q: Who do you think the woman is?

Q: Why did she rejoice?

Q: Have you ever lost anything of special value to you? A favorite toy, stuffed animal, etc.?

Q: How did you feel when you found it?

A: THAT'S how Jesus feels when we come back to him.

Q: Why did God send his son, Jesus, to us?

A: To save us.

A: To find us even when we are lost.

Q: How do we get lost?

A: We turn away from God...

We wander away from his Church...

We sin...

Open discussion...

Q: What did Jesus say in today's Gospel?

“Stop sinning and return to ___ GOD ___”

Q: How do you return to God? Or stay with him so you don't get lost?

A: - Pray

- Go to mass

- Go to confession

- Take Holy Communion

- Keep the commandments

- Honor your mother and father

- Treat others as you would have them treat you

- open discussion.

VI. Conclusion

Remember that God will never give up on you.

God is always willing to forgive, no matter what.

And He will never stop looking for you, even if you stray from Him.

YOU are God's sheep!

YOU are God's special silver coins!

God will NEVER leave you!

“Come and celebrate! The lost has been found!” God's loving mercy is always with you.

VII. Apostles' Creed

VIII. Final Song

25TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME: YEAR C (SEPTEMBER 18, 2016)

I. Welcome

II. Introduction – Prayer of the Day, pg 114

Dear God,
Make us faithful to you
In the small things,
as well as the big things of life.
Do not let us pick and choose
When to be good,
But let us do and say
Everything to please you.
We make this prayer to you
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

III. 1st Reading – Amos 8:4-7

Leader 1: This is a reading from the book of Amos.

Conclude with:

Leader 1: The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Discussion

Q: The prophet Amos is preaching about what types of behaviors?

A: - lying
- cheating
- not caring about others
- ???

Q: How do you treat others?

Q: Have you ever done something you shouldn't have, and thought you got away with it? Nobody caught you?

A: How did that make you feel?

Q: Do you really think no one knew about it?

Q: Who knows when you've been good or bad?

Last week, we heard how loving and forgiving God is.
But this week, we hear how upset he is about those who mistreat others.

Q: What's going on here?

Conclusion:

Amos was preaching to people to change their ways.

That's when God forgives us! When we change our ways, and follow HIS ways.

IV Alleluia

V. Gospel – Luke 16:10-13

Leader 1: The Lord be with you.

Response: And with your spirit.

Leader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Response: Glory to you, oh Lord. (*sign of the cross on forehead, lips, heart*)

Conclude with:

Leader 1: This is the Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Discussion:

Q: Jesus said, if you are not honest about the little things, you won't be honest about the big things.

Q: What do you think Jesus meant?

A: discussion

Q: Are you honest about little things? What are some examples of "little things"?

- Did you brush your teeth? "Yes Mom"
- Did you wash your hair? "Yes Mom"
- Did you clean up your room? "Yes Mom"
- Did you finish your homework? "Yes Mom"
- Do you have any homework to do? "Noooo.....???"

Q: Have you ever loaned something to someone, and never gotten it back?
Will you ever loan them something again?

Q: Have you every borrowed anything from someone else and not returned it?

Q: Have you ever made a promise to someone and not kept it?

Q: How does your relationship with others, reflect your relationship with God?

If you are dishonest with others, will you be honest with God?

If you are mean to others, can you be loving to God?

If you are unforgiving to others, do you expect God to forgive us?

(The good news is, God DOES forgive us! When we ask his forgiveness and promise to do better, He forgives us!)

Q: What does Jesus mean when he said you can not serve God and money at the same time?

Is it wrong to have money?

A: No, not necessarily. You need money.

Q: What are some things you need money for?

A: clothes and food and a place to live.

Q: You can do good things with money, like what?

A: help the poor, build churches, donate to charities.

Q: So when is money wrong?

A: When you put money, or trying to get more money, more important than your relationship with God.

Q: Other there other things in your lives that can become more important than God?

What about toys, games, having the latest clothes and fashions, being popular, etc.

Q: For example, at school, is it more important to choose friends who dress or act a certain way, or choose friends who are kind and have a good heart?

VI. Conclusion

Wherever your treasure is, there your heart will be.

We should put God first ahead of anything else.

VII. Apostles' Creed

VIII. Final Song

26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME: YEAR C (SEPTEMBER 25, 2016)

I. Welcome

II. Introduction – Prayer of the Day, pg 116

Dear God, Full of tenderness,
You look with special pity on people
Who are poor and weak.
We, too, want to help those
Who cannot help themselves.
Make us able to recognize them,
And give us a share in your power
So that we can make their lives
Easier and happier.
We make this prayer to you
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Introduction Before Readings:

Both of today's readings from the Bible talk about greed. Putting your own selfish needs ahead of God or others. This continues the message we heard last week about putting God first. Let us listen to what Sacred Scripture has to tell us:

III. 1st Reading – Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Leader 1: This is a reading from the book of Amos.

Conclude with:

Leader 1: The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Discussion

Q: What is going on in today's First Reading?

Q: Why was the prophet Amos angry with the people?

A: People said they believed in God, but how did they treat others?

Q: Why does it matter how we treat others?

Q: How did the people use their money?

Did they use it to help other people, or for themselves?

Did they use it to give praise and glory to God, or for themselves?

A: open discussion

Q: What is greed? Do people in the reading sound greedy?

Q: What do you share with others?

Q: What more could you share with others?

Q: Do you know the difference between “wants” and “needs”?

What do you absolutely “Need”?

What do you really “Want”?

Q: What things are important to you?

Q: Are these things more important than other people? NO

Q: Are these things more important than God? NO

A: Things break, they fade, they lose our interest, but our relationships with people and God last forever.

Q: Was Amos telling us it is bad to have things? NO

Q: What is Amos trying to tell us?

A: It is our attitudes towards our things that matters. Do we share with others or do we keep it all for ourselves?

IV Alleluia

V. Gospel – Luke 16: 19-31

Leader 1: The Lord be with you.

Response: And with your spirit.

Leader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Response: Glory to you, oh Lord. (*sign of the cross on forehead, lips, heart*)

Conclude with:

Leader 1: This is the Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Discussion:

Q: Who are the characters in today’s Gospel?

A: rich man, Lazarus, Abraham

Q: What happened to Lazarus when he died? Where did he go?

A: He went to heaven

Q: What happened to the rich man when he died? Where did he go?

A: He went to hell, a place of great suffering.

Q: Why is the rich man unhappy?

What does he ask?

A: He asks Abraham to send Lazarus with some cold water

Q: How does Abraham answer him?

A: He can't cross over from heaven to Hell

Q: What else does he ask?

A: Please send Lazarus to warn my 5 brothers

Q: How does Abraham answer?

A: Your brothers can read what Moses and the prophets wrote

Q: Where can they read that?

A: In the Old Testament of the Bible

Q: So was Abraham suggesting that if his brothers read the Bible, they would find God's guidance and direction which would keep them from going to Hell?

Q: In the first reading today, who was the prophet who was warning God's people to change their ways?

A: Amos

Q: So if the rich man had read these scriptures from the prophet Amos and changed his life to put God first, do you think he would have gone to heaven instead of Hell?

A: open discussion

Q: When the rich man was still alive, what should he have done differently?

A: - Share with Lazarus
- Read the scriptures and obey God's Word.
- Other?

Q: Can we read the Bible to get God's direction for our lives?

A: Yes! That is what we are doing here today.

Q: When the rich man was still alive, what should he have done differently?

A: Share with Lazarus

Q: God loves everyone, and wants you to love everyone also. Should you treat people badly if they are poor? If they are not popular? If they don't have lots of friends? If they don't dress in the latest fashions?

Q: What can you do differently to love ALL God's people?

VI. Conclusion

Wherever your treasure is, there will your heart be. God loves the poor and needy, and so should we.

VII. Apostles' Creed

VIII. Final Song

HAND OUT “FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND”

I. Welcome

II. Introduction – Prayer of the Day, pg 118

Dear God,
We believe in you
And in Jesus, who died for us,
And in the Holy Spirit,
Who makes us able to carry on your work.
Sometimes it is not easy to believe,
And we lose courage.
Be with us always;
Strengthen us by your Spirit,
That our faith may turn
The whole world to you.
We make this prayer to you
Through Christ the Lord.
Amen

III. 1st Reading – Habakkuk 1 and 2

Leader 1: This is a reading from the prophet Habakkuk.

Conclude with:

Leader 1: The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Discussion

Q: What did Habakkuk say in his prayer to God?

A: Why haven't you heard me?

A: Won't you save me?

Q: How did God answer Habakkuk?

A: - Your prayers will be answered.

- The peace you want will come

- Be patient

Q: How many of you pray to God? Why?

A: - Because God is our father and we need his help?

- Because we love Him, and have so much to be thankful for?

- open discussion

Q: What are some of the things you pray for?

Q: When your prayers are answered, what does it feel like?
Examples?

Q: Does it strengthen your faith in God?

Q: Do you always get what you pray for?

A: No

Q: Do you think God hears all your prayers?

A: Yes

Q: Is God ever too busy to hear you?

A: NO!

Q: How does it feel when your prayers are NOT answered, the way you wanted?

Do you ever lose faith when you think God hasn't answered your prayers?

Is that right?

Q: Should we ever stop praying?

A: Noooo...

Q: Do you always get everything you ask for at home?

Q: No.

Q: Does that mean your parents don't love you?

- They know what's best.

- It may not always be what YOU want.

Q: So, does God ALWAYS answer our prayers? Trick Question, here!

YES, God always answers our prayers.

Does he always answer them the way YOU want them answered?

A: No!

God has 3 possible answers: 1) Yes, 2) No, 3) Not right now.

When we pray, we must pray in **faith**, and **trust** in God.

Faith – our faith and belief in God.

Trust – that God knows best, even if we don't always understand.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name

*Thy kingdom come, **thy will be done**....*

Sometimes we pray just for God's comfort. For him just to comfort us in time of trouble, to help us through difficult times.

Q: When bad things happen, do we still have faith? Why?

A: Because God can use all things for his good purposes if we trust in him and have faith.

A: When we are having difficulties, that's when we need God's love and mercy the most.
That is when we receive his comfort through prayer.

Q: Do you ever have a bad day, and you talk to your mom or dad about it.
Doesn't it feel better to just talk about it?

That is what prayer can be like with God. Just talking to him, and opening up your heart to him.

Read: *Footprints in the Sand.*

Q: When bad things happen, do we still have faith? Why?

A: When we are having difficulties, that's when we need God's love and mercy the most.
That is when we receive his comfort through prayer.

Q: Do you ever have a bad day, and you talk to your mom or dad about it.
Doesn't it feel better to just talk about it?

That is what prayer can be like with God. Just talking to him, and opening up your heart to him.

IV Alleluia

V. Gospel – Luke 17:5-6 –

“A Reading from the Gospel of Luke, Glory to you O' Lord (sign of cross on forehead, lips and heart)

“The Word of the Lord, Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ”

Q: What did the disciples ask Jesus for?

Q: How did Jesus answer?

Q: How big is a mustard seed?

Q: If you have even just a little it'sy bitsy bit of faith, you can do mighty things!
Just think if you had great big enormous faith!!!!

Q: How do you get faith?

A: Open discussion

- Pray for it, *“make our faith stronger”*.
- Just spending some quiet time talking to Jesus?
- Reading stories from the Bible (How many have a Bible at home?)
- Going to church every week.
- Receiving Holy Communion
- Going to confession.
- Practicing your faith. Practicing acts of love and charity.

Q: What will we accomplish by using our faith?

Q: How do people with faith in Jesus live?

A: open discussion

- “do unto others what you would do unto me?”

Q: How does that change our world?

VI. Conclusion

VII. Question of the Week

VIII. Final Song