

St J of J 'At Home'

The Building is closed, the Church is open



St John of Jerusalem Junior Church at Home

7th Sunday of Easter - 24th May 2020

Time to Gather

Light a large candle.

We light this candle to remember
that the light of Jesus Christ is with us.
Let us glorify his name.
Amen.

Time to say sorry

Leader: Let us think about the times we forgot we are followers of Jesus. The times we were unkind or hurtful, the times we did not care for the world or other people. When we say sorry to God, God promises to forgive us.

Leader: We are sorry for the times when we lacked love. Lord have mercy.

Everyone: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We are sorry for the times when our words and actions were hurtful. Christ have mercy.

Everyone: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: We are sorry when we failed to care for your world. Lord, have mercy.

Everyone: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Everyone: Amen.

Time to read our Bible story

John 17.1-11: Jesus talks to the Father about being glorified and prays for his followers.

Three responses

Teach everyone actions to respond to the following words:

Father/God/Jesus - give a round of applause

Glory/glorify/glorified - whoop and cheer

You - point at the sky in triumph.

Then read the passage and ask the children to use the actions at the right moments.

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: 'Father, the hour has come. Now is the time for me to be glorified. You have given me power over everyone. I will give eternal life to all those you have given to me. They will know you as the one true God and they will know me as Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.'



‘I have brought glory to you in the way I have lived my life on earth. But now I have finished the work you gave me to do. And so, Father, the time is right for you to glorify me in heaven. ‘I have told the people that you sent me and that you are God. They believe in you and have been faithful to you. They know that the things I have taught them come from you, and that everything I have comes from you.

‘I am not asking for the world’s sake, but for the sake of those who belong to me. And all those who belong to me are yours. Now I am no longer in the world, but they are still in the world. I

am leaving them to come to you. So I ask you, Holy Father, to protect them in your name, so that they may be as one, just as you and I are one.’

Glossary

to glorify: to praise or honour greatly

eternal life: fullness of life in God’s presence, both now and after death.

Time to think and talk about the story

Please feel free to choose as much or as little as it suits you from the suggestions below to think together about the story.

Wonder together: I wonder what was your favourite part of that passage/story? I wonder which part surprised or puzzled you? I wonder what it tells us about God? I wonder how it helps us to live as Christians?

Draw or sculpt: Use paper and pens, modelling dough, Lego or pipe cleaners to respond to the passage or story. Share with each other something about your drawing or model.

Bring something to the circle: Look around where you have gathered and find something to bring to the circle that helps you think more about what you have heard. Share why you chose that object.

Time to pray

Mind map prayers

Place a large sheet of paper in the middle of the room. Create a mind-map as a group, using the following questions:

- What do you want to thank God for?
- What would each of you like prayer for?
- What people you know do you want to pray for?
- What do you want to pray for our city, our country and our world?

Pray together as works best for you as a family. If you like, you could keep the mind map to use it for praying together throughout the coming week.

Time to sing

This week's song you might already know from a previous week. Below is the link for the YouTube video that also includes some movements to go with this song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6085sLXCMs>

Peace like a river

I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul

I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul
I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul

I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul

A prayer to end with

On Good Friday,
Jesus died on the cross.
On Easter Sunday,
Jesus came back to life.
At the ascension,
Jesus went to heaven.
Now we wait for Pentecost;
Father, send the Holy Spirit
to fill our lives
and to be with us always.
Amen.

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