

The Lord's Day

A WORSHIP GUIDE FOR CHILDREN



RESURRECTION

CLINTON HILL

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

—Mark 10:13-15

WELCOME

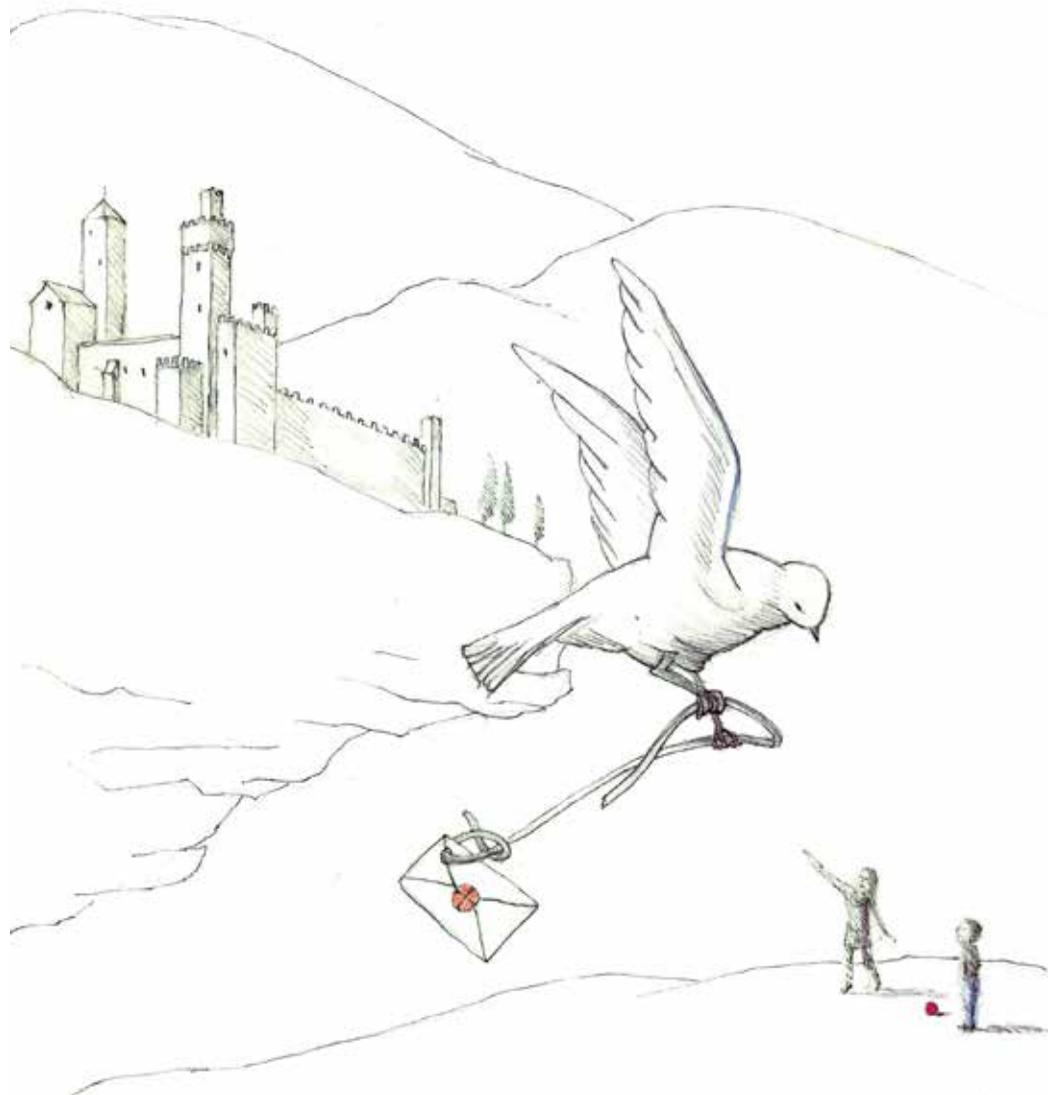
DEAR CHILDREN,

Did you know that all of the adults need your help in church? Jesus tells us that we must become like children to enter the kingdom of heaven. Sometimes adults forget how to relate to their heavenly Father, and we need you to remind us! We have to be reminded how we are dependent on God for all of our needs. You help us remember that everything we have is from him because you know what it is like to depend on your parent for all of your needs. So how can you help us? One way is by participating in worship so we can hear your voices. Hearing a child’s voice reminds the adults that we are God’s children, too.

You should know that participating in worship takes work. When you learn to read well, you will be able to follow along and participate more easily. But we want you to be able to understand the worship service and participate now! So you will have to learn the words to praise and pray and sing. A lot of the words and songs are the same every week, so you can especially learn those well. If you practice in church and at home, you will soon learn to participate with everyone. You will certainly enjoy worshipping your heavenly Father with his family.

Every week in church, we engage in a story. God calls us, forgives us, teaches us, strengthens us, and sends us back out again. We have written a fictional story to help you understand the drama that takes place each week in worship. We hope that this little story The King’s Feast will serve to help you participate in the great celebration with God’s family each week.

Enjoy!



THE KING'S FEAST

THE KING CALLS

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Ruth and a little boy named James. They lived in a wonderful kingdom ruled by a great king. One day when they were playing games in the meadow, they began to argue over whose turn it was to kick the ball. During their fight, a swallow flew towards them and delivered an envelope. The kids opened the envelope and discovered a beautiful invitation. The kids could not believe their eyes. It was an invitation to the king's house! The king himself was inviting Ruth and James to his royal feast. The kids were so excited and began to prepare themselves for the great event.



THE KING CLEANSSES

But then the guests began to become uncomfortable. They were happy to see the king, but they began to feel embarrassed. They realized they were not dressed for the occasion and some were still dirty from playing outside. Even worse, the king had always been good to them, but they had not always been good like him. The king took care of everyone, but they did not always take care of each other. Ruth remembered how often she was unkind to certain friends. James remembered how he ignored people who needed his help. The king sacrificed everything to take care of his kingdom, but his people often only thought of themselves and their own needs. How embarrassing it felt to be with such a good king when they often made bad choices. Many were sad and crying.

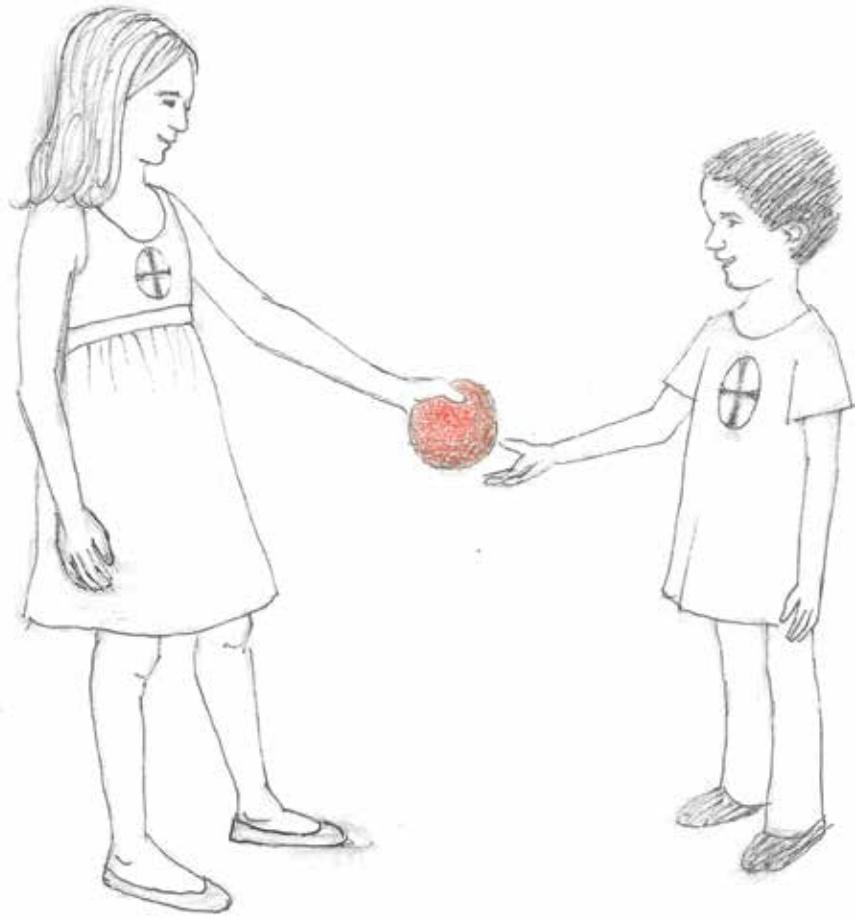
When they arrived at the palace there was great singing and joy. Every one was deeply thankful for the invitation and happy to be in the king's presence. For the king was a good king. He took care of his people and his land. He provided everyone with food and places to live. He defended them from danger, and he was tender and loving to all. Ruth and James could not help but join in the singing and praising of the king. It helped them remember all of the good things that he had done to care for his kingdom. Everyone gave thanks to the king.



Then the most amazing thing happened. A little girl walked straight up to the king and looked straight into his tender eyes with her shameful eyes full of tears. She said two simple words—"I'm sorry." Many others began to do the same. They asked the king's forgiveness for all of the awful things they had done. They asked the king to forgive them for not doing the good things that they should have done. James said he was sorry for not obeying the king and for not serving the kingdom like the king always did. They told him they wanted to be more like him, so that his kingdom would be full of goodness.

Without hesitation the king bellowed, "I FORGIVE YOU!" It echoed throughout the palace. The king smiled at his people's truthfulness. He told them that he was a forgiving king and a healing king. He would help them serve the kingdom. Then he began to wash them with water. He removed all of the dirt from them so that they felt clean and pure. He clothed them in wonderful white garments embroidered with the king's symbol. Ruth felt less embarrassed of the wrong things she had done. She felt beautiful because the king had cleansed her and dressed her in his clothes. She thought more about his goodness and less about her bad choices. Everyone yelled, "Thanks be to the king!"





Now that everyone felt at peace with the king, they began to see hope for peace with each other. They all looked at each other and said, "Peace be with you." Ruth and James thought of their argument over the ball and hugged. Everyone was again excited to be at the palace together.

THE KING SPEAKS

The king told everyone to sit down and listen carefully. He began to tell them more about himself and his kingdom. He told them stories of things that he did for the kingdom many years ago. Everyone was amazed to learn more about the king and the wonderful things that he had done. He told them of the future plans he had for his kingdom. He taught them about how to be good servants. He taught them how to be wise instead of foolish.



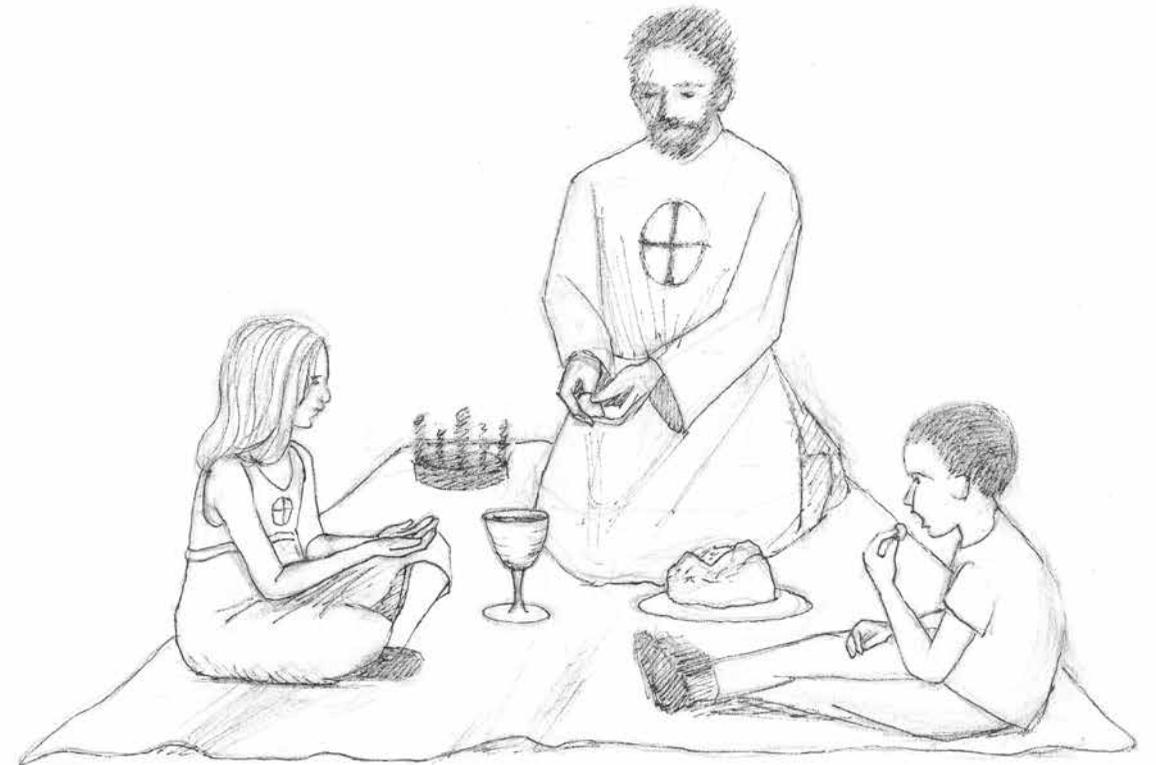
Then the people recited a pledge of allegiance to the king. James and Ruth listened carefully as everyone recounted many of the good acts of the king throughout history. They joined in to pledge their devotion to the king and his good works for his kingdom.



Henry immediately wanted to begin serving the kingdom. He knew that everything he had was a gift from the king, so he wanted to give back to the kingdom. The king encouraged the people to give their best things to the kingdom so that the king could use it for good. They offered their abilities and money in service to the kingdom. They knew that the king had provided all of these gifts and they were thankful.

THE KING FEASTS

Suddenly trumpets sounded and the king announced that it was time for the great feast! Everyone praised the king again for his goodness and for all of the wonderful things he had done for the kingdom. How great and good was the king! Then the king sat down with them and served them a wonderful feast of the richest and finest food and drink. The celebration continued around the Great Table with singing and thanksgiving. Everyone felt nourished and healed by the King's supper. His meal helped them recognize how the king always provided for all of their needs. The king reminded them that they were all part of his family. Ruth looked around at her family—the king's family—and felt so happy to be connected with all of them. Everyone gave the king thanks for the invitation to his feast.





THE KING BLESSES

As everyone prepared to leave the feast, the king stood up among them and proclaimed great words. He reminded them to serve the kingdom just as he served his kingdom. Then he blessed them, promising to be with them and to help them in their service with all of his resources. He proclaimed peace and happiness throughout the kingdom. Again, the people said, “So be it—Amen!”

Ruth and James left with happy hearts. They were ready to serve the king, his people, and his kingdom. And they couldn’t wait until the next invitation arrived—an invitation to feast with the king and his family!

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

GOD CALLS US

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 100

- ¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
- ² Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
- ³ Know that the LORD, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- ⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

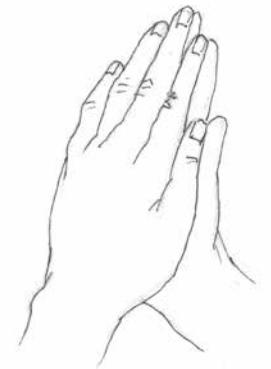


HYMNS



PRAYER OF ADORATION: Psalm 92:1-4

- ¹ It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
- ² to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
- ³ to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.
- ⁴ For you, O LORD,
have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.



GOD CLEANSSES US

CONFESSION OF SIN: Psalm 51: 1-4, 7-12

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE & DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: May almighty God, who caused light to shine out of darkness,
shine in your hearts, cleansing you from all your sins, and
restoring you to the light of the knowledge of God's glory,
in the face of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

—from 2 Corinthians 4

People: Thanks be to God.

Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

People: and our mouths will declare your praise!



GOD SPEAKS WITH US

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
O Praise Him, Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Oh Praise Him! Oh Praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 119:105
Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Galatians 5:22-23
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

THE GOSPEL READING: John 3:16
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever
believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*



CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



SONG OF RESPONSE



SERMON: Proverbs 3:5-6

Our Pastor

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

OFFERTORY



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



GOD FEASTS WITH US

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & CONSECRATION

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: *We lift them up to the Lord!*

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Minister: Truly it is good and right that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father. Baptized in Jordan's waters, Jesus took his place with sinners, and your voice proclaimed him your beloved. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven and with your Church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

[The prayer continues with the hymn on the following page]



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might.
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.



GOD BLESSES US & SENDS US OUT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: Luke: 22:19-20

And [Jesus] took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

People: *Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!*



CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE: Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

BENEDICTION: Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



THE FIVEFOLD AMEN

A - men, a - men,

The first system of the musical score for 'The Fivefold Amen' is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a half note 'A' followed by a quarter note 'men,' and then a half note 'a' followed by a quarter note 'men,'. The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with chords and a left hand with a simple bass line.

a - men, a - men, a - men.

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line with 'a - men, a - men, a - men.' The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, concluding the piece.



RESURRECTION

C L I N T O N H I L L

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