

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



3rd Sunday in Advent

11 December 2022 - Year A

“Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?”

Something to Think About

We can find God in surprising places! Where do you look to find God? Keep your eyes open wide and look for God in people and places that you mightn't have expected.

The Story

This gospel story tells of all the wonderful things that Jesus was doing. The Kingdom of God is about Good News for all people. The Good News looks slightly different depending on what people need. If you are lonely, then the Good News comes in the form of a friend. If you are scared or worried, then a sense of peace and calm will be 'good news' for you.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

11:2-11

John was in prison when he heard what Christ was doing. So John sent some of his followers to ask Jesus, "Are you the one we should be looking for? Or must we wait for someone else?"

Jesus answered, "Go and tell John what you have heard and seen. The blind are now able to see, and the lame can walk. People with leprosy are being healed, and the deaf can hear. The dead are raised to life, and the poor are hearing the good news. God will bless everyone who does not reject me because of what I do."

As John's followers were going away, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John:

"What sort of person did you go out into the desert to see? Was he like tall grass blown about by the wind?"

What kind of man did you go out to see? Was he someone dressed in fine clothes? People who dress like that live in the king's palace. What did you really go out to see? Was he a prophet? He certainly was. I tell you that he was more than a prophet. In the Scriptures God says about him,

'I am sending my messenger ahead of you to get things ready for you.'

"I tell you that no one ever born on this earth is greater than John the Baptist. But whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than John."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video:
[God's Story: The Good News](#)



Group Discussion

Invite children to reflect on their lives and recall good news stories about family or friends. Share these stories with friends and classmates.

Encourage children to take some quiet time to reflect on their own lives and identify ways in which they try to be or would like to be 'good news' for other people.

Praying For Others

Leader: Confident that we will find God in surprising places, let us bring our prayers to God.

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will be Good News people. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for help and healing for all who suffer. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for justice in our world. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for homeless people, that they find a safe place to rest. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for hearts full of thanks for the Good News that Jesus brings. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear Jesus,
Help us to look for you in surprising places. Fill our hearts with thanks for all the wonderful things you do in our lives.
Amen.

Group Activity

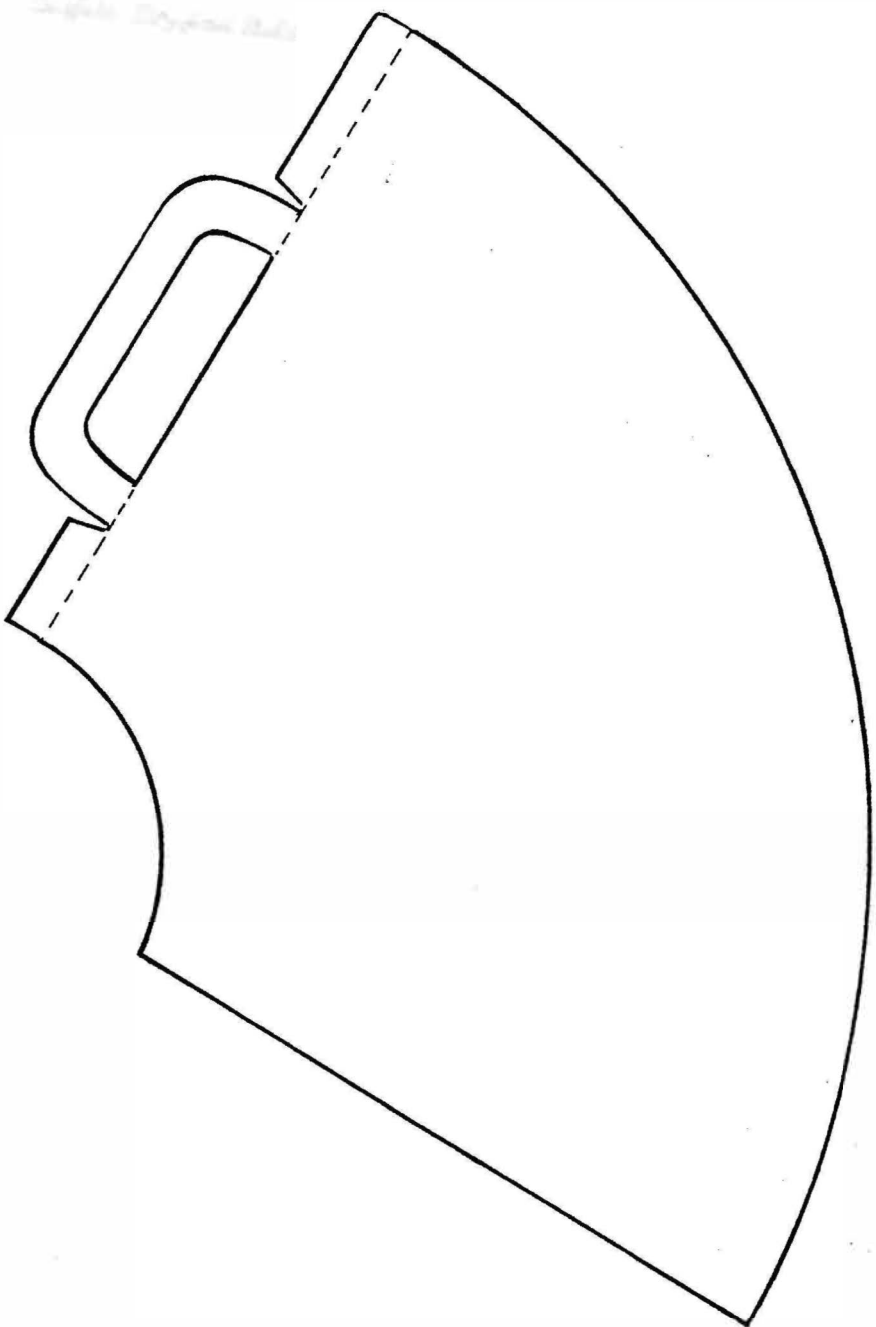
MEGAPHONE – Shout the Good News! Jesus is coming!

You will need: a template for each child on construction paper, coloured markers, scissors, paper strip message, glue, stapler (optional).

1. Decorate the megaphone template.
2. Glue the message cut-out onto the template.
3. Cut out the template and glue or staple it together.



Single System Ball



Shout the good news!
Jesus is coming!

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**THE FARMER IS HAPPY
WHEN THERE IS RAIN
FOR THE FIELDS**



**THE SICK ARE HAPPY
WHEN THE DOCTOR
MAKES THEM WELL AGAIN**

**ADVENT MAKES US HAPPY
BECAUSE CHRISTMAS IS CLOSE.
CHRISTMAS IS A HAPPY TIME
BECAUSE....**



Draw your family around the Christmas tree