

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

3 March 2024 - Year B

***“Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.”***

### Something to Think About

Think about the last time you were in a church.  
What sorts of things happened inside the church?

### The Story

Jesus went to the temple to find that the area had been turned into a busy marketplace where people were selling animals. Jesus was horrified because the temple was a place to worship God, not a place to make money. He chased all the people and the animals out, turning over the tables and scattering the money everywhere. Jesus wanted to remind people of the real purpose of God's house.

### The Scriptures

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John      2:13-22**

Not long before the Jewish festival of Passover, Jesus went to Jerusalem. There he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves in the temple. He also saw moneychangers sitting at their tables. So he took some rope and made a whip. Then he chased everyone out of the temple, together with their sheep and cattle. He turned over the tables of the moneychangers and scattered their coins.

Jesus said to the people who had been selling doves,  
"Get those doves out of here! Don't make my Father's house a marketplace."

The disciples then remembered that the Scriptures say,  
"My love for your house burns in me like a fire."

The Jewish leaders asked Jesus, "What miracle will you work to show us why you have done this?"  
"Destroy this temple," Jesus answered, "and in three days I will build it again!"

The leaders replied, "It took forty-six years to build this temple. What makes you think you can rebuild it in three days?"

But Jesus was talking about his body as a temple. And when he was raised from death, his disciples remembered what he had told them. Then they believed the Scriptures and the words of Jesus.

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

### Video

Click to watch the video: [Rosie Goes to Church](#)



## Group Discussion

When Jesus saw something happening that was wrong, he didn't just pass quietly by and say nothing. He did something about it.

If you saw someone being teased or treated badly, what would you do?

Would you join in and make fun of them too? Would you just stand quietly by and say nothing? Or would you try to stop the teasing? Maybe you could tell an adult about it.

## Praying For Others

*Leader:* Gathered as one with all creation, let us pray for the needs of the world:

*Reader 1:* We pray for people in all countries around the world. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 2:* We pray for those who try to do what is right. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3:* We pray for all who are hurt or sad. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 4:* We pray that we will be respectful when we enter a church building. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 5:* We pray that we will be patient with people. 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 God,  
Thank you for being close to me  
wherever I go.  
Help all of my words and actions to be  
pleasing to you.  
Amen.

## Group Activity

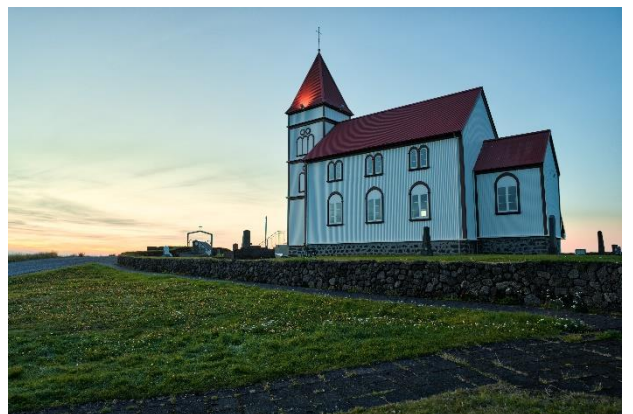
### Build a church

*You will need: templates for each child, scissors, glue, colouring pencils or crayons.*

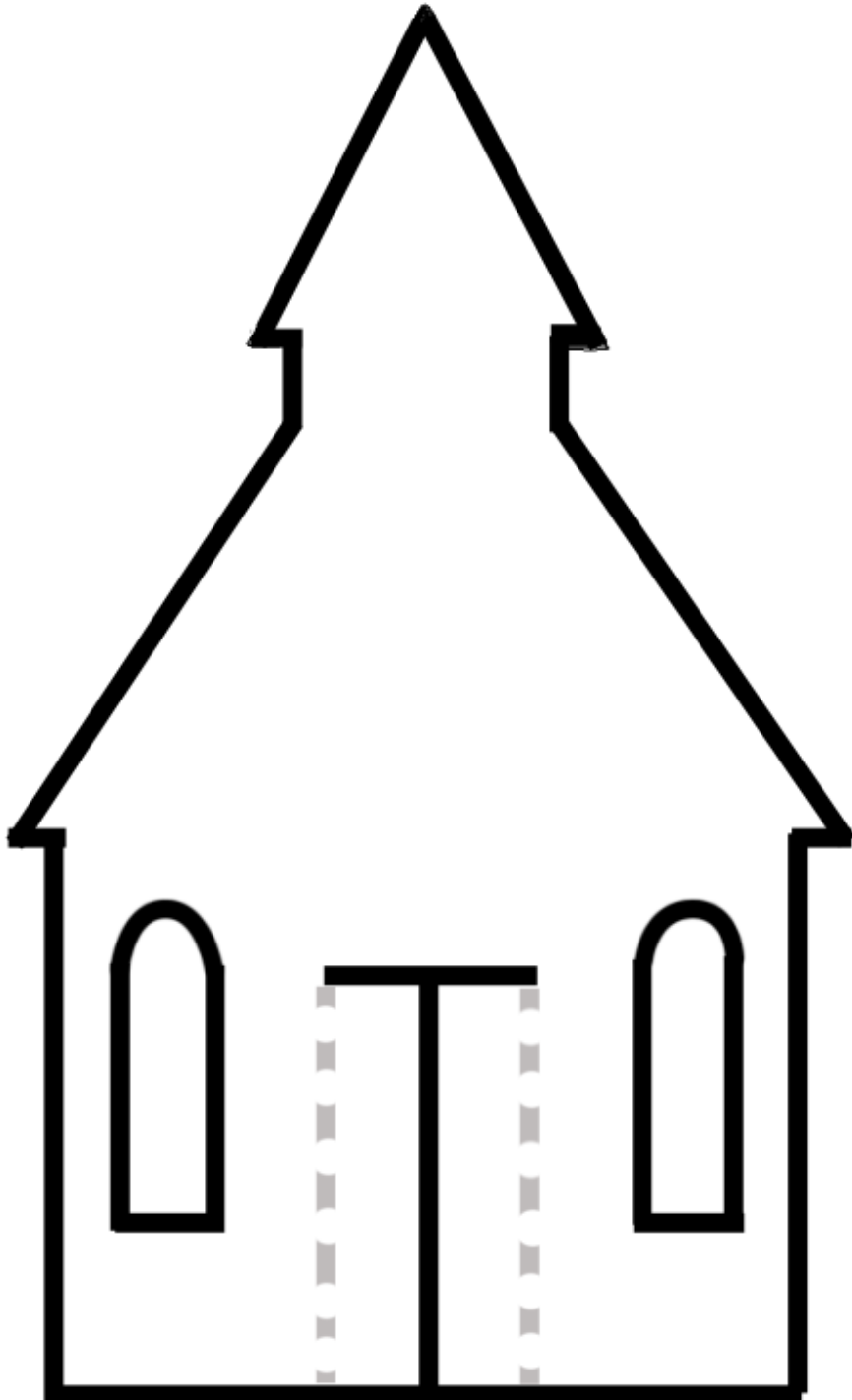
Invite the children to colour the walls and the front of the church.

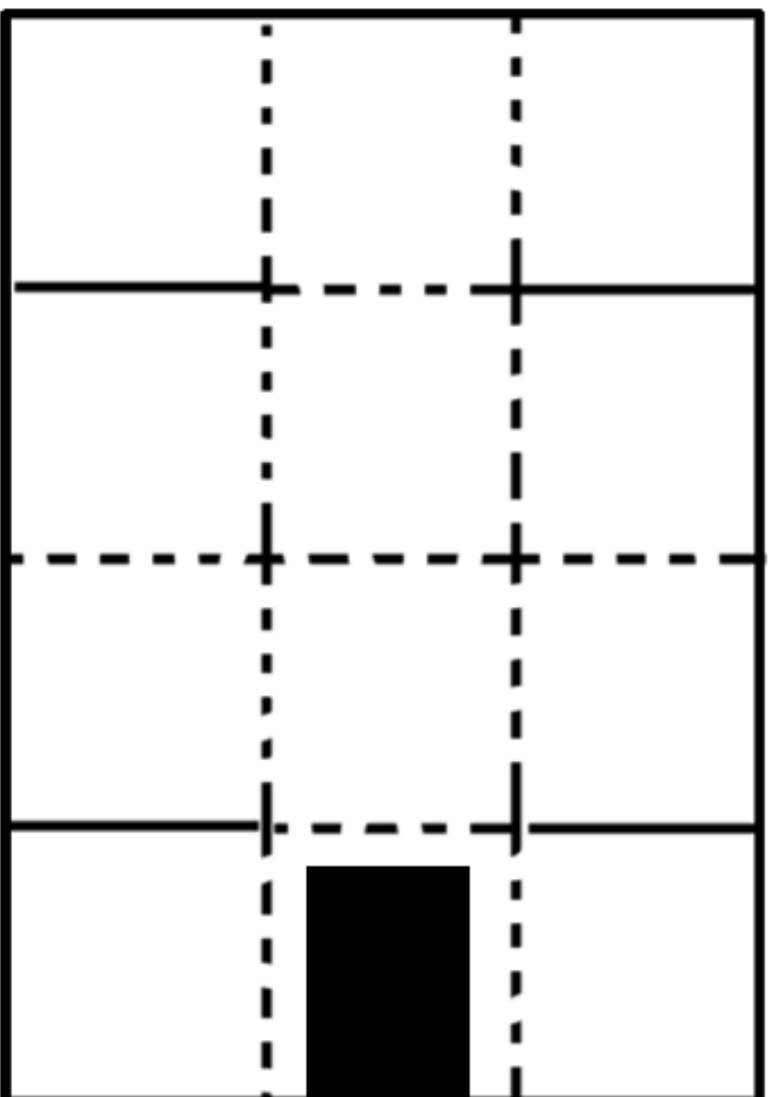
Assist them to cut along the solid lines and fold the body of the church into the correct shape.

Then ask the children to cut out the front of the church and glue it onto the body of the church to make it complete.

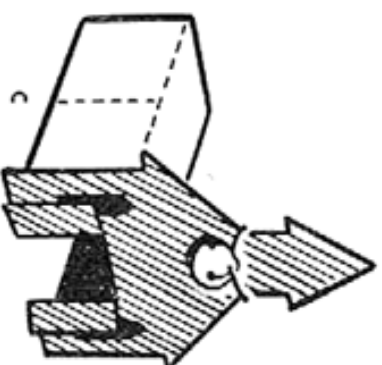
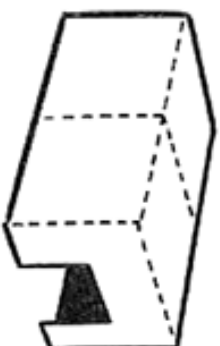
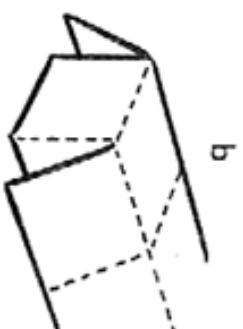
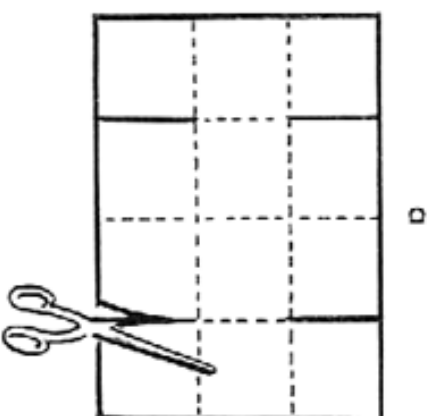


# Build A Church





Fold on dotted lines and cut on solid lines. (as shown in sketch a.) Dotted lines show folds and heavy lines indicate cutting. Paste corners (as indicated in sketch b.) Also print out the church front. Cut the church out. Paste to folded box (as shown in sketch c.)



## **YOUR HOLY PLACE**

**WHERE DO YOU FEEL  
CLOSE TO GOD?**

- A GARDEN**
- YOUR ROOM**
- THE BEACH**
- IN CHURCH**
- OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TAKE A PHOTO OF YOUR SPECIAL PLACE  
AND PASTE IT IN HERE**

**GO TO YOUR HOLY PLACE  
AND SAY THIS PRAYER:**

**DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR LOVING ME.  
THANK YOU FOR BEING CLOSE TO ME.  
WATCH OVER ME AND KEEP ME SAFE.  
GUIDE ME AND HELP ME TO DO GOOD. I  
LOVE YOU, LORD; BE NEAR ME ALWAYS.**