

1st Sunday after Pentecost

May 29, 2023–
June 4, 2023
Pre-K
Message

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 28:16

THEME: God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity

SONG: CW21 928 / CW93 326 – May the Grace of Christ
Our Savior

VISUAL: One large soft pretzel and shamrock (or pictures
of one) and a bag of small twisted pretzels to hand
out to students if possible

OBJECT LESSON

Show a large soft pretzel or picture. Show the shamrock. What do you notice about these? What is the same between them? *Allow them to share answers, then lead them to realize they have three parts.* Some pastors even use the pretzel and shamrock to help describe the trinity of God. See the three spaces to show God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? If I share my pretzel with a friend, we are still eating the same pretzel. Each leaf on this shamrock is still a shamrock.

BIBLE TRUTH

Jesus urges us in Matthew 28:16 to “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded.” Let’s use this pretzel to remember this passage. This pretzel is kind of round, right? Like the world? *Make a circle with your finger around the pretzel as you say “Go and make disciples of all nations,” Point to one division and say “in the name of the Father,” Continue pointing to the last 2 divisions of the pretzel as you say “and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”*

How can we go and make disciples? By sharing the good news that we are saved and doing what God wants! We can even use a shamrock or pretzel to share God’s message.

After Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s command and ate of the forbidden fruit, all people now sin. We don’t always listen to our mom and dad. We make a mess and don’t clean up. We yell or cry when we don’t get our way. We can’t go to heaven when we do bad things. But God loved us so much, he made a way for us to be with him in heaven some day. He sent his son Jesus! Do you know what Jesus did for us? He was born on the first Christmas day, lived a perfect life, died and rose again on Easter for us! That is great, now God forgives us from our sins!

That is a gift I want to share. Like how I could share with you all this same pretzel. I want to share the good news that we get to go to heaven. Let’s all say the passage that Jesus commanded. *Point to the pretzel again as you recite the passage together.*

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

What does Jesus want us to do? *Go and make disciples*

How do we make disciples? *Tell them about God’s love and forgiveness*

Who can you tell today?

PRAYER

Dear God our Father, we are sorry for when we don’t always do as you want. Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, so we are forgiven of our sins. Please send your Holy Spirit so we can “Go and make disciples.” Amen

If possible, hand each student a small pretzel to eat after the devotion.



HEART IMPRINTS

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

June 5, 2023-
June 11, 2023
Pre-K
Message

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 1:12, 2 Corinthians 12:8

THEME: The Holy Ministry is Filled with Sinners Called by God

SONG: CW21 738/ CW93 525 – The Son of God, Our Christ

VISUAL: Free weights, picture of a car

OBJECT LESSON

Ask a few children to lift a weight. Do you think that you could lift me? *Let the children try to lift you if they want.* How about a car?

BIBLE TRUTH

Do you know who is the strongest in the world? God is all-powerful. God can use his might to do miracles. Do you remember Egypt's 10 plagues, the Flood? Any other miracles you remember? *Allow responses.*

God can use simple people to show his strength, too. Do you remember who killed a giant? Little David. He uses weakness to show His power. God used quiet Moses, who complained he couldn't talk right, to lead His people out of Egypt. He used Paul, a person who hunted Christians, to begin the spread of the Gospel to gentiles. He uses us, and sinful pastors and teachers, to help teach and preach the saving message to others.

Paul says in 1 Timothy 1:12 that it is Christ Jesus our God that gives the strength for service. Just like you couldn't lift me or a car by yourself, we do not have the strength to do God's work. He sent Jesus, the Son of God, strong and powerful, to live a perfect life in our place and suffer the punishment in our place, so that we can be strong. Because of Jesus, the Holy Spirit now lives in us to give us strength.

Pick up the weight again. It may not be a show of physical strength but the power God gives us is superhuman. It is God's strength. For Paul again states that the Lord spoke these words in 2 Cor. 12:8 "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." v. 10 "for when [we] are weak, then [we] are strong," in God's power.

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

We thank God for sending His Spirit to move us in superhuman ways to tell others of God's love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. What bible songs have you learned? *Allow kids to say their songs or even sing one.*

Who are we singing about in those songs? *God*

Do you know any Bible verses? *Allow a few passages said or prompt them to use John 3:16.*

We can use these songs and memory verses to tell other people of God's love for them. God can use us to share his love!

PRAYER

Dear God our Heavenly Father, there are many times we feel too little and weak. But we know that you give us power! You used small David to kill a giant and quiet Moses to save his people. We pray for your Spirit to give us strength and power to tell our friends you love them and save them too! We know that you hear us because of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



HEART IMPRINTS

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 12, 2023-
June 18, 2023
Pre-K
Message

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 9:35-10:8

THEME: The Holy Ministry Demonstrates Compassion for God's People

SONG: CW21 736 – Lord, You Call Us as Your People

VISUAL: A rubber stamp, preferably one with the word "love"

OBJECT LESSON

Stamp a child's hand or a piece of paper. What word or picture did I stamp? That's right! If I made another mark, would the word or picture change? No, this stamp will make the same mark over and over.

BIBLE TRUTH

In Matthew, we hear that even before rubber stamps were invented, God used "copies" to spread His word. Matt 9:35 says that Jesus went around "proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness." Jesus, the Son of God, told everyone he met that God wants all people to know that they sin and need a savior.

Jesus knew that he would have to die on the cross and return to heaven. He put the Holy Spirit on his disciples to move them to "copy" his message. Matthew 10:1 says "Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness." The disciples were like Jesus' stamp. They had the same message of needing a Savior and healing.

God puts His Spirit on His people today, too. At our baptism, we are given His Spirit. His Spirit fills us with love for others as it says in 1 John 4:19, "we love because he first loved us."

We have ministers that shepherd us with the Holy Spirit. In fact, their very title is a reflection of Jesus our Good Shepherd when we call our ministers of the Gospel, "pastors". With the Holy Spirit all followers of Christ are compelled to spread the message of forgiveness to those around us each day.

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

How are Christians like rubber stamps? We show compassion and love. *We tell of God's forgiveness through Jesus, the Son of God.*

Who gives us the power to "copy" the work of Jesus here on earth? *The Holy Spirit*

How can you show God's forgiveness to a friend or family member? *Maybe forgiving a friend/family member for saying or doing something mean.*

How can you show love to a stranger at the store? *Maybe helping them get something from the shelf, opening the door to the store, saying hello and being friendly.*

PRAYER

Jesus, thank you for saving us from our sins. We need people to tell people of your love and forgiveness. We pray people will be moved by the Holy Spirit to become pastors and teachers. We pray that we too will copy Jesus by our kindness, forgiveness and telling them of God's love. Amen.

Give children a stamp on their hand if they wish on the way out.



HEART IMPRINTS

4th Sunday after Pentecost

June 19, 2023–
June 25, 2023
Pre-K
Message

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:22–33

THEME: The Holy Ministry Preaches Christ Despite Persecution

SONG: CW21 823/ CW93 349– Jesus Priceless Treasure

VISUAL: Treasure Map or Treasure Chest

OBJECT LESSON

Show the treasure map or chest. Do you know what this is? It seems like everyone wants treasure! Something sparkly, something precious. Did you know that you have a treasure already? It is in your heart.

BIBLE TRUTH

God loved us so much that he sent his Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, die on a cross, and rise again. Because of Jesus, our sins are forgiven. He made us children of God, princes or princesses of Heaven. God put a treasure in our hearts at baptism, our faith in Jesus as our Savior. We want to treasure this faith in our hearts.

No one can steal this treasure either! God protects us. He thinks of us as precious and loves us. God tells us in Matthew 10:29-31 “Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

Whenever we are afraid, whenever someone makes us sad, we can know that God loves us and looks after us because we have his word and faith in our hearts. Let’s keep this treasure safe in our hearts, just like we would keep gold and silver safe in a treasure chest. We look to Jesus as our Savior, rely on God’s love and protection, and listen to God’s word.

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

What is our treasure? *Our faith in Jesus as our Savior, God’s word.*

Who loves us more than sparrows? *God*

How can we keep our treasure safe? *We listen to God’s word and look to Jesus for our salvation.*

PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, thank you for sending your son, Jesus, to live a perfect life and dying on the cross for us so that we can go to heaven. Help us to guard our faith in you even when we are sad or afraid. Be with us each day, Amen.



HEART IMPRINTS