

Second Sunday of Lent – year C

Preparation

Read [Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18](#) and [Luke 13: 31-35](#). Pay attention to the words or phrases that jump at you. Read over the lesson so that you are familiar with what is intended to happen. Gather the materials that you will need for each section of the lesson. For deeper thinking or for ways to extend the lesson take a look at the following websites:

<http://www.textweek.com/yearc/lentc2.htm>

<http://www.sundayschoollessons.com/lent2les.htm>

<http://www.sundayschoollessons.com/pen10les.htm>

<http://www.sermons4kids.com/mother-hen.html>

<http://www.efree.mb.ca/lectionarypuzzles/in-cwmp.htm#lent02>: lectionary word puzzles

Gathering

Materials needed

- Small table or end of one table
- Candle
- Candle lighter
- Bible and bookmark
- Purple cloth
- Newsprint and markers
- Basket and star (see shape at end of lesson)
- Pencils or pens

Copy the star shape at the end of the lesson. Cut it out and make one for each child in the group. Print up the prayer on the newsprint so that the readers can say the prayer with you. With the children place the cloth on the table. Have them help you place the Bible on the cloth. Light the candle. Pray the following prayer together:

For a time to pray, we bless you God.

For a time to learn, we bless you Jesus.

For a time to grow, we bless you Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blow out the candle. Give each child a star shape. Ask them to think about a promise God has made to people of faith. Explain that long, long ago there was a person named Abraham. Now Abraham was a good, good friend of God's. God asked Abraham to trust that everything would come out for the good of the people. God promised Abraham that there would be as many people as their as stars in the sky that would follow God and be part of the way of truth and love. Ask the children to look at their stars and to write or draw a promise that God has given them. Invite them to place their stars in the basket along with their gifts from last week.

Story Time

Instructions

- Teach the children the following chant for use during the story:

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by God!
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by Jesus!**

Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. He knew that God was calling him to spend time in that city. Jerusalem was the centre of all of God's people. It was where the temple was. It was the place that some of the most important things had happened for the people of God. Jesus knew that the most important thing he would ever do would happen in Jerusalem.

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by God!
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by Jesus!**

A group of Pharisees came up to Jesus. They had a warning to share with Jesus. They said, "Jesus you need to leave here! Herod the king is wants to arrest. Herod wants to kill you. Please leave!"

Jesus turned them and said, "You tell Herod, that fox, that I have no time for him right now. Tell him I busy today and tomorrow healing the sick and casting out the devil from hurting people. On the third day I will reach the goal that God has for me. Remind him that no prophet of God's has ever died outside of Jerusalem."

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by God!
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by Jesus!**

Jesus then cried out, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem. You kill the prophets that God sends to you. I have longed to gather you up like a mother hen gathers up her baby chicks but you would not let me do it. Your house is left to you. I tell you I won't be coming to Jerusalem until the time comes and you say 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Holy One.'"

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by God!
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Loved by Jesus!**

Response

Project Idea 1: Welcome Jesus Poster

If you are interested in making a connection between Lent at church and Lent at home, this response will give you a guide on how to make that happen.

Materials needed

- purple construction paper
- markers
- scissors
- Jesus picture at end of lesson
- glitter
- glue sticks

Instructions

Copy the Jesus picture at the end of the lesson, so that each child has a copy. Give each child a couple of pieces of construction paper. Show them how to fold them in half across the horizontal and then cut out a heart shape from each (go [here](#) if you need instructions on how to do this). Get them to cut out the Jesus picture. Then have them lay one heart down and put glue on the right hand upper corner. Now lay the other heart on that and glue down so that they overlap. Ask the children to print on their hearts “**Welcome Jesus into our hearts**” and then to glue the picture of Jesus’ face onto their hearts. Invite them to decorate their welcome poster with the glue sticks and glitter. Suggest to the children that they take home their posters and find a place where everyone in the family can see the message.

Project Idea 2: Prayer Containers

One of the disciplines of Lent is to take extra time to pray and be with God. This response will give the children and families a chance to do that during the next week.

Materials needed

- small plastic containers or small boxes
- purple construction paper
- prayer sheet from end of lesson
- scissors
- glue sticks
- markers

Instructions

Copy the prayer sheet so that each child has one. Give each child a prayer sheet and read over the prayers together. Give each child a container and piece of purple construction paper. Invite them to cover their containers with the construction paper and to write on the side “**Prayers for Lent**”. Then have them cut up their prayer sheets into single prayers for each day and to put them into their container. Encourage the children to share their prayer containers with their families and to pray each day through this week of Lent together. Remind the children that during Lent we are called to pray more and make more space for God in our lives.

Project Idea 3: Wall of Faith – Blessing Chicks

This will be an ongoing activity that the children can do all together throughout the season. Each week they will put up a new symbol onto their wall.

Materials needed

- chick shape from the end of the lesson
- yellow construction paper
- sticky tack or masking tape
- scissors
- markers

Instructions

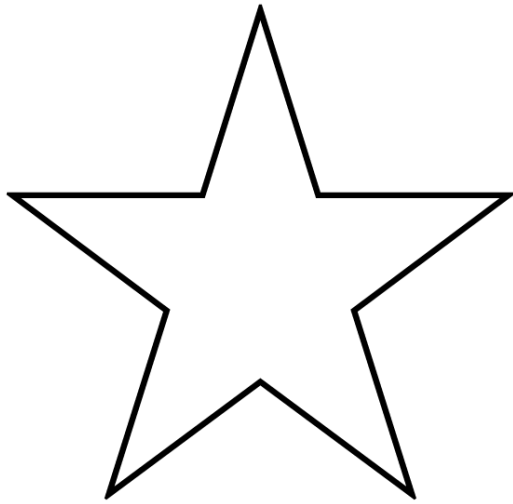
Copy the chick shape from the end of the lesson. Trace onto the yellow construction paper and make one for each child. Have each child cut out their chick shape. Remind the children that Jesus wanted to bless Jerusalem and to bring the people back to the ways of God. Invite the children to think of a blessing they want to share with the church community and have them write or draw it on their chicks. When they are finished help them to attach their chicks up on the 'Wall of Faith' along with their feet they put up last week.

Closing

Gather with the children around the worship table again. Relight the candle. Say the prayer line by line and encourage the children to repeat it after you:

**You hear our voice, loving God at all times,
You walk with us, Jesus at all times,
You urge us on, Holy Spirit at all times,
Loving Presence surround and keep us. Amen.**

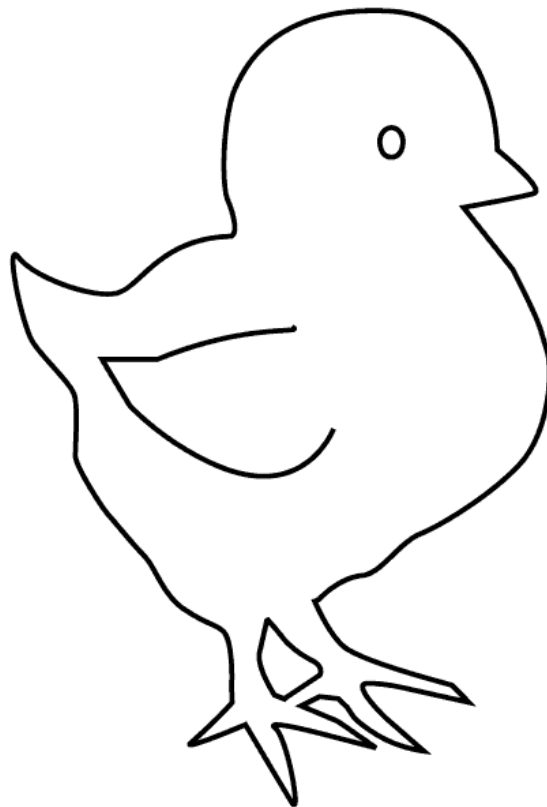
Star Shape



Jesus Face



A Chick



Prayer Sheet

Sunday

Pray today for the peace of Jerusalem and all the people of faith who live there.

Monday

Pray today for all those who work for the Gospel and share the message of God's love with others.

Tuesday

Pray today for all who are hungry today that they may find the food that they need and for those who work to provide it for them.

Wednesday

Pray today for all who are homeless and need a place to sleep and those who work to provide shelter and work for long term solutions.

Thursday

Pray today for all who are lonely that they will feel God's loving presence in their lives.

Friday

Pray today for those who struggle against injustice and work to bring about God's kingdom of justice and peace for the world.

Saturday

Pray today for those who are in need of God's rest and loving care that they might find God is close at hand.