

Light a candle

Sign of the cross

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sing

“Great are you Lord” – Casting Crowns <https://youtu.be/ZZqV6i98SkA>

“It is well with my soul” – Audrey Assad <https://youtu.be/zY5o9mP22V0>

“No longer slaves” – Jonathan David and Melissa Helser

<https://youtu.be/f8TkUMJtK5k>



God's Word

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:12-21 “Be reconciled to God.”

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Reflection

God is the reconciler. It is not that we reconcile ourselves with God, or that we are even capable of this. We do not have the power or strength to go to God, to make ourselves good or good enough, or even to choose the one who can do this work of reconciliation. When we feel we are in danger of drowning or left abandoned on the rubbish heap, we cannot choose our rescuer - our saviour. The lifesaver, the good Samaritan, sees us and comes to our aid. The one who helps us comes to us even if we do not have the will or the strength to ask for help. Jesus did not walk straight from Nazareth to Jerusalem. He took a very winding journey through the Holy Land because he was looking for his sheep. Jesus loves all people. He is compassionate and kind and he wants to help us. It is only Jesus, the Son of God, who can and has reconciled us with God through his death and resurrection. Our sins are buried in the tomb and we have new life in Christ. Having received this gracious gift from God we too can be ambassadors for Christ and tell others that Jesus is the way to be reconciled with God, our Creator and Sustainer of life.

Activity

- ❖ Look for opportunities to speak kind words to your family, friends, neighbours or people you speak to on the telephone.
- ❖ Remember the “honesty box” ... Does this spark any ideas? Maybe a random acts of kindness box?

Music

Sing/Listen to music. Ideas:

“We Believe” – Newsboys <https://youtu.be/WjZ01FcK0yk>

“Raise a Hallelujah” – Bethel Music <https://youtu.be/e3RRU25dpPg>

“Breathe/What a friend I’ve found” – Hillsong <https://youtu.be/k5w7MgTgVVs>

“Be Thou my Vision” – Nathan Pacheco <https://youtu.be/ihJAJA4ibEs>

Bible verse

Acts 5:22-32 “Apostles on Trial Again”

Catechism

The Eighth Commandment – Do not tell lies about anyone.

Prayer

Our Father, we thank you for teaching us not to hurt people with our words. We are sorry that we damage our relationships with our words and that we also displease you. We pray that you would forgive us for the hurtful things that we have said. Help us to use our words constructively, building up our relationships by showing kindness, thoughtfulness and compassion to others. We pray that you would bless us with wisdom and patience when we are speaking to others. We pray that you would help us to say only good things about others and put the best construction on their words and actions. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. Amen.

