

Playology - Come Into the Kingdom as a Child

Call to Worship - sounds of laughter, slides of smiles and children playing

Song: Jesus Loves Me

Standing Meditation -

Let us face North - to the Promised Land
Let this represent the guiding light, the compass

Let us face East - The Direction of the Rising Sun
Let this represent the direction of the new beginnings

Let us face South - The Direction of Sunny Exposure
**Let this be where you find energy, imagination, spontaneity
and play**

Let us face West - The Direction of the Setting Sun
Let this be the direction of endings and letting go

Song: Shout to the North and the South

Scripture: Mark 10: 13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

The Word:

Today, we are sharing some favorite children's Bible stories - reminding ourselves that, we do indeed, need to come into the kingdom of God as a child,

open and wide-eyed

joy-filled and excited about the possibilities

positive and without bias

Let us share our stories

Song: Lord, Listen to your Children

Prayer

Saying what we believe

(adapted from Ann Weems, *Reaching for Rainbows*)

One: On that first morning God called us.

People: This morning God calls us

to be the people of faith in the midst of meaninglessness

One: In the midst of meaninglessness

People: God calls us to meaning

One: Out of brokenness

People: God calls us to wholeness.

One: Out of divisiveness

People: God calls us to community.

One: Out of tears

People: God calls us to laughter.

One: Out of self-centeredness

People: God calls us to love one another.

One: Out of unfaithfulness

People: God calls us to faith.

One: Out of death

People: God calls us to life.

Song: In Christ Alone

LITANY

“Everything I Ever Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten”

The congregation is invited to stand on the statement(s) they most resonate with

ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

Leader:

All I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sand pile at school. These are the things I learned:

People:

- * **Share everything.**
- * **Play fair.**
- * **Don't hit people.**
- * **Put things back where you found them.**
- * **Clean up your own mess.**
- * **Don't take things that aren't yours.**
- * **Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.**
- * **Wash your hands before you eat.**
- * **Flush.**
- * **Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.**
- * **Live a balanced life - learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.**
- * **Take a nap every afternoon.**
- * **When you go out in the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together.**

*** Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup: the roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.**

*** Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the Styrofoam cup - they all die. So do we.**

*** And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned - the biggest word of all - LOOK.**

Leader: Deb

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and equality and sane living.

Leader: Chandler

Take any one of those items and extrapolate it into sophisticated adult terms and apply it to your family life or your work or government or your world and it holds true and clear and firm.

Leader: Darci

Think what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap.

Leader: Lisa

Or if all governments had as a basic policy to always put things back where they found them and to clean up their own mess.

ALL:

And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out in the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.