

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



Ascension of the Lord

29 May 2022 - Year C

**“Jesus blessed them, withdrew from them, and was carried to heaven.”**

### Something to Think About

Have you seen the movie, *The Grand Adventures of Pooh Bear*? It starts with Christopher Robin telling his very best friend, Pooh Bear, that from now on he will not be able to be with him in the same way because he has to go to school for the first time in his life! Until this time, Pooh and Christopher have always been together. The dialogue goes something like this:

*Christopher: Pooh, what if there came a tomorrow when we could not be together - when we would be apart?*

*Pooh: Well as long as we are apart together, it shall certainly be fine!*

*Christopher: Yes! Yes of course.*

The message of the Ascension is the same – Jesus has left us ‘apart together.’

### The Story

In today’s gospel, Jesus blesses his disciples and is then taken up into heaven. The disciples went back to Jerusalem and spent their days in the temple giving praise and thanks to God. They knew that Jesus was still with them, and that he would send the Holy Spirit to help them tell everyone in the whole world about him!

### The Scriptures

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke**

**24:50-53**

Jesus led his disciples out to Bethany, where he raised his hands and blessed them. As he was doing this, he left and was taken up to heaven.

After his disciples had worshiped him, they returned to Jerusalem and were very happy. They spent their time in the temple, praising God.

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

### Video

Click to watch the video: [Jesus’ Ascension](#)



## Group Discussion

Jesus is still with us! And there is still work to be done. We are braver than we believe and stronger than we seem and smarter than we think! And Jesus will always, always, always be with us. Jesus told us that 'the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power.'

What do you think you could ask the Holy Spirit to help you with?

## Praying For Others

*Leader:* Trusting in God's love and encouragement, we pray for the needs of the world.

*Reader 1:* For people who love like Jesus. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 2:* For wisdom to understand what it means to know God. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3:* For hope to share with others. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 4:* For trust that the Holy Spirit will help us when we are in need. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 5:* For blessings and strength to live and love as Jesus taught us to. 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 our prayers in the name of the risen Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer



Lord Jesus,  
Thank you for staying close to us.  
Bless us and keep us safe in our  
work and play this week.  
Amen.

## Group Activity

### Jesus and Us – Apart Together

*You will need: a worksheet for each child, and coloured markers or coloured pencils.*

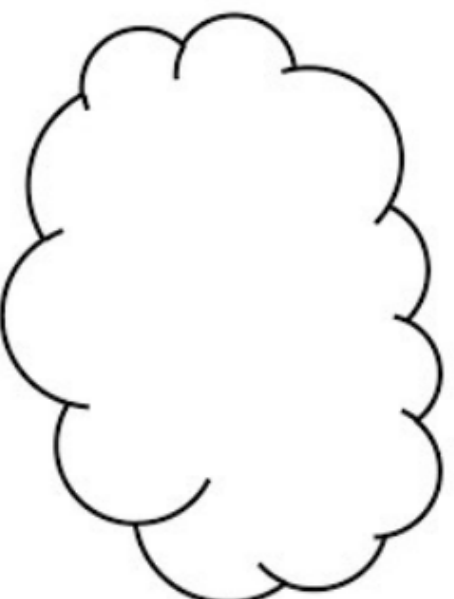
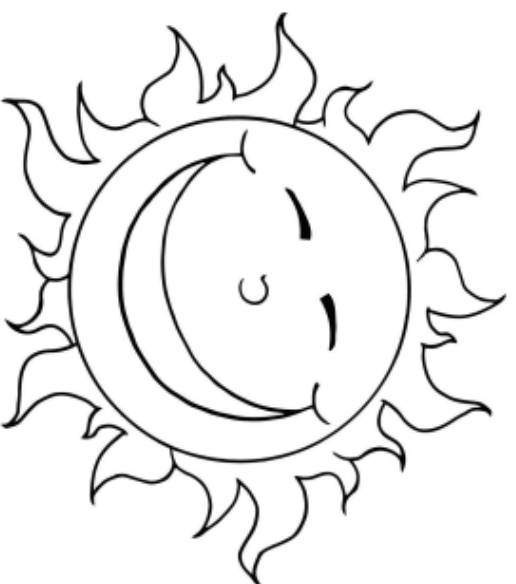
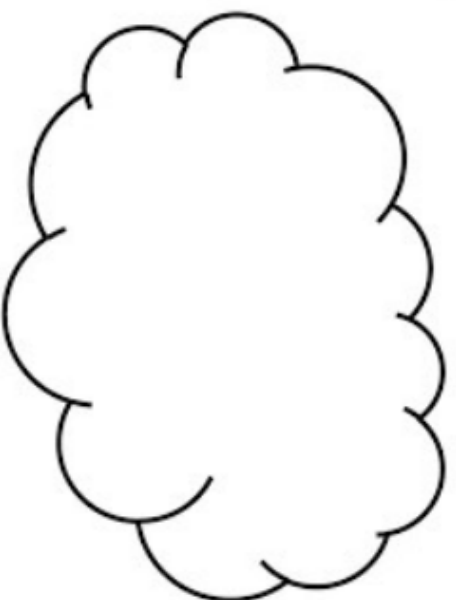
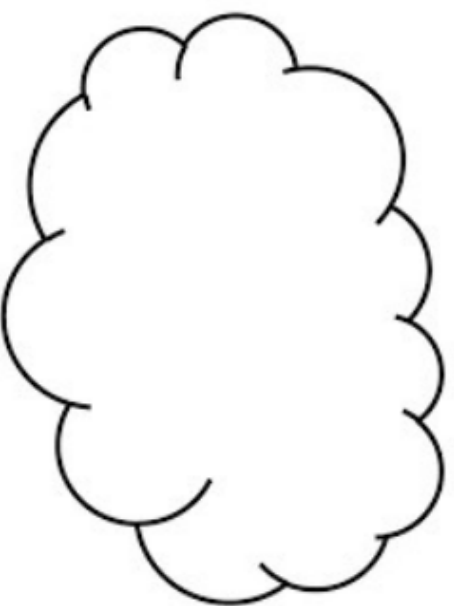
Think about the things in your life that remind you that Jesus is always with you.

Can you think of three different things? It might be a special person who loves you, or the beauty of creation, or the comfort of your warm bed.

Try and think of three things and draw one in each of the clouds on the worksheet.



In the clouds, draw or write about things that remind you that Jesus is always with you.



*Jesus is  
always  
with me!*



# APART - TOGETHER

**DO YOU  
LOVE A  
MEMBER  
OF YOUR  
FAMILY  
WHO LIVES  
IN ANOTHER  
TOWN...  
AN AUNT,  
A GRAND  
PARENT?**

**GLUE INTO  
THE FRAME  
A PHOTO  
OF THIS  
PERSON  
WHO IS  
"APART-  
TOGETHER"  
WITH YOU.**

