

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



Ascension of the Lord

21 May 2023 - Year A

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

Something to Think About

Jesus is with us through His Spirit. The Spirit will help us to show love and know what to say. How do you show love to people with your actions? How do you show love with words?

The Story

Jesus does three things for the disciples.

1. He reminds them of his power. He tells them: 'I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth'. 2. He gives them a special mission: 'Go and baptise' and make disciples, not just in their own community but in all nations. Everyone deserves to hear the Good News. 3. Jesus is not deserting them. He says: 'I will be with you always, even until the end of time'. Wow!

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

28:16-20

Jesus' eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee, where Jesus had told them to meet him. They saw him and worshiped him, but some of them doubted.

Jesus came to them and said:
"I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth!
Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples.
Baptise them in the name of the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
and teach them to do everything I have told you.
"I will be with you always,
even until the end of the world."

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

Video

Click to watch the video: [God is With Us](#)



Group Discussion

Jesus says: 'I am with you always'. Invite the children to reflect on ways Jesus is with them. Invite them to share these ideas with the group.

Praying For Others

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

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will listen to God's Spirit. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for those who were baptised at Easter time. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray that we will share Jesus' love and forgiveness with others. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that we will notice Jesus' presence in the people around us. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that our faith in Jesus will grow stronger each day. 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,
We know you are with us always.
Help us to share the good news of
your love with those we meet.
Amen.

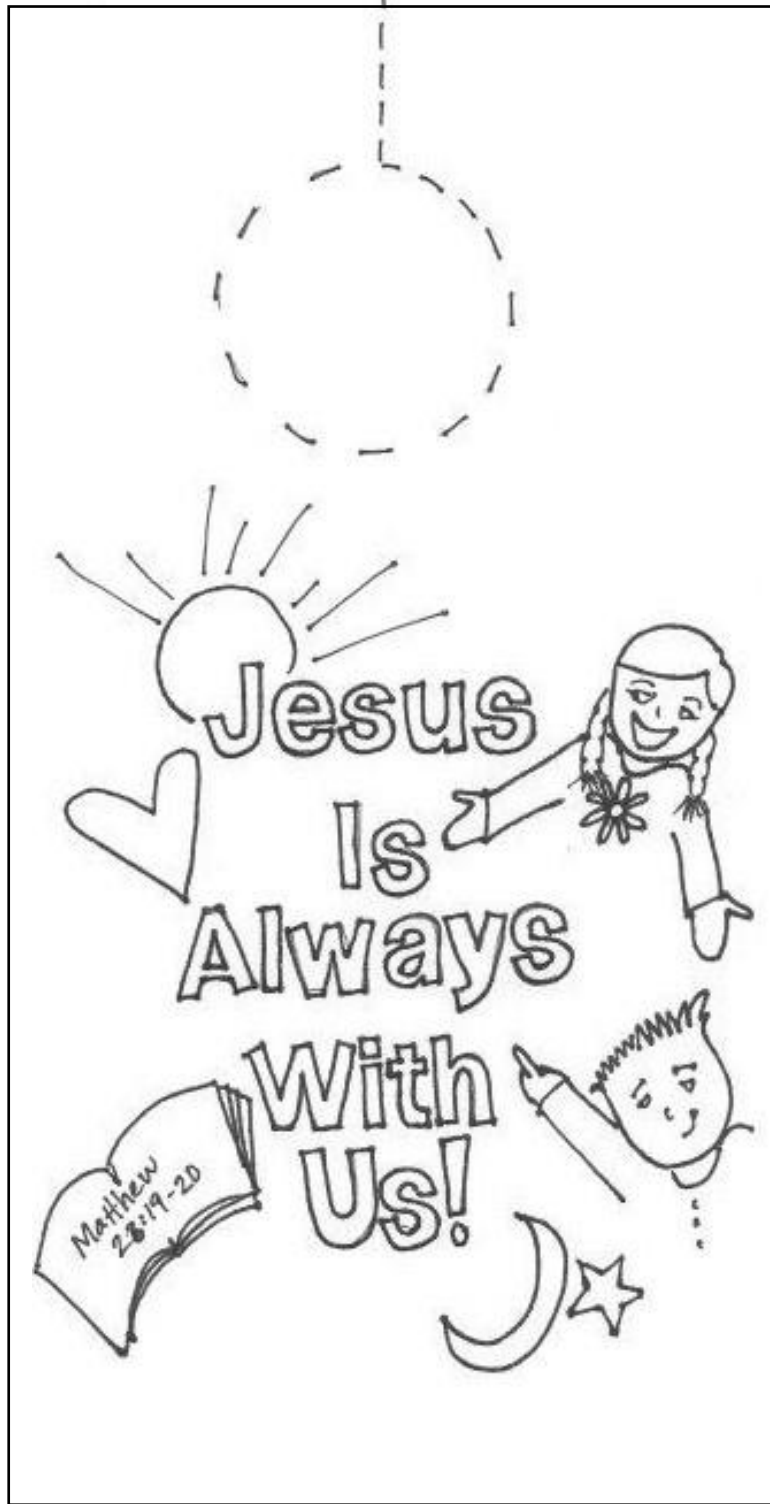
Group Activity

Jesus is always with us.

You will need: a doorhanger template for each child on cardboard, coloured markers or pencils, scissors.

- 1) Children colour the door hanger and reflect upon the wonderful news that Jesus is always with them.
- 2) Use scissors to cut along the dotted line and invite children to hang on their bedroom door.





TODAY JESUS SAYS GOODBYE TO HIS DISCIPLES

HE TELLS THEM:

I WILL BE WITH YOU ALWAYS!

SOMETIMES OUR FRIENDS MOVE TO ANOTHER TOWN. IT IS HARD TO SAY GOODBYE. HOW DO WE KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THEM?

SAYING GOODBYE

