



You and your family are invited to join us for children's church every Sunday at 9:30 am! Each children's church time should be around 30 minutes long. **Please RSVP** to receive the zoom link, altar box, and supplies. Here is what you will need to engage with our Sunday children's church experience at home.



Each white box will also serve as your altar to set up at the beginning of each children's church time, just like we do at church.

Open the altar box and take out:

- The white altar cloth
- The liturgical color of the season
- The light
- The cross
- The communion set

Close the box and lay out the items on the altar as you like. If you have more than one child in your household, have them take turns setting it up each Sunday, or they can choose which items they would like to be in charge of setting up. There is no right or wrong way to do this. If they want to lay all the liturgical color strips on the altar, that is fine! If they want to color the cross and communion set with paint or markers, that is fine too. This is now your family's altar box. Feel free to make it yours together!

Do you have any other special items you would like to add to the altar space? A baptismal candle, a family Bible, or maybe some flowers? Perhaps the kids would like their favorite stuffed animal to join them. All of that is fine. Feel free to take some time talking together about how you will make this a special space to be with God and each other.

Each family needs only one altar for children's church, just like we use only one altar on Sunday mornings. However, if this becomes a major crisis for your kiddos, please speak with me and we can work out a solution together. Also, you may want to remind your kids not to pour liquid in the communion chalice.

Our first four children's church stories will be adaptations of Elisabeth Suttle's Class Collective Worship curriculum. They will focus on the following themes: "Stuck on the Ark: Seeing Signs of Hope in a Difficult Time," "Watching the Clouds: Dealing with Worries," "Sunflowers: Coping with Guilt and Grief while recognizing New Life," and "The Exile and Return: Experiencing Change and Making New Discoveries."

The order of children's church will follow the following outline. I may add some call and response songs or games to the opening/closing time.

- I. Welcome and Opening
- II. Story
- III. Reflection and Response
- IV. Closing

Liturgical Calendar and Colors

Though I will remind everyone at the beginning of children's church which color we are using for the altar, here is a short guide for your notes.

 Advent

 Christmas and Easter

 Reformation and Pentecost

 Lent

 Ordinary Time (usually between major liturgical seasons)

We will revisit the conversation of in-person children's church as we discuss what this will look for congregational worship. Until then, we hope this children's church at home will serve as a special time to worship, learn, and grow together.

Please contact me at the information below to RSVP or with any questions you may have about children's church.

With Hope,

Casey Cross

youngdisciples@hopeeagle.org