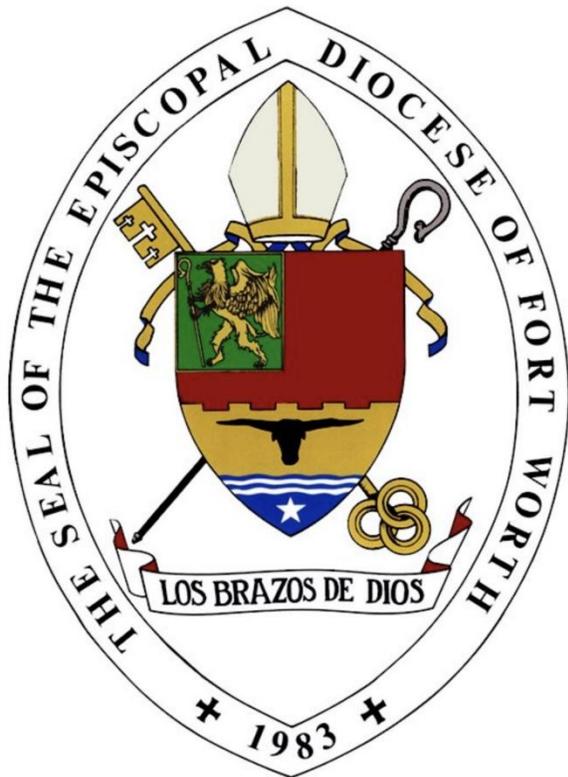


EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

A lectionary-based Sunday school curriculum for Pre-K through High School



**PROPER 29
CHRIST THE
KING**

**Sunday from
November 20 to
November 26**

A free resource created by the Christian Education Commission
of the Anglican Diocese of Fort Worth

Sunday School Curriculum for Proper 29, Year C

Feast of Christ the King

Sunday from November 20 to November 26

Lectionary Texts

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:35-43

Jeremiah 23:1-6

²³ “How terrible it will be for the shepherds who lead my people down the wrong path!” announces the LORD. “They are destroying and scattering the sheep that belong to my flock.”

² So the LORD, the God of Israel, speaks to the shepherds who take care of my people. He tells them, “You have scattered my sheep. You have driven them away. You have not taken good care of them. So I will punish you for the evil things you have done,” announces the LORD.

³ “I myself will gather together those who are left alive in my flock. I will gather them out of all of the countries where I have driven them. And I will bring them back to their own land. There my sheep will have many lambs. Their numbers will increase.

⁴ “I will place shepherds over them who will take good care of them. My sheep will not be afraid or terrified anymore. And none of them will be missing,” announces the LORD.

⁵ “A new day is coming,” announces the LORD.
“At that time I will raise up from David’s royal line
a true and rightful Branch.

He will be a King who will rule wisely.

He will do what is fair and right in the land.

⁶ In his days Judah will be saved.

Israel will live in safety.

And the Branch will be called

The LORD Who Makes Us Right With Himself.

Psalm.46

- ¹ God is our place of safety. He gives us strength.
He is always there to help us in times of trouble.
- ² The earth may fall apart.
The mountains may fall into the middle of the sea.
But we will not be afraid.
- ³ The waters of the sea may roar and foam.
The mountains may shake when the waters rise.
But we will not be afraid. Selah
- ⁴ God's blessings are like a river. They fill the city of God with joy.
That city is the holy place where the Most High God lives.
- ⁵ Because God is there, the city will not fall.
God will help it at the beginning of the day.
- ⁶ Nations are in disorder. Kingdoms fall.
God speaks, and the people of the earth melt in fear.
- ⁷ The LORD who rules over all is with us.
The God of Jacob is like a fort to us. Selah
- ⁸ Come and see what the LORD has done.
See the places he has destroyed on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars stop from one end of the earth to the other.
He breaks every bow. He snaps every spear.
He burns every shield with fire.
- ¹⁰ He says, "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be honored among the nations.
I will be honored in the earth."
- ¹¹ The LORD who rules over all is with us.
The God of Jacob is like a fort to us. Selah

Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ We want you to be very strong, in keeping with his glorious power. We want you to be patient. Never give up. Be joyful ¹² as you give thanks to the Father.

He has made you fit to share with all his people. You will all receive a share in the kingdom of light.

¹³ He has saved us from the kingdom of darkness. He has brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. ¹⁴ Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all of our sins have been forgiven.

¹⁵ Christ is the exact likeness of God, who can't be seen. He is first, and he is over all of creation. ¹⁶ All things were created by him. He created everything in heaven and on earth. He created everything that can be seen and everything that can't be seen. He created kings, powers, rulers and authorities. Everything was created by him and for him. ¹⁷ Before anything was created, he was already there. He holds everything together.

¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, which is the church. He is the beginning. He is the first to be raised from the dead. That happened so that he would be far above everything. ¹⁹ God was pleased to have his whole nature living in Christ. ²⁰ God was pleased to bring all things back to himself because of what Christ has done. That includes all things on earth and in heaven. God made peace through Christ's blood, through his death on the cross.

Luke 23:35-43

³⁵ The people stood there watching. The rulers even made fun of Jesus. They said, "He saved others. Let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."

³⁶ The soldiers also came up and poked fun at him. They offered him wine vinegar.

³⁷ They said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

³⁸ A written sign had been placed above him. It read, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

³⁹ One of the criminals hanging there made fun of Jesus. He said, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself! Save us!"

⁴⁰ But the other criminal scolded him. "Don't you have any respect for God?" he said. "Remember, you are under the same sentence of death. ⁴¹ We are being punished fairly. We are getting just what our actions call for. But this man hasn't done anything wrong."

⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

⁴³ Jesus answered him, "What I'm about to tell you is true. Today you will be with me in paradise."

Overview of Texts:

Today's lessons remind us of the way we see Jesus at Easter: triumphant, powerful, fulfilling God's promises, and making us right with God. Indeed, this is the feast day for Christ the King.

The lesson in Jeremiah repeats God's assurances and promises to His people. He will defeat their enemies, love and care for them, and He will give them a Messiah. The Psalm continues this theme. Psalm 46 describes God who is all powerful, unstoppable. He is the God who can defeat any enemy and will provide for His people. In the letter to the Colossians, Paul lists all of the blessings that the Father, through the Son, has secured for us, and all of the glorious attributes of Christ as the Second person of the Trinity. In the Gospel, we have Luke's account of Jesus hanging on the cross and the two thieves crucified beside him. Jesus seems to be helpless, but this is the most powerful moment of his time on earth. He is in the very process of defeating sin and death and winning eternal life for us. All of these pictures combine in today's lessons to prepare us to move forward into the next season of the Church Year. It is easy to go through Advent and anticipate the Christmas season only picturing the innocent miracle of Christ's birth. We also need to focus on Jesus as the fulfillment of God's mighty promises and see that even though he seems tiny and helpless in the manger, *in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*
Colossians 1:20

Pre K- Kindergarten Lesson Plan

Opening Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Supplies and Preparation:

Supplies: Glue sticks, construction paper, thin paper plates (1½ per student), copies of the four Advent Collects included below (1 copy of each per student), stickers, markers, crayons, sharpie pen, one half sheet of green tissue paper per child.

Preparation: Cut at least 6 construction paper eggs (each student should have one for the exercise, so make enough for the whole class, but a minimum of six is needed regardless of class size). Cut four per piece of construction paper. On each egg draw a cross on one side. On the other side write one of these expressions: Love, Forgiveness, New Life, Eternal Life, Hope, and Mercy. Once you go over six eggs, use other words or phrases that fit the theme in the activity listed below (Strength, Faith, Comfort, Redemption, etc.). Make baskets by cutting one paper plate in half, then gluing one half to the front of a whole plate (bulging sides facing outward) to create a basket for each child. Make an additional four paper eggs per student for the craft. Mark a set of 4 paper eggs for each student with 1, 2, 3, and 4 (representing the four Sundays in Advent). Make copies of the four Advent Collects included at the end of the lesson plans. Cut them out to be able to give each student one collect for each week.

Lesson:

- Ask your students to share any special thanksgivings that they have since Christ the King Sunday often falls the same week as Thanksgiving Day.
- Show the children the paper eggs and ask them to hide their eyes as you hide the eggs around the room.
- Tell the children to take turns finding an egg.
- Have them each bring the egg they find back to you.
- Read the word on the back. For each egg talk about how these are all gifts that God gives to us through what Jesus did at Easter and are reasons why we celebrate Christ the King today.
- Ask the children, why do they think we are talking about Easter at this time of the year? Tell them that Advent is the season of the year that we *wait* to celebrate Jesus' birth each year. When Christmas comes, part of what makes it so exciting is that we are thinking of all the wonderful things that will happen in our lives because of Jesus.
- Read the story from Luke 23:35-43. Remind them that this is what happened while Jesus was up on the cross.
- Look at how wonderful Jesus was! People were making fun of him. It looked like things couldn't be worse, but Jesus knew what he was doing. He could promise the man who asked for his help that he would be with Jesus in heaven the very same day!
- All of the things that we know Jesus gives us on Easter, through His Resurrection from death/the grave, are the same things we are excited about when we see Jesus' birth at Christmas.
- Let each child keep an egg from the hide 'n seek game. Tell them to share with someone else about the gifts Jesus gives to us. Tell them to remember that when anyone loves Jesus, they get all these gifts.

Discuss:

- Take a moment to talk about the church year and that there are special Feast Days that celebrate important things. Today is Christ the King Day, when we read about Jesus as King over death in our story.
- Next Sunday will be the start of a new church season and a new church year. Advent will begin on a Sunday when many of your students may be away visiting relatives. Make sure that they are ready.

Activity:

- Today's craft will give the students a way to remember the themes of each week in Advent and will be something easy for them to carry with them to a relative's house.
- Have the students make an Advent Basket
- Each student will need a basket for their eggs. If you have not assembled them ahead of time, you may have the students follow these directions.
- Take two paper plates and cut one in half (each pair of students can share the halves of one plate).

- Attach the half plate to the first full plate with staples or glue, so that there is an open space (have the bulging sides of the plates face outward).
- Each student should decorate a basket (stickers, markers, etc.).
- Give each student a set of Advent Collects and a set of 4 eggs, marked with 1, 2, 3, and 4. Have them glue the Collect for Advent I on the egg marked with 1, and so on.
- Have them add their piece of green paper to fill the basket, then put their eggs in the green paper in their basket.
- Demonstrate how they will pull out their “1” egg to say the appointed prayer with their parents before they come to church each Sunday (or at another appropriate time for family worship that day) in the upcoming season of Advent.

Closing Prayer: Lord’s Prayer

Elementary Lesson Plan

Opening Prayer: Lord’s Prayer, Hail Mary, and Glory Be

Supplies & Preparation:

Supplies: basket, crucifix, six hollow plastic eggs, construction paper, scissors, glue, thin paper plates (1 ½ per student), copies of the four Advent Collects included below (1 copy of each per student), stickers, glitter, markers, crayons, sharpie pen, one half sheet of green tissue paper per child.

Preparation: In each of the plastic eggs put a small piece of paper with one of these words written on it: Love, Forgiveness, New Life, Eternal Life, Hope, and Mercy. Try to have one egg for each child to have a turn. If needed, make more than six eggs and include other words that fit the theme of the lesson (Atonement, Reconciliation, Triumph Over Death, Comfort, Faith, etc.)

To make Advent baskets, you will cut construction paper eggs (4 per student). You should be able to cut four out of one sheet of paper. Make baskets by using thin paper plates – one plate cut in half and glued to a whole plate. Mark a set of 4 paper eggs for each student with 1, 2, 3, and 4 (representing the four Sundays in Advent),

Make copies of the four advent collects included at the end of the lesson plans. Cut them out to be able to give each student one collect for each week that they will glue on each of their 4 eggs.

Lesson:

- Someone will probably ask about the Easter basket, but if not, ask them what holiday do the things on the table make them think of?
- Hold up the crucifix and ask them, "What were some of the important things we know Jesus did for us?" (*he died for our sins, we can be right with God, we have eternal life, we never have to be afraid of death*).
- Tell them that the lessons today talk about the power of Jesus and what he has done for us.
- First, tell them we will look at the lesson from the Gospel and read Luke 23:35-43
- Ask them if they think the people who saw Jesus on the cross understood how powerful he was? (*No*)
- Why did the one criminal defend Jesus? (*He knew they were guilty and Jesus was innocent.*)
- How powerful was Jesus really? (*He would be able to help the criminal join him in Paradise before that day was over.*)
- Tell them you are going to look at just how much Jesus has done for us.
- Have them read the passage from Colossians 1:12b-20
- Ask them to look at verses 15-18. Have them name all the things Paul says about how powerful Jesus is (*likeness of God, first over all creation, created everything, before all things, head of the church, the beginning, first raised from the dead.*)
- The lessons this week remind us that we are not waiting for a baby to be born at Christmas. We are waiting for the power of God to show His love for us. All the promises that God made are real because of Jesus being born.
- Give each student one of the eggs from the basket. Have them open the eggs and read what their egg has inside. Tell them as they prepare for Christmas to remember the gifts we have because of Jesus. Remind them to share that good news with their friends.

Activity:

- Today's craft will give the students a way to remember the themes of each week in Advent and will be something easy for them to carry with them to a relative's house (since many will be traveling for the Thanksgiving Holiday and Advent I).
- Have the students make an Advent Basket.
- Each student will need a basket for their eggs. Take two paper plates and cut one in half. (Pairs of students can share halves.)
- Attach the half plate to the first plate with staples or glue, so that there is an open space (bulging sides should face outward). This can be done ahead of time or by students.
- Let each student decorate a basket with markers, stickers, glitter, etc.
- Give each student a set of 4 eggs, marked with 1, 2, 3, 4 and have them glue the collect for Advent I on the egg marked with 1, and so on.
- Have them put the green tissue paper inside their basket and add the eggs.

- Demonstrate how they will pull out their “1” egg to say their prayer with their parents before they come to church each Sunday (or at another appropriate time for family worship) in the upcoming season of Advent.

Closing Prayer: The Collect of the Day

Junior & Senior High Lesson Plan

Opening Prayer: Lord’s Prayer, Apostles’ Creed, and Hail Mary

Supplies & Preparation:

Supplies: Copies of the readings included above, chalk/white board or paper/marker to make lists, a large box, gift wrap, tape, construction paper, scissors, sharpie pens, glitter, glue, glue sticks, markers, stickers, push pins or stapler, envelopes (1 per student), copies of the Advent Collects included below.

Preparation: wrap a box in gift wrap (leaving the top open and uncovered) to collect canned goods during Advent, or have students wrap the box during class. In order to save time in class, you may wish to cut out 4 egg shapes per student ahead of time. You should be able to get four eggs from each sheet of construction paper. Make copies of the Advent Collects included at the end of the lesson plans (1 set of 4 per student).

Lesson:

Today, on the feast of Christ the King, the readings describe leaders as shepherds. A leader cares for all and protects them. A wise and loving leader or ruler understands that what is good for his people is what is good for him.

Use a chalk/white board or tape three sheets of paper on the wall to write on.

Read the lessons for today. Now, focusing on the Colossians passage...

Discuss:

Verses 11-14 talk about the wonderful things that we have because of Jesus.

- On the first sheet of paper (or the first column on a chalk/white board, write across the top – GIFTS FROM JESUS.
- Have the students identify the gifts Paul listed for the Colossians (qualified us to

share in the inheritance of the saints in light, delivered us from the dominion of darkness, transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, redemption, the forgiveness of sins).

- Verses 15- 19 talk about how glorious Jesus is and describe him as the Second Person of the Trinity.
- On the second sheet/column write across the top – GOD THE SON.
- Have the students pick out what Paul says about the majesty and power of Jesus (image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation, in him all things were created, before all things, head of the body, the Church, the first-born from the dead, in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell).
- Now, on the third one write across the top - CHRISTMAS.
- Ask the students to write what they associate with Christmas (Jesus as a baby, born in a manger, etc.).
- When they finish, tell them to look at all three sheets. Remind them that Jesus in the manger is all of the things on the second list and is bringing us all of the gifts on the first list.
- We have these lessons right before Advent because Easter lets us know what Christmas is really about. Have them share about how this discussion has helped them think any new thoughts about Christmas. Suggest that they share some of these thoughts with friends and family whom they talk with about what Christmas means.

Activity:

- Each student will need four construction paper egg shapes, fine tip markers, and glue.
- Have the students glue the four Advent Collects to the eggs, one Collect on each egg.
- Label them 1,2,3,4 so the Collect goes with the right Sunday.
- Tell them to put the eggs in the envelope which will serve as their “basket” and pull one out each Sunday in Advent.
- They can decorate their envelope with markers and label ADVENT PRAYERS.
- You can also give different students the responsibility to text the others and remind them to read their Collects on different Sundays. (When they come to class during Advent, you may want to talk about the Collect they read that morning at the beginning of each class.)
- Wrap the box with the gift wrap for use in collecting canned goods each week during Advent, beginning next Sunday on Advent 1. Remind the students to bring items each week. Coordinate this project between the Junior and Senior High School Classes. If you desire, this donation opportunity can be offered to the rest of the parish – just remember to advertise!
- Plan with your students (and with other classes included in the Junior & Senior High) who will receive the donated items and then create a plan for delivery.

Closing Prayer: Collect of the Day

First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Second Sunday of Advent

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Second Sunday of Advent

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Third Sunday of Advent

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Third Sunday of Advent

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*