

The Arc of Formation

Lower Elementary grades 1-3 (Catechesis Level II)

Worship

- Deepen sense of Church/Worship as a special and sacred time and place
- Begin to follow much of the worship through use of the Annotated Bulletin
- Anticipate the general movement of the liturgy
 - Standing, sitting, kneeling when appropriate with little guidance
- Memorize key parts of the liturgy (said and sung)
 - Gloria, Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei
 - Lord's Prayer
 - Post-Communion Prayer
- Able to recount key points of Gospel reading
- Attend and actively participate in Children's Chapel
 - Follow cross to and from Chapel in orderly fashion
 - Engage with leader and children in morning discussion and prayers
 - Able to recount for parents the morning's lesson topic

Formation

- Demonstrate deeper familiarity with the basics of Jesus' life (birth, death, resurrection)
- Understand the importance of Baptism within their own lives and within the life of the Church
- Better understand and explain the parts of the church year: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between Biblical stories and the life of Jesus
 - Entirety of Bible as God's story
 - Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament promises and prophecies
- Gain a deeper understanding of introductory Biblical narratives and parables
- Gain a deeper understanding of the concept and practice of parables as more than mere stories
 - Begin to understand the symbolism behind the stories
- Begin to gain an understanding of important Old Testament narratives and themes
 - Creation
 - Adam and Eve and the Garden
 - God's Promise to Abraham
 - Abraham's Family
 - Exodus from Egypt
 - Israel in the Wilderness
 - Isaiah's prophecies
- Begin to gain a deeper understanding of key New Testament narratives and themes
 - Parable of the Sower
 - Parable of the Good Samaritan
 - Parable of the Vine and Branches
 - Parable of the Prodigal Son

- Be exposed to the concept of God's time and a timeline of the history of Judaism and Christianity
 - Begin to understand the difference between Kairos (God's time) and Chronos (chronological time)
 - Chronos as linear or quantitative
 - Kairos as qualitative

Fellowship

- Participate in age appropriate fellowship and worship opportunities to deepen their connection to and comfort with The Redeemer community (peers and elders alike)
 - Regular Church School and Children's Chapel attendance
 - Cherub Choir
 - Attend Lessons and Carols

Outreach

- Participate in Outreach events to begin to recognize that the Church works on behalf of others.
 - Giving Tree
 - St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church lunch program

Resources:

Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd Jones

The Children's Illustrated Bible by Selina Hastings

Alleluia! Amen. The Sunday Paper's Communion Book for Children by Gretchen Wolff Pritchard

The Anglican Family Prayer Book by Anne E. Kitch

Making A Home for Faith: Nurturing the Spiritual Life of Your Children by Elizabeth F. Caldwell

I Wonder: Engaging A Child's Curiosity about the Bible by Elizabeth F. Caldwell