



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

## Children's Liturgy

Sunday, April 25, 2021

### Song

#### *Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me this I know, For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong  
Jesus loves me this I know, For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong  
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me.  
Yes Jesus loves me, for the Bible tells me so

### *Leader:*

This is a time to collect our thoughts and give them to the Lord.

### **Collect for Purity:**

Prepare our hearts to worship God. Open our minds and hearts. **Amen.**

### **Collect of the Day:**

Thank you, God, for this new day. Thank you for the people you send to take care of us. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

### **The Lesson:**

Jesus wants people to know that he loves them and he wants to help take care of them. In Jesus' day lots of the people had sheep that they took care of, so they could understand when Jesus said he was the good shepherd. Have you ever seen a sheep or patted one? Today's theme is "The Good Shepherd."

*Leader:* A Reading from the Gospel of John.

Because Jesus wanted people to know that he would always love them and take care of them, he called himself the "good shepherd" and told people that they were like sheep. Some people didn't understand, so Jesus told them this story. The little lamb was lost. "Ba-a-a!" said the little lamb. "Ba-a-a!" The sun slowly slid out of sight. The little lamb shivered in the cold night air. "Ba-a-a!" He smelled danger. Nearby, a hungry wolf hid behind a thorny bush. "Ba-a-a!" cried the little lamb. "Ba-a-a!" Down in the valley, a shepherd guarded his flock of sheep, watching and listening. The animals slept peacefully in the cool, green grass. A small stream delicately danced in the evening breeze. A gust of wind swept across the valley. The shepherd paused. "Ba-a-a," he heard in the distance. "Ba-a-a!" He knew the voice of his little lamb. Even though it was dark, the shepherd started up the rocky path that led toward the lost lamb. "Don't be afraid," the shepherd called out. "I will find you. I will keep you safe!" The little lamb heard the shepherd's voice. Slowly, he stumbled down the path. A branch scraped his leg. "Ba-a-a!" he cried. The little lamb was scared. He waited for the shepherd to find him. "Ba-a-a!" he said. "Ba-a-a!" When the shepherd reached the lamb, he gently picked him up and held him close. "There you are," said the shepherd. "I have found you. I will carry you home." After he told this story Jesus said, "See, I am a shepherd, too. Just like a good shepherd cares for each and every sheep in the flock, I care for each and every one of you."

*Leader:* The Word of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*All:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Children's Creed:** *All stand.*

*All:* **We believe in God / Who made us and everything / We believe in Jesus Christ / Who is God's son / We believe in the Holy Spirit / Who helps us grow. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People:** *All kneel.*

*Leader:* We pray for our clergy: Dean Beverly and everyone in the church.

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for the leaders of the world, so we can live in peace.

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for our families, that Your love may fill our hearts

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for the boys and girls and their families who are hungry, and give thanks for those who help them.

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for all people who are sick or sad.

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for all who have died.

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We ask all these things in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

*All:* **Jesus, Hear our prayer.**

## **Confession:** *Remain kneeling and repeat after the leader.*

*All:* **Dear God / I am sorry that I have done things, / and I should not have done. / I ask you to forgive me / for hurting friends and those I love. / Please help me to do better. / Thank you, God, for your love. Amen.**

*Leader:* **Thank you God for hearing us. / We know that you forgive us. / We know that Jesus loves us. / We know that the Holy Spirit / Keeps us in God's care. Amen.**

## **Closing Prayer**

*All:* **Oh, Lord Jesus, I praise you this day. / I give myself to you this day / I ask you to help me this day. Amen.**  
**Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to bring peace to the world.**

## **The Peace**

*Leader:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

## **Activity**

Continue the Easter project started on Easter 2. Make sheep to take home and to decorate our Easter tree or Easter mobile. You can have the children color the sheep or have them create their own. Each sheep will need a piece of cotton and chenille stems (one stem cut in fourths makes four sets of legs—enough for two sheep). Twist one stem length around the cotton to form the neck. Bend both ends of the stem about a quarter of an inch—to form the feet. Twist another stem length around the cotton to create the back legs. And, bend both ends of the stem to form the back feet. Children's imagination will transform these little lumps into sheep. Allow time for the children to play with the sheep—getting lost, getting found. And be sure to add some of the sheep to your Easter tree or Easter mobile.