

Rhythms of Grace Worship • Pentecost Year 3

Theme: Pentecost- God gives us gifts through the Holy Spirit

Scripture: Isaiah 11: 2-3a and Acts 1:3-5;1:8

Date: _____

Location: _____

Volunteer Roles:

Facilitator _____

Storyteller _____

Celebrant _____

Center Leader _____

Guide _____

Items needed for this Session

Gathering: : Large red, orange or yellow flames, index cards with “gift” words printed on them

Storytelling: Bible, Jesus doll, Storytelling page, large red flame on the floor (can be out of material, felt, paper etc), each participant has a flame in hand, “gift” index cards around large red flame, You may want to make multiples of them or have blank cards on hand to add to the group. See list of ideas in Resources

Response Activities:

Bubble play- Using our breath/wind participants play with bubbles blowing and catching them.

Different gifts and abilities-(2) Since there are so many gifts and you, knowing your participants best, pick from a variety of gifts/ability listed in the resources for **two** (or more) of your activities, i.e. something artistic (fine motor), athletic (gross motor), musical (instruments or a piece of music to sing), etc.

“God Is Love” match game- Create different language cards with the words “God is Love” on them. See Resources for a list, make at least two sets.

Regathering: Say Hello to Your Friends game, see Resources, *Jesu, Jesu*, elements for the Eucharistic table (see Eucharist-Book 1)

Eucharist: altar table and elements (pita bread/rice crackers, juice, chalice, paten, purificator, corporal, altar cloth), Eucharistic Prayer (see Book 1 p. 100), *Gather our Hearts* song lyrics (see book 1 p. 99)

Dismissal: *Jesus Loves Me* song lyrics (see Book 1 p. 99 and CD Yr. 2 additional resources)

Sessions Plan • Pentecost • Yr. 3

God gives us gifts through the Holy Spirit

Gathering: Large red, orange or yellow flames and the index cards with the gift words are spread around the room. Participants pick up a flame to hold on to and then help put the index cards around the large red flame on the floor in the story telling area. Once the cards are all around the large flame all sit holding their flame in their lap to hear the story.

Storytelling: With the Bible, Jesus doll, Storytelling page, and large red flame place on the floor make sure each participant has an orange/yellow/gold/dark red flame in their hand, and spread around the large flame index cards with “gifts” that people might have written on them.

Response Activities:

Bubble play-Using our breath/wind participants play with bubbles blowing and catching them.

Different gifts and abilities-Since there are so many gifts and you, knowing your participants best, pick from a variety of gifts/ability listed in the resources for **two** (or more) of your activities, i.e. something artistic (fine motor), athletic (gross motor), musical (instruments or a piece of music to sing), etc.

“God Is Loves” match game- Using the different languages for the words “God is Love” place one set of languages face down on the table and give the participants another set to look at. Have the participants turn the face down cards and match the languages together.

Regathering: Leader explains “Say Hello to Your Friends game, see Resources. When finished, participants singing *Jesu, Jesu*, pick up an element for placement at the altar, and as the clergy sets the table all create a circle around the altar.

Eucharist: Sing: *Gather our Hearts*
Gather our hearts, oh God
Gather our thoughts, oh God
Bring us together around you

Celebration of the Eucharist

Dismissal: All sing and sign *Jesus Loves Me*
Celebrant provides the blessing:
Celebrant: “*Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord*”
Participant: “*Thanks be to God!*”

Storytelling • Pentecost • Yr. 3

God gives us gifts through the Holy Spirit

Place the Bible and Jesus doll by the Storyteller. Place the large red flame on the floor. Make sure each participant has an orange/yellow/gold/dark red flame in their hand and spread around the large flame are index cards with “gifts” that people might have written on them. You may want to make multiples of them or have blank cards on hand to add to the group. See list of ideas in Resources

Our story today is from the Bible, (show the Bible) our book that tells the stories of God and God’s people, of Jesus (show Jesus doll), God’s son, and of how much God loves us (place hands over heart).

Today’s story is in our New Testament, after Jesus died, rose from the dead, and spent time with his disciples. When Jesus left the disciples to be with God he told them that they were to wait and the Holy Spirit would give them everything they needed to spread the word about how God loves us and shows us the way to a better life.

The disciples weren’t sure what would happen but they did as Jesus said and went back to Jerusalem. On the day of Pentecost, a harvest festival for the people of Israel, they were all together in one place. Suddenly there was the sound of rushing, violent winds. They went outside where flames of fire appeared and rested on each of them (*use your hands to show flame above you*). All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in many other languages, one of the gifts that the Holy Spirit gave them. Those who were watching the disciples were from many different countries and became very confused because each of them heard the disciples speaking in their own languages. They were amazed and asked, “Aren’t these who are speaking from Galilee?”, “How can we understand them in our own language?”

Peter explained that God had sent the Holy Spirit to them and they began to tell the group of God, Jesus, and God’s love for them. Many of these people became believers in Jesus and God that very day. The disciples began to travel around the countryside and different countries spreading the word of God and Jesus through their actions and their words.

We all have the Holy Spirit in us and have received gifts that we can use to do as the disciples were asked to do: Spread the Word of how God loves us and shows us the way to a better life.”

I wonder if we know what one of our gifts might be?

(go around the circle and ask the participant to name one gift they might have then place their flame and the card with that gift on the large red flame. If a child doesn’t have an answer you can offer one or ask a parent for one and have the child put their flame and that card in the large red flame.)

Amen! *After an appropriate pause, the Storyteller goes to explain the activities of the day.*