Children’s Time Resources

*Use or adapt these lessons for Children’s Time (Children’s Sermon) in worship.*

**Children’s Time**

**Baptism Waters**

Props: Place a clear pitcher of water near the baptismal font.

Today we are going to talk about how God uses water to show us how we are cared for, protected and loved.

When the pastor baptizes someone, they take a pitcher of ordinary water and pour it into the baptismal font (that’s a fancy word for the bowl) and they say a prayer of blessing. They remember many times in the bible that God uses water as a sign.

Sometimes it is a sign of God’s power, as in the beginning God created the water, the water in the sky we call rain and the water below we call oceans and rivers.

Sometimes the water is a way God show the people that he is with them, like the time there the people were being chased by some bad people and God made a path through river so the people could get away.

Sometimes water is a sign of God’s love – when Jesus was baptized he stood in a river and when he went down under the water and when he came up there was a voice that came from heaven saying that Jesus was God’s son and that he loved him very much.

Today we are going to pour this water into the baptismal font, I am going to ask you to help me. Then we are going to say a prayer of thanks for the water that God created. Water that keeps us healthy, water that we use to grow food, water that we enjoy.

We will thank God the protector who keeps us safe.

We will thank God for all the love God shows us because we are all children of God.

Come with me and lets pray together.

**Children’s Time**

**Baptism in Name of Father, Son and Spirit.**

*“ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him. Then a voice said from heaven, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased.” Mat 3:16-17*

Jesus’ baptism was a very special day. Jesus had come from the town of Nazareth, he was a carpenter, he built things. Jesus went to the town where his cousin John was baptizing people. Jesus asked John to baptize him too. Jesus was baptized in a river, John dipped him in the water. Sometimes we baptize people in rivers, or pools – but mostly we baptize in the church.

During Jesus’ baptism – something amazing happened, a voice came from the sky “This is my Son and I love him.” And a beautiful, white dove came down from the clouds too. This was a really good day.

When we baptize someone here in church – there is not a voice from the clouds or a dove but it is a really special day too. People ask to be baptized, parents ask for their babies and children to be baptized, just like Jesus asked John. They gather around the baptism font, just like Jesus went to the river. Then the pastor uses these words as they take water and sprinkle it on the head of the person being baptized. “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

*Pour 1/3 of the water into the baptismal font.*

Baptism is in the name of the Father, God.

God’s voice came from the clouds at the baptism of Jesus.

God is the creator of all things – even you and me. God loves us and wants to be close to us. In baptism God says you are my child.

*Point to the children and emphasize* “You are a child of God”.

*Pour ½ of the water into the baptismal font.*

Baptism is in the name of the Son, Jesus.

Jesus came to live on earth a long time ago, he came to show us how to love one another. When you are baptized as a baby or child your parents promised that your family will follow Jesus. One of the ways we follow Jesus is sharing love.

*Pour remaining water into the baptismal font.*

Baptism is in the name of the Holy Spirit.

At Jesus’ baptism the Holy Spirit came down like a dove.

In baptism, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives and stays with us to help us through hard times. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to do the things God wants.

After Jesus baptism, he did not go back to be an ordinary carpenter. Instead he went around and shared the message of God’s love and God’s power through the Spirit to preach, teach and help lots of people. Baptism helps us to do the same.

**Children’s Time**

Remember your baptism

*"Let your light so shine that others, seeing your good works, may glorify your Father in heaven."[[1]](#footnote-1)*

Do you ever use candles at your house? In my home we have candles for some different reasons. When we are having a really nice dinner we might put candles on the table to help things look very special. If we lose power and its dark sometimes we light a candle to see (of course it’s a lot easier and safer to use a flashlight). The best way we use candles is for someone's birthday.

In a lot of families, if you are a kid we place as many candles as your age on the birthday cake – then we light the candles, turn off the lights and sing to the birthday boy or girl? Is that what you do at your house?

We put the candles on the cake to celebrate all the years someone special has been alive. Every year they have lived holds special memories and birthdays give us a chance to remember. For family and friends, we are thankful for each year. The older you get the brighter your cake is – filled with lots of birthday candles.

In the church we celebrate another special day in your life, the day you were baptized. We celebrate that day when we as a church welcomed you into God's family. Now for some of you – you were baptized right here in this church. For others you might have been baptized in another place, that's just fine.

Later today we as a congregation will all dip our hand in this water – where we baptize people in our congregation and remember each of our baptisms. Remember we are all God’s special children.

Prayer: God of light, thank you for all the special days in our lives. Today we especially thank you for our baptism – let us never forget how much you love us.

Give all the children a candle and invite their families to light it on the anniversary of the child’s baptism. This will help connect children that you did not baptize in your local church to their baptism stories.

Cokesbury offers a candle at $3.75

<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/072094054108/baptismal-candle-9x-34/>

Pinterest and other creative sites offer instructions on taking plain white tapers and making baptismal candles.

1. Baptismal Covenant I [↑](#footnote-ref-1)