

JANUARY 3, 2021



Children's Message

WORD • CHRISTMAS 2 • YEAR B

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 31:7-14 • Psalm 147:12-20 • Ephesians 1:3-14 • John 1:1-18

Select one of these options to create a children's message to fit kids' interests and gifts and your congregation's size and sanctuary features. You can finish your time together with the prayer.

READ THE STORY

Place a bookmark on page 170 in the Whirl Story Bible. We're going to read a very different Christmas story today. There's no Mary and Joseph, no angels, no shepherds. But there is Jesus! Can you find a shape that looks like Jesus on this page? (Show the first page of John 1.)

Read "Jesus, the Word" from the Whirl Story Bible. What is Jesus doing in these pictures?

SING THE SEASON

Sing "Joy to the World" on this last Sunday of Christmas. Bring instruments in for kids to play along and make a joyful noise.

WONDER ABOUT THE STORY

In this Christmas story from the Gospel of John, Jesus is the *Word*. The Word was *love*. Jesus was *love*! Talk about the ways Jesus showed love. Jesus was love in action. And he calls us to be love in action, too. How can we be *love in action*? (Feed, bless, heal, clothe, etc.) Jesus did all of these things!

SEE THE SEASON

It is *still* Christmas! Isn't it wonderful that Christmas is a season and not just one day? What do you see in the worship space that lets us know we are still celebrating Christmas? (Light the Christmas candle if it is not already lit.) Count the days on a calendar again—January 4th is the eleventh day of Christmas. What season comes next? Epiphany!

SING THE STORY

Our Bible tells us that Jesus is in everything God creates. Since God created you and me, that means Jesus is in us. This is a story about light and love. Let's sing "This Little Light of Mine."

Alternate Verse:

Jesus is in me and you,
We're gonna love the world. (x3)
Love the world, love the world, love the world!

ENTER THE OLD TESTAMENT STORY

Jeremiah was a prophet. He spoke to God's people when they were sad and hopeless. Jeremiah's job was to comfort God's people and let them know God had not forgotten about them. Draw a happy face and a sad face on opposite sides of a paper circle. Listen to some of the things Jeremiah said.

(Start with the sad face.) "You are sad now, but you will dance and sing again." (Switch to the happy face.) Jeremiah's words are words of comfort. How do you comfort someone when they are sad?

PRAYER

Gather around the Christmas candle and give thanks for the season of Christmas, for light and love in our world, and for the joy children bring to our lives.

