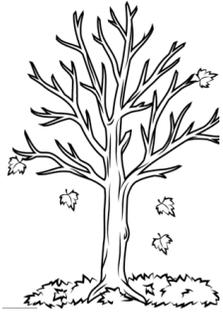


SERMON NOTES FOR KIDS - November 22, 2020

(For ideas for how to set up church at home for young families, refer to "Growing your Faith Garden" at <http://eastminster.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Growing-Your-Faith-Garden.pdf>)



Good morning! Happy Sunday Morning! Are you ready to set some time aside for growing your faith this morning? Find a cozy and comfy spot to sit with your family to watch the online service together, and get out your Sunday basket! Just a note though, if you haven't really 'done' church at home before, be sure to check out the link above so you can set up a Sunday routine to go along with the online service. Push "pause" and read these sermon notes (or have an adult read to you). And then you can colour and think about the lesson, while "your adults" un-pause and listen to the sermon for today. We are really happy that you are joining us! Today Pastor David is taking a

holiday, and our friend Pastor Frank is leading the service. Yay Pastor Frank!

Hey, do the trees around your neighbourhood look kind of like the one on this page? Most of the leaves have fallen off, and the branches are pretty bare. You know what that means? The trees are getting ready for their "winter coats" of snow!! There is a lot of "getting ready for winter" happening in Belleville these days. People are raking and cleaning out their gardens, putting away their lawn furniture and making sure their furnaces are ready to keep their families warm through the cold days. Some families have even put up their Christmas lights! Here's a good thought: How can your family assist a neighbour who might need help getting ready for winter?

Today is a special Sunday in the "Church Calendar". Maybe you have never seen a Church Calendar before? It is usually drawn as a circle, because when you get to the end you just start over again. There is one included with these notes for you to colour during the sermon today. Our regular calendar has four seasons, including winter, fall, spring and summer. But the church calendar has **SEVEN** seasons, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Ordinary Time. These seasons also have their own colours, and when you watch church online, or come to a church service you will see those special colours in the church at the different times of the year. The Pastor also wears the colours sometimes. These seven seasons follow the story of Jesus' life and death. Following the church calendar is kind of like journeying through Jesus' life and it helps us to focus on the light of Jesus' love in our lives. Some of the parts of this calendar you already know, like Christmas and Easter. But other parts you might not know about.

For example, today is a special Sunday in the church calendar! We are right at the end of Ordinary Time. In the United Church we call this Sunday the **Reign of Christ Sunday**.

CHRIST is another name for Jesus. And the word REIGN means to be the best, or the most powerful. So today we remember that Jesus is really God's son, and He is simply the best! Better than all the rest! Better than anyone you ever met! (Are your adults singing a song from the 1980's now?) We know that we are not perfect, and we make mistakes, but are reminded today that God always loves us. The Reign of Christ Sunday marks the end of the Church Calendar year! What? Isn't that weird? Go and have a look at a regular calendar in your house, you will see that our regular calendar starts in January, after Christmas. But the church calendar year starts next Sunday! And the new "SEASON" in the church year is ADVENT, which starts next Sunday.

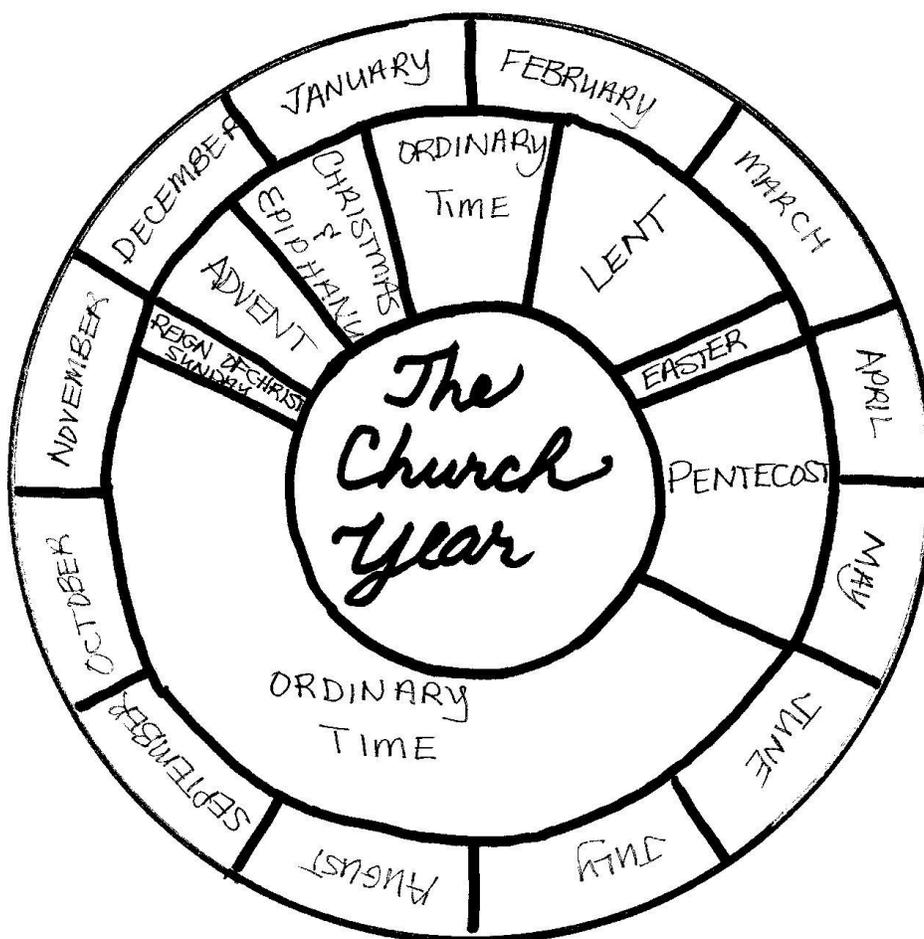


On this last day of the Church Year we look back and we look forward. We look back over the past twelve months. We remember all those seasons and what we journeyed through, some of it was good, and some of it was bad. That is just like what we learned about Jesus' journey through in his life. It wasn't all easy! We followed Jesus' steps as He was born, as He grew up, as He helped people and taught people, as He showed LOVE FIRST to everyone He met even when it was really hard, and as He died and rose again. We celebrated the gift of comfort that Jesus left us in the Holy Spirit, and we thought about why we do church and what it means to try to act like Jesus. But on this last day of the Church Year we don't just look back, we also look forward to the anticipation of Advent, when we wait patiently with **HOPE** for Christmas, when we will celebrate again Jesus' birth. So "Happy Last-Week of the Church Year"! Somehow Hallmark has not made a card for this special day.

While your adults listen to the sermon, colour the Church Calendar included with these notes. The colours for each season are shown at the bottom. Around the outside of the church calendar are the regular calendar months. Maybe you can draw pictures around it that remind you of our regular seasons and special occasions so that you can see the time of year when the church calendar seasons happen. Maybe you can put the church calendar on your fridge to remember the "season" we are in through the year, and so you can remember what colours represent those seasons. And then get ready for a new church year! Open your heart to learn why the story of Jesus is so important to us in our own journey even today. Watch for some special ADVENT suggestions next week!

Please send us your colouring pages, we would love to display them on our Facebook page! admin@eastminster.ca,

Have a great week friends!



The Colours of the Seasons :

Advent = BLUE

Christmas = WHITE & GOLD (YELLOW?)

Ordinary Time = GREEN

Lent = PURPLE

Easter = WHITE & GOLD (YELLOW?)

Pentecost = RED

Reign of Christ

Sunday = WHITE