

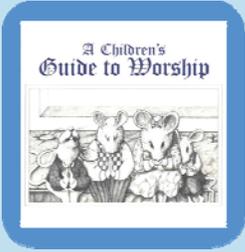


First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville

Faith Step #6

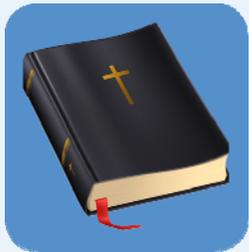
Worship (Kindergarten)

We are a companionship of faith on a spiritual adventure following Jesus Christ.



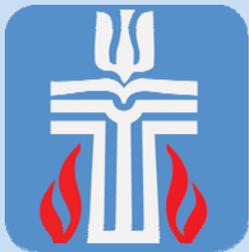
Faith Step Marker

Children are always welcome in worship at FPC Libertyville. However, it is our tradition to encourage children to attend worship starting in the *middle of their kindergarten year*. Children will receive **A Children's Guide to Worship** that seeks to explain elements of our order of worship (liturgy). Before attending Sunday worship with your child, read through the book with him/her. Allow them to color the pictures and talk to you about what they think about going to worship. When children remain in worship for the whole hour, FPC provides **worship bags**. Families are encouraged to use the contents to maximize children's participation...marking scripture passages and hymns, signing the ritual of friendship and passing the peace, drawing pictures of the worship space and sermon content.



Bible Verse (NRSV)

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"
Psalm 122:1



We Believe – *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*

Q35—What is the church?

We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love.

Q40—What do we do in Christian worship?

We adore and praise God. We pray, sing hymns, and listen to readings from the Bible. We also give offerings to God for the work of the church, and commit ourselves to serve God and our neighbors. Above all, we hear the preaching of the gospel and celebrate the sacraments.



Caring Conversations

- Talk with your child about the times and places that you can worship God.
- Wake up your child each morning with the words from Psalm 118:24,
"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!"
In time, as you say the first line, perhaps they will respond with the second.
- Ask your child what she or he saw or heard during a worship service. Discuss the worship bulletin cover. Share your favorite or most meaning part of worship with your child.



Music

- The Doxology...Praise God (Presbyterian Hymnal # 592)
- *The Gloria Patri...Glory be to the Father* (Presbyterian Hymnal #567)
- *Hallelujah! Praise Ye the Lord!*

Faith-filled Actions



- Become a “community greeter” in worship. Make a point to greet those people who are sitting around you each week. Learn their names and welcome them to worship!
- Make a time for your child to shake hands with the pastor as they leave worship. Plan for a visit with one of the pastors at their office. They are always ready to give a personal greeting to your child and would be happy to answer any questions that you or your child might have about worship.
- Ask a pastor how your family could help with ushering or other duties related to our community of worship.
- As a family, pray for the spiritual leaders who serve in worship leadership each week—pastors, lay leaders, elders, deacons, choir members, etc. Ask for God to be present with them as they lead.

Prayer (for Illumination from *Book of Common Worship*)



- Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.
- O Lord our God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may be obedient to your will and live always for your glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Books (available in church library)



for Children

- *A Children’s Guide to Worship* by Ruth L. Boling and Lauren S Muzzy
- *Come Worship with Me: A Journey through the Church Year* by Ruth Boling
- *God’s Big Story* (Devotional Activity Cards) by www.faithaliveresources.org/Products/037040/gods-big-story-cards.aspx

for Parents

- *Parenting in the Pew* by Robbie Castleman

On the Web



- <http://worshipingwithchildren.blogspot.com/>
Author of *Forbid Them Not*, Carolyn Brown, writes this blog about including children in the congregation’s worship using the *Revised Common Lectionary*.

Who to Contact



- Our Director of Children’s Ministries is Jan Schuett at jschuett@boxp.net
- Our Associate Pastor for Christian Formation is Rev. Roberta Dodds Ingersoll at roberta@boxp.net