

Early Summer - Cycle C - Revised Common Lectionary
Pentecost through Proper 10
May 27, 2007 - July 15, 2007

We remain Easter people, now with the wind of the Holy Spirit in our sails. Our task for the months ahead, in this season of Ordinary Time, which extends to the end of November, is to look at what Jesus so tenaciously taught his disciples and see what is in these teachings for us, as we carry out the work we have been given to do. Jesus promised his disciples a helper, an Advocate, who would stand with them making the work possible. This same helper, the Holy Spirit, hovers over us, still eager to quench the fire of fear and replace it with the powerful energy of love.

Proper 5
June 10, 2007
Luke 7: 11-17

A notation for this week's Gospel

Luke focuses on the powerful gentleness of Jesus. A young man is about to be buried. Jesus knows the devastation this man's death will bring to the man's widowed mother. A stunned crowd watches as Jesus gives the, now, obviously alive son back to his mother.

Lesson Plans for Younger Children

Theme: Unexpected healing.

Before. Young children can usually deal with the fact that some people die and some people do not die – and deal with it with less stress than older children – or adults. Be open to whatever the children offer, especially if any have recently experienced death personally – be it a grandparent, someone much younger or even a pet. You will need paper and crayons.

Beginning. Tell the children we have a story today about a man that Jesus kept from dying. Some times people get very sick and yet don't die. And sometimes people do die.

Praying. Thank you, God, that you love each and every one of us. Amen.

The Story. Jesus and his friends are walking into a town. A whole lot of people are in the street. The people are there because a man has just died. The man's mother and all his friends are crying. This made Jesus very sad. Jesus could see that the man's mother needed help. So Jesus decided to make the man come back to life. Jesus said to the man: "Young man, I tell you: get up!" And he did. Now the man's mother was not crying. She was hugging her son and smiling a huge smile.

Activity. Act out the Story. Let the children take turns playing the parts of the man who had died and comes back to life, his mother who goes from very sad to very happy, and Jesus who tells the man to get up. The rest of the children can be the crowd that goes from being very sad to very happy.

Activity. Draw the story. Give the children paper and crayons and ask them to draw what happened so they can take the pictures home with them.

Getting Closure. Ask the children if any of them wants to talk about the picture they have made.

Closing Prayer. Thank you, God, for this woman got her son back. Amen.