

st johns

**h o l y
— —
M o j y**

vps 2015

worship book

for young readers

HYMN

I wonder....

I wonder why everyone stands during the opening hymn.

I wonder if you know any of the people walking up the aisle.

I wonder what you notice in the hymn.

+ Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord;

sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord. Sing hal-le-lu - jah,

sing hal-le-lu - jah, sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BELOVED GOD, AS WE APPROACH YOUR PRESENCE, GUIDE AND STIR US WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, THAT WE MAY BECOME ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT IN JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR. AMEN.

THE 1ST READING

PSALM 139

- 7. IS THERE ANYPLACE I CAN GO TO AVOID YOU GOD?
TO BE OUT OF YOUR SIGHT?**
- 8. IF I CLIMB TO THE SKY, YOU'RE THERE!
IF I GO UNDERGROUND, YOU'RE THERE!**
- 9. EVEN IF I FLEW FAR AWAY ON MORNING'S WINGS**
- 10. YOU'D FIND ME IN A MINUTE—
YOU'RE ALREADY THERE WAITING!**
- 11. I SAID TO MYSELF, "OH, HE EVEN SEES ME IN THE DARK!
AT NIGHT HIS LIGHT SHINES ALL AROUND ME!"**
- 12. DARKNESS ISN'T DARK TO YOU; NIGHT AND DAY,
DARKNESS AND LIGHT, FOR YOU, THEY ARE ALL THE SAME.**

I wonder....

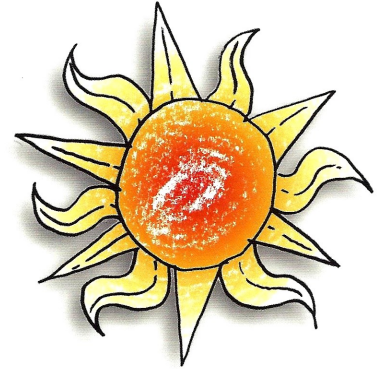
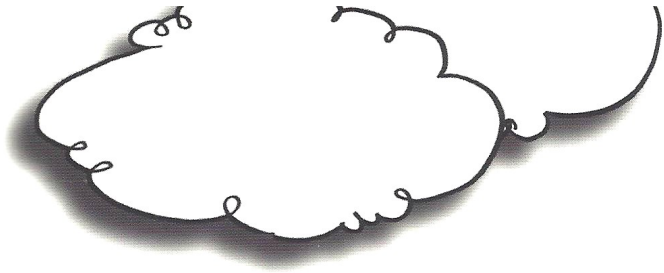
**I wonder why we read so much of the Bible
during church.**

I wonder why these stories are important.

I wonder where you are in the story.

I wonder where God is in the story.

Illustration page



HYMN

THE GOSPEL

Before the Gospel, we say

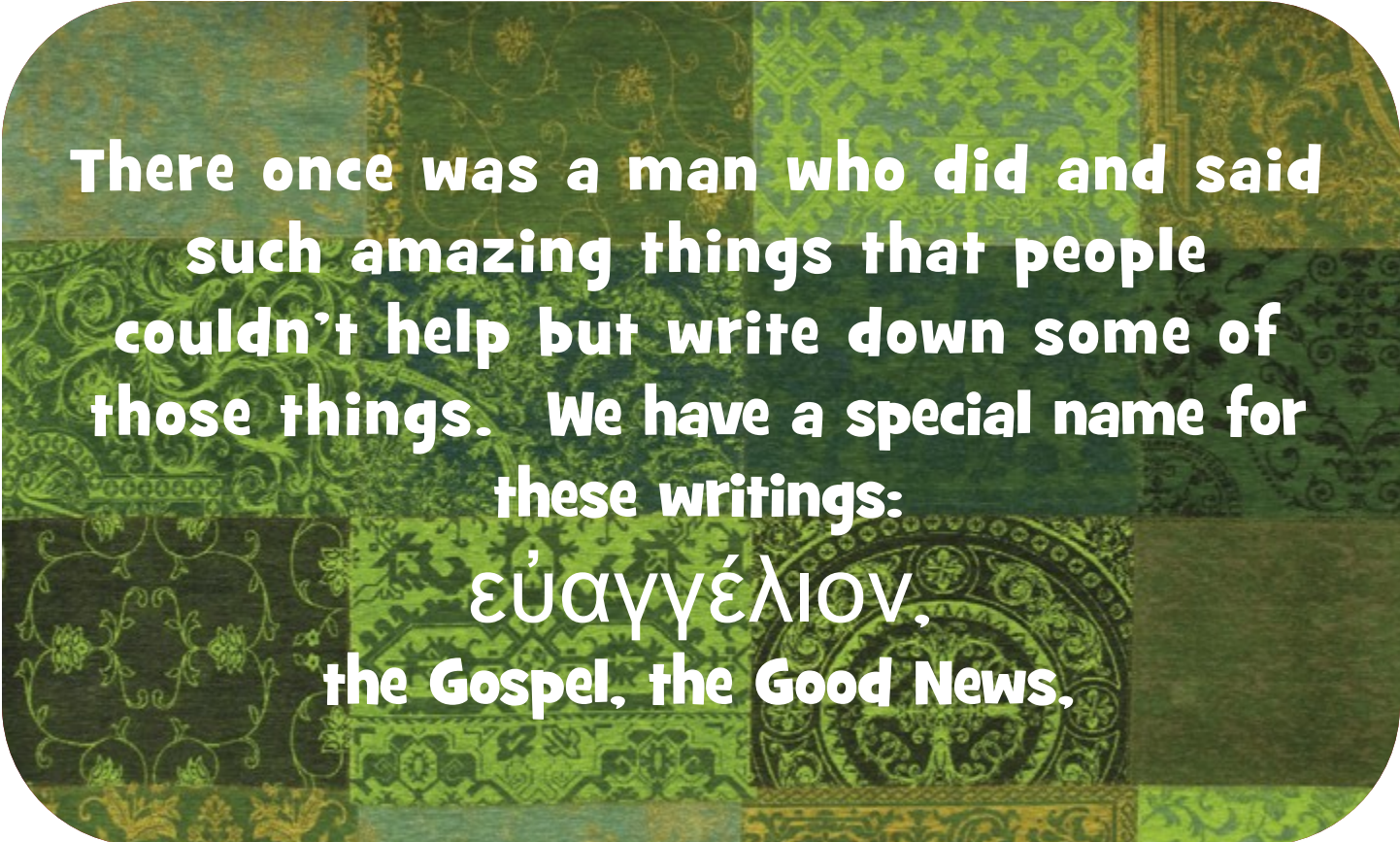
+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then, after the Gospel, we say

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.



There once was a man who did and said
such amazing things that people
couldn't help but write down some of
those things. We have a special name for
these writings:

εὐαγγέλιον,
the Gospel, the Good News.

I wonder....

I wonder what would be good news for you.

**I wonder what the good news is in the story
we're reading.**

**I wonder if there is anything in the story
that doesn't seem good to you.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**If you would like to make a card for
someone who couldn't be here today, use
the note card in this book, and put it in
the offering plate.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

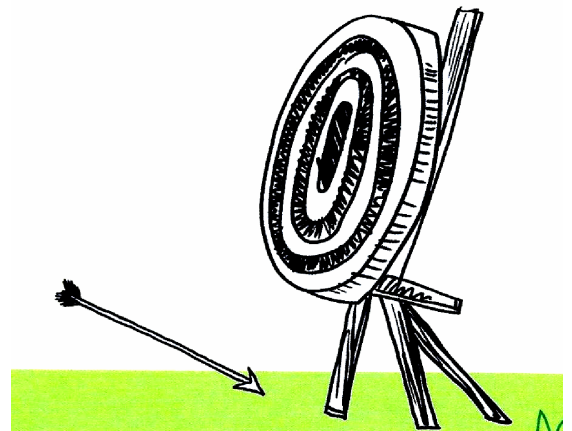
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.



Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

+ Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Greek and Hebrew words for “sin” mean “to miss the target”.



There once was a man who did and said such amazing things. He is known by many names. Sometimes, we call him the Prince of Peace. Once he told his friends to be peacemakers. Another time, he told them, "my peace will always be with you."

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

BLESSINGS

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

I wonder how you say "thanks" to God.

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a three-line musical score in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first line contains the lyrics 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The second line contains 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -' and the third line contains 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the third line.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends. ¶¶ Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for and said: you. Do this for the remembrance of me. ¶¶

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said:

¶¶ Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me. ¶¶

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts + may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Blessed Mary, the God-bearer, Blessed John our patron, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

**There once was a man who did and
said such amazing things that
people would ask him questions.
One time, his friends asked him how
they should pray, and he said to use
these words:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our pass-ov - er is sac - ri-ficed for us;
There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - - - - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

COMMUNION



THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

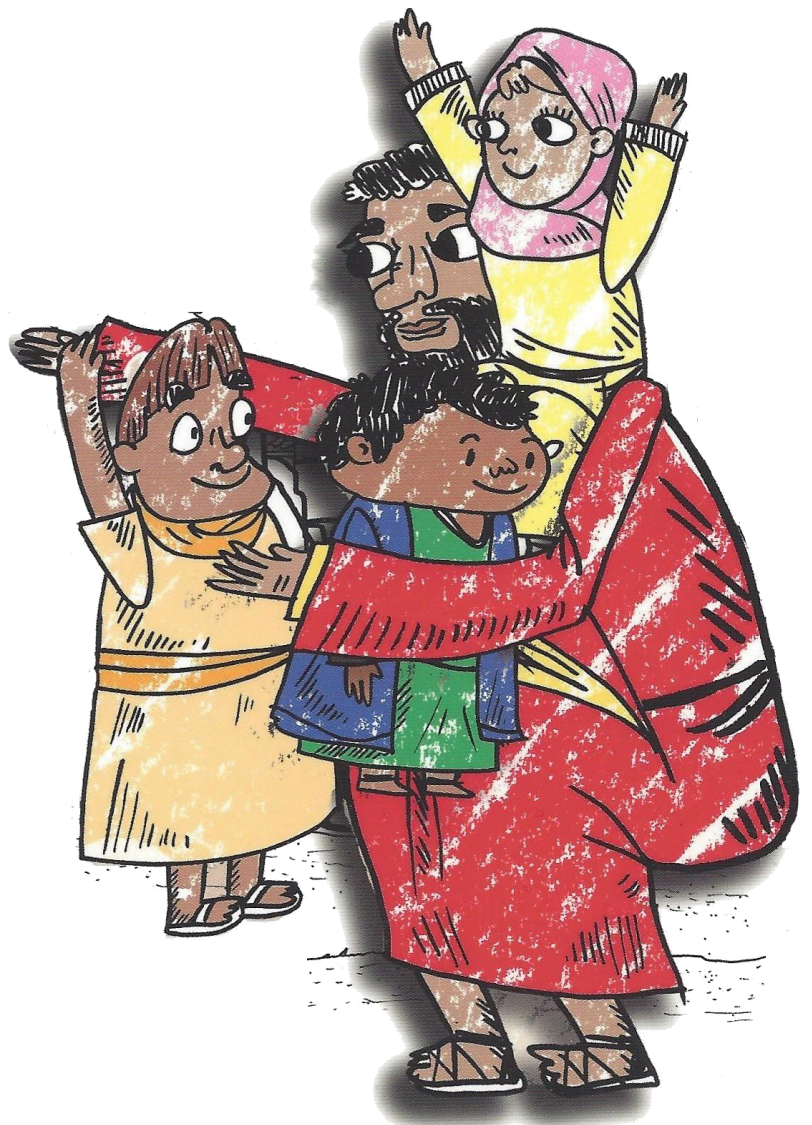
GOD OF ABUNDANCE, YOU HAVE FED US WITH THE BREAD OF LIFE AND CUP OF SALVATION; YOU HAVE UNITED US WITH CHRIST AND ONE ANOTHER; AND YOU HAVE MADE US ONE WITH ALL YOUR PEOPLE IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. NOW SEND US FORTH IN THE POWER OF YOUR SPIRIT, THAT WE MAY PROCLAIM YOUR REDEEMING LOVE TO THE WORLD AND CONTINUE FOR EVER IN THE RISEN LIFE OF CHRIST OUR SAVIOR. AMEN.

BLESSING

+ May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Thanks be to God.



A note to parents

There once was a man who did and said such amazing things. One time, he told his friends, “Let the little children come to me.”

This worship book is meant as an aid to help your children experience the beauty and wonder of worship. However, nothing can replace your guidance and example. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn how to worship by watching you and the others around them. Please explain the parts of the service, the actions of the priests and other ministers, and all the rest to your children. Give them an opportunity to wonder about the worship, about the stories, and about God as well.

If your children make noise during worship or have trouble sitting still, remember, God put the wiggle in your children. Don't feel like you have to suppress it. If you do need to leave the service for any reason, feel free to do so, but please return.

Remember, the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they will respond to the Church, to one another, and more importantly to God. Let them know that they are always welcome here.

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**A Christian Formation
Ministry of**



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE