

**EXAMPLES OF OPENING PRAYER FOR CLASS**

THEME OF PRAYER	GATHER	LISTEN	RESPOND	SEND FORTH
<b>Celebrating baptism &amp; anointing by Spirit</b>	Greeting Opening prayer	Gospel acclamation sung <b>Gospel reading John 14: 26 - 27</b>	Gather around bowl of oil and vial of perfume – bless oil, add perfume, anoint children	Intercessory prayers and closing song
<b>Remember &amp; celebrate baptism</b>	Song Opening prayer	Sing Good News <b>Gospel reading John 20: 19 - 22</b>	Have a Christ candle in middle of table, light one taper from candle and have children pass on light so all tapers are lit. Renew baptismal vows Do you believe that we are children of God – Yes. Do you believe in Jesus and that we are sisters and brothers, Yes. Do you believe in God's Spirit who gathers us her today, Yes. Blow out candles	Pray Our Father, offer sign of peace
<b>Give thanks &amp; praise for goodness of God</b>	Opening song, greeting	Beatitudes from Gospel	Students come forward to a lighthouse illustration of beatitudes which has been placed on wall. They sign their names on rays of lighthouse while song Blest Are They is playing. Then pray Our Father together	Closing blessing and sending out: "Let us go now to share the blessedness of God's Kingdom. Amen.
<b>Celebrate people who walk in justice</b>	Greeting; opening prayer	<b>Micah 6:8</b> "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God." Invite them to name some of ways God calls us to fairness, love and justice in our relationships with one another.	Stand in circle as sign of solidarity and pray Our Father together	Blessing.

THEME OF PRAYER	GATHER	LISTEN	RESPOND	GO FORTH
God is with me when I am afraid	Opening Song: to farmer in dell Sometimes I feel afraid; Sometimes I feel afraid, But God is always here with me, I need not feel afraid	<b>Isaiah 41:10</b> "Fear not, for I am with you."	Litany of thanks; Give each child a moon to colour and cut out.	Thank you prayer and sing song agains
Jesus Is My Special Friend	Song to London Bridge Jesus is my special friend, special friend, special friend. Jesus is my special friend, I love him very much	<b>Matthew 7:12</b> "Treat others the way you would have them treat you."	Small litany Jesus is our special friend who loves us very much – Thanks be to God. Jesus forgives us when we make a mistake – Thanks be to God. Jesus wants us to live by the golden rule to treat others the way we wish to be treated – thanks be to God Jesus will never stop being our special friend – thanks be to God. Give each child a heart to colour gold and cut out	Thank you prayer: For being my special friend – thank you God We will try to live by the golden rule – thanks be to God Do any of you have something special you are thankful for that you would like to share ... thank you God after each
Birthday Celebration	Greeting and opening prayer	<b>Isaiah 43</b> Thus says Yahweh, who created you and formed you: Do not be afraid, for I am your God. You are precious in my eyes. You are honoured and I love you.	Light a birthday candle and have the birthday child share with the class some things about themselves. Class: Thank you God for giving us _____ Sharing of birthday cake or cupcakes	Closing blessing; Happy Birthday ____ May God bless you today and all the days of your life. Amen. Sing Happy Birthday

<p><b>God is our Rock / God's gift of rocks</b></p>	<p>Greeting and opening prayer. Have a small rock for each student</p>	<p><b>Ex 17:6</b> When God's people were wandering in the desert God opened a rock and poured water out.; <b>Is 26:4</b> Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord is the Rock eternal.</p>	<p>Invite them to take rock and hold it in their hands. Experience strength and beauty of rock. Lead them in a guided meditation Picture Jesus, strong and true, standing on a mountain road ... behind him is a huge red coloured rock... he begins to climb a short mountain trail, and he is beckoning you to follow him...imagine yourself climbing up behind him. At the top Jesus finds a flat place to sit...he is smiling at you, motioning you to join him. Feel the warm air surrounding you...listen to the birds singing...relax and enjoy the view...Notice Jesus is looking at you, smiling. He has a question for you "Will you help me spread the Gospel?" Spend a few minutes discussing this with Jesus...why has he chosen you//what you do to spread the gospel...what gifts and talents does he think you have...talk to Jesus about the gospel and what it means to you. Stay with the conversation until yo are satisfied Jesus understands your feelings for now...know that your are completely accepted by him and that he will always guide and strengthen you – He is your rock...Now Jesus is getting up from the rock ...he is going to move on, but he reminds you that he travels with you always...think about this. When you are ready, open your eyes and return to group</p>	<p>Invite children to share this experience if they choose. They could write about it in their prayer journals. Light the candle on the prayer table. Have students bring rocks and place around candle and say closing prayer together.</p>
<p><b>Feast of Angels Sept 29</b></p>	<p>Have an angel-on-my-shoulder pin for each student; Opening greeting and prayer</p>	<p><b>Revelation 12:7 – 9</b> <b>Psalm 138:1 – 2, 3 – 4, 4 – 5.</b> response: In the sight of angels we will sing your praises, Lord <b>Luke 1:26 – 28</b></p>	<p>Let us pray for the angels that have been part of our lives – Hear our Prayer after each intercession. There have been many who have been angels for us and each of us are angels for others. Give an angel pin as a reminder that we are God's messengers.</p>	<p>Pray the traditional guardian angel prayer Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day, be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and guide, Amen.</p>

<p><b>Jesus is Fulfillment of the Promise</b></p>	<p>Advent song and opening prayer</p>	<p><b>Luke 1:26 – 38</b> have some time for silence</p>	<p>Litany of Jesus as candle on advent wreath is lit and figures of Mary, Joseph and Elizabeth are placed around the wreath R. Glory to God in the highest          Jesus, you are Wisdom of God R          Jesus, you are the Word of God R          Jesus, you are the Saviour of the world, R          Jesus, you are the teacher of the new covenant R          Jesus, you are the way, the truth and the life R          Jesus, you were born of Mary, who answered God's call R          Jesus, you are Emmanuel, God-with-us R          Jesus, you are the joy of every human heart R</p>	<p>Closing blessing and sing an Advent song</p>
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