Children's Church at home 12 April 2020

Acts 10:34-43 and Matthew 28:1-10

Craft ingredients: a plastic container, for instance, one of those 'takeaway' boxes, some soil, some leaves or little plants, some little stones, twigs or lolly sticks, 3 elastic bands, a lego man or something similar, a tissue. If you have already made an Easter garden, see below for what to do next!

Ask the children if they remember last Sunday's story. (Palm Sunday: Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.) also talk about Good Friday, and what happened then. Perhaps you did the Children's activity for Good Friday?

Introduction: think about the old traditional fairy stories. Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Hansel and Gretel ... do they have sad and / or scary bits? How do they end? Jesus' story has been really sad. He was unfairly beaten and killed on a cross. His body was put in a tomb. Everyone who loved him was really sad. But maybe he's going to have a happy ending ...

Story: Read about how Jesus' tomb was found empty. Read Lion First Bible P442-446, or your own Bible, and / or watch this video

Video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POF7LOxadGY&list=PL5aPdmniG3y_n7hXEKTV4qQnIeCe-p6Ws&index=61 The story of Jesus' arrest, death and resurrection.

This is a fun song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qRqdvzFpP4

Quiz: what had happened to Jesus? Where was he at the beginning of the story? Who went to see him? What were they going to do? What did they find? Who did they see? What did that person tell them to do? Did Jesus' friends believe what they told them? what did they do then?

Activity: Play Animal, Sea Creature, Bird. You have to think fast for this game.

- 1. Everyone sits facing the leader.
- 2. The leader points to one of the players and says either "bird," "animal," or "sea creature."
- 3. The chosen player must come up with the name of an animal that fits the category before the leader counts to ten.
- 4. No repeating!
- 5. If the player does not respond in time, he/she is out.
- 6. The game continues until only one player remains.

After a few rounds it can be hard to think of an animal that has not already been mentioned! (with thanks to kidsactivities.net)

Craft: Make an Easter garden. You may have already made a garden for Good Friday. If so, move the stone to open the tomb, take the little lego man out and leave his tissue wrapping in the tomb. If you have some other lego people, you could add them to the garden: guards, the angel, Mary Magdalen and the other Mary, and Jesus, of course! You could add some flowers (real or paper) to make it more beautiful, if you like! If you cant make a garden with soil and plants, you could use playdough, or make a collage with paper or card.

Prayer: Start by praying a blessing on each of the people in the room, families and friends, near and far.

Heavenly Father, we are so glad that you sent Jesus to help us. Thank you that he died to take away our sins and that he is alive now! Alleluia! Thank you for loving me so much, thank you for Mummy and Daddyand ... and ... please bless them all. Amen.