

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
19 November 2023

**“Because you have been faithful in small matters, come into the joy of your master.”**

### Something to Think About

God has given each of us special abilities and gifts to honour God and serve others. Jesus reminds us that we should do our best with the talents God has given us. Each of us must decide if we are going to use our gifts for God, and how we are going to do that.

### The Story

In today's story, the master gives some of his money to each of his three servants to look after.

Then he leaves on a trip.

The servant who was given 5000 coins was able to earn 5000 more coins.

When the master returned, he was very happy with the servant for working hard to grow the gift he was given.

### The Scriptures

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21**

Jesus told his disciples this story about the kingdom of God:

"The kingdom is like what happened when a man went away and put his three servants in charge of all he owned. The man knew what each servant could do.

So he handed five thousand coins to the first servant, two thousand to the second, and one thousand to the third.

Then he left the country.

"Some time later the master of those servants returned.

He called them in and asked what they had done with his money.

The servant who had been given five thousand coins brought them in with the five thousand that he had earned.

He said, 'Sir, you gave me five thousand coins, and I have earned five thousand more.'

"'Wonderful!' his master replied, 'You are a good and faithful servant. I left you in charge of only a little, but now I will put you in charge of much more.

Come and share in my happiness!'"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Video

Click to watch the video.

[The Parable of the Talents](#)



## Group Discussion

Why do you think the master was so happy with the servant for using his 5000 coins to earn another 5000 coins? What do you think Jesus was trying to teach about the abilities he has given to us? God will help us to develop our talents but we need to be willing to use our abilities. How might you use your talents to help or bring joy to others this week?

## Praying For Others

**Leader:** Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

**Reader 1:** We pray that our leaders will share things out fairly. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader 2:** We pray that we will use wisely the gifts God has given us. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader 3:** We pray that we will work hard and do our best. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader 4:** We pray that we will encourage others to share their talents. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader 5:** We pray that we will have the courage and energy to do good in the world. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.*

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer



God our Father,  
Thank you for giving us special talents. Help us to find ways that we can use our talents to serve you and bring joy to others.  
Amen.

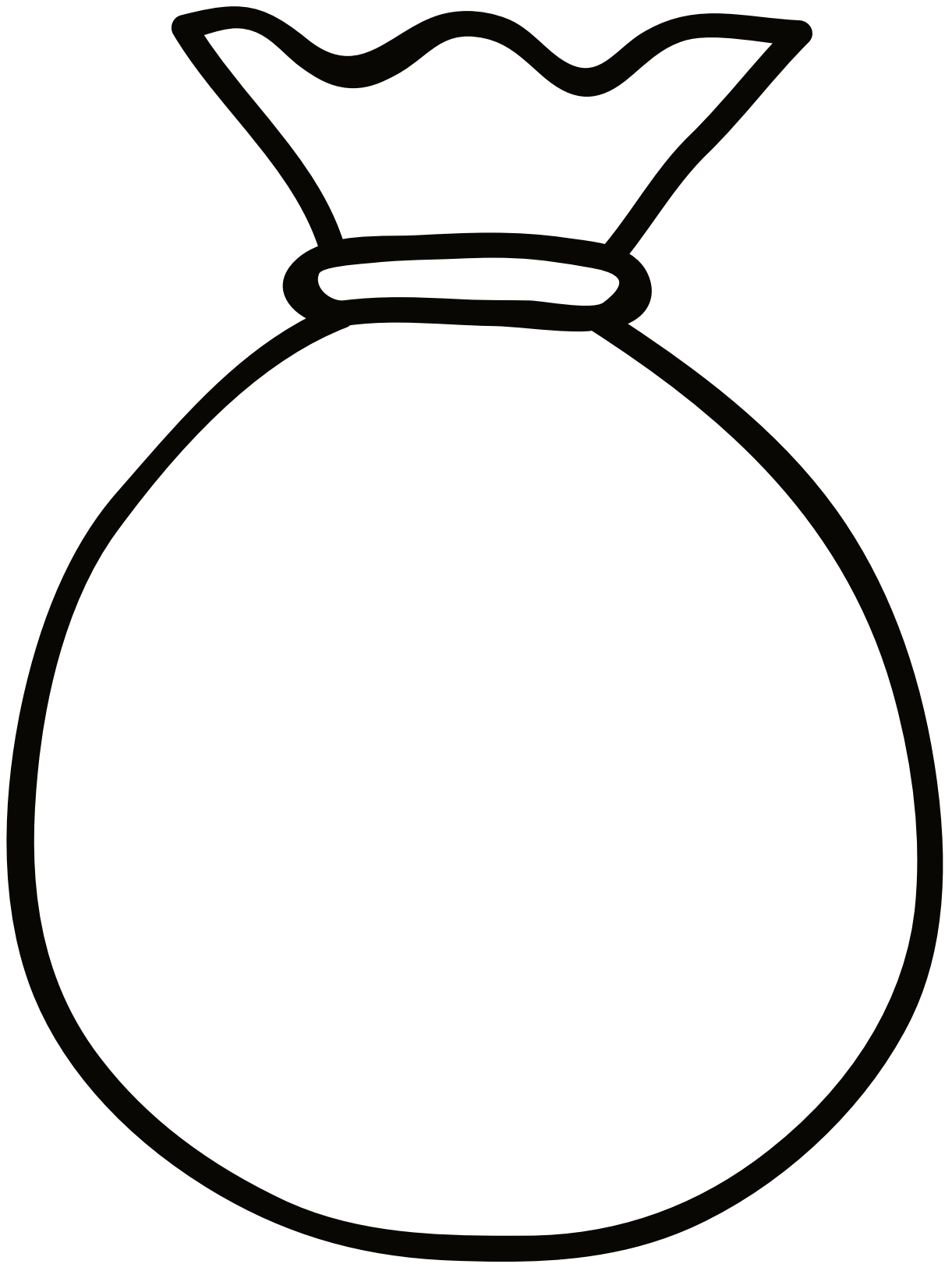
## Group Activity

### Talent Bag

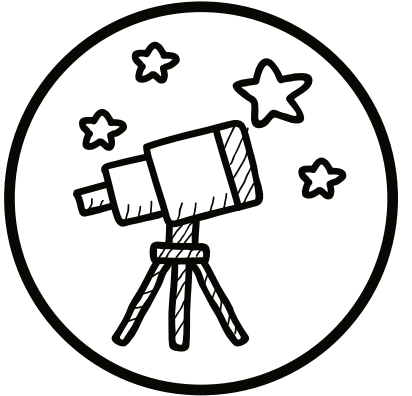
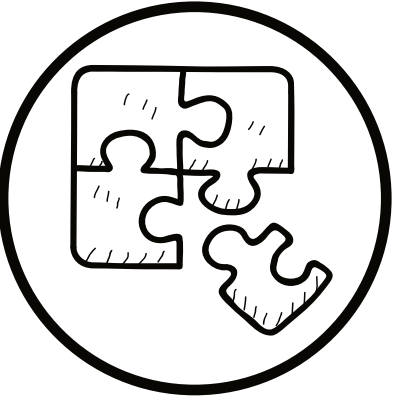
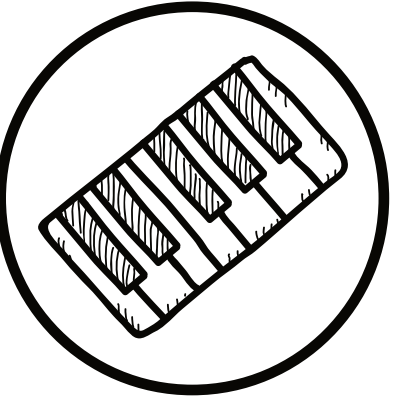
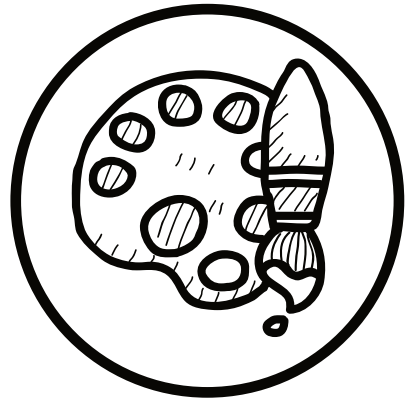
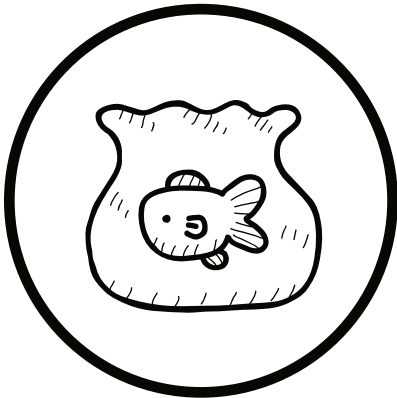
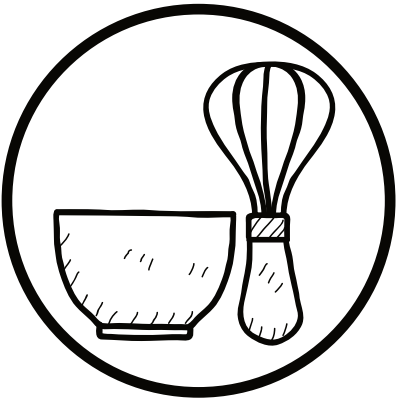
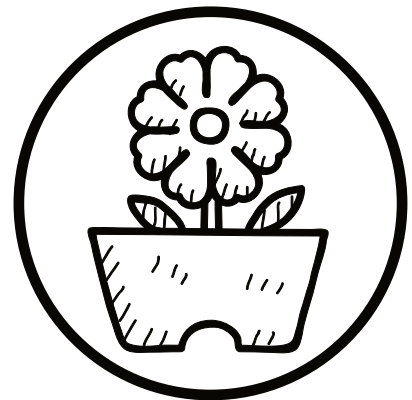
*You will need: template pages photocopied onto cardboard, colouring pencils, scissors, glue and ribbon.*

- 1) Colour the template pages.
- 2) Cut around the bag and coins. Glue or staple the scripture verse at the base of the bag leaving the upper side unstuck to form a pocket.
- 3) Children might like to paste their favourite talents onto the upper part of the bag, or store their coins in the pocket.
- 4) Tie a piece of ribbon around the top of the bag.





**Use whatever gift  
you have  
received to  
serve others  
1 Peter 4:10**



Jesus told a story about a worker who looked after the boss' property well. The boss says to the worker:

**WONDERFUL!  
YOU ARE GOOD  
AND FAITHFUL.  
COME, SHARE IN  
MY HAPPINESS.**

Find each of these words in the puzzle.

**IF WE ARE GOOD AND  
FAITHFUL TO GOD,  
GOD SAYS TO US:  
'COME, SHARE IN MY  
HAPPINESS'.**

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