

**THE APOSTLES' CREED (or the "I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER...")** (Spoken)

PS. The word "Creed" comes from the Latin word for "I believe". It is the "Apostles'" because it teaches faithfully the main parts of the Good News that Jesus' Apostles' proclaimed in the New Testament. The Creed is about 1900 years old and summarizes God's own name: "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Note: Some use "Catholic" instead of "Christian" – properly understood, they mean the same.

(Sometimes the Creed was introduced with "How many gods do you know who love you so much?")

1) I believe in God (hand shoots forward to show one index finger on "God")

The Father Almighty, ("almighty": muscular strong man arms)  
 maker of heaven ("heaven": point up into the sky)  
 and earth. ("earth": draw a mid-sized circle in mid-air)



2) And in Jesus Christ (make cross with fingers)

His only Son, our Lord, ("praying hands": hands palm to palm)  
 Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (cup hands to mouth;  
 remind them: "The Spirit works through the Word")

born of the Virgin Mary, (rock imaginary baby in arms)  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, (draw a large "P" in the air)  
 was crucified, (make cross with fingers)

died, (separate hands, palms downward in parting motion)  
 and was buried. ("tomb": bring fist together, palm to palm)  
 He descended into hell.

(Because this is so easy to misunderstand, we "paused" here and they were asked, "And what did Jesus tell the mean devil when he went to Hell?" Answer with them (while holding hand up toward imaginary villain), "Stop! Leave my people alone!" You can continue, "I paid for their sins on the cross, I took all their punishments away, and now they are mine! And the devil had to listen!" etc.)

On the third day, He rose again from the dead, ("resurrection": hands back to back, pointing down, rise, open to arch outward until arms out, palms up beside body)

ascended into heaven (point upward repeatedly with arm and finger)  
 and sat at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. ("blessing hand": thumb/index/middle up, two others down, palm out; remind them: "This means that God takes care of you, even though you can't see Him.")

From thence He will come (use hand as visor, look around for Jesus)  
 to judge the living and the dead. (continue same action)

3) I believe in the Holy Spirit, (cup hands to mouth)

the Holy Christian Church, ("sign of the cross": finger to forehead, belly button, one shoulder, then the other shoulder; remind them "That's how the Holy Spirit makes us holy: He gives us everything Jesus did for us!")

the Communion of Saints, (everyone gets a hug; remind them, "Because Jesus made us one family with each other, everyone needs a hug!")

the Forgiveness of Sins, ("wash your heart": rub hand over heart; remind them, "some things no soap can wash, no doctor can cure, but Jesus makes it better & cleans it when He says 'I forgive you' and 'I love you'.")

the Resurrection of the Body, ("resurrection", see above)

and the Life Everlasting. (hands reaching high in the air in a "Y" shape)

Amen! (hands folded for prayer. The Lord's Prayer/Our Father can follow.)

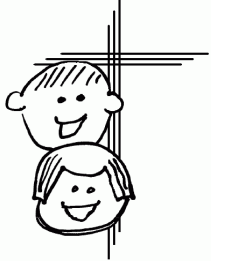


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**PRESCHOOL CHAPEL SONG BOOK: 2009-2010**

**"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!" – Psalm 100:1**

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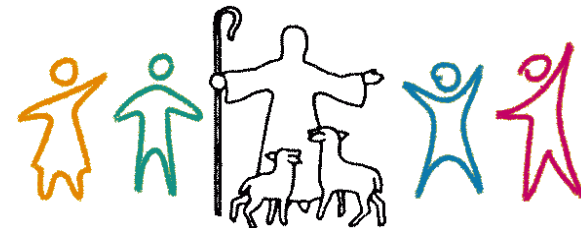
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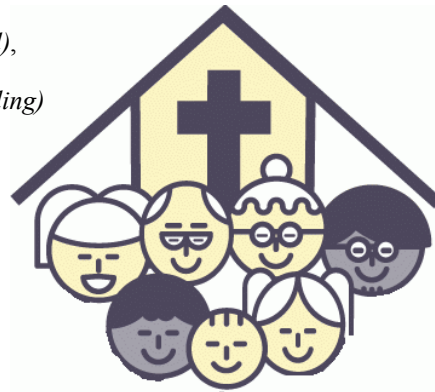
(If you don't know the tune for a song or can't work out some of the actions, please stop by and ask Pastor, he will be glad to help you work it out – most are quite easy and your child may be able to help you too!)



## OPENING

### We are In God's House Today

We are in God's house today, (*big gesture starting with finger above head to point to the ground*)  
He is glad (*fingers help smile*)  
to hear (*cup one hand to ear*)  
us pray! (*folded hands for prayer*)  
Let us listen, (*hand cupped to one ear*),  
let us sing – (*back of one hand leads from mouth outward*),  
Gladly make His praises ring: (*smiling, two hands in the air*):  
Ding-ding! Ding-ding! (*ring hands side to side for each ding*)



### This is the day that the Lord has made (Psalm 118:24)

This is the day, this is the day,  
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made,  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it  
This is the day that the Lord has made,  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day,  
that the Lord – has – made.

## ADVENT/CHRISTMAS/EPIPHANY

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Advent: Jesus is coming)

PS. "Emmanuel" is Hebrew for "God with us" and is an Old Testament name for Jesus (Isaiah 7:14).

O come, O come, Emma-a-a-nu-el (*make "come here" action with hand toward self*)  
And ransom captive I-i-i-sra-el (*acting like hands bound in handcuffs, struggle gently*)  
That mourns in lowly exile here (*still handcuffed, head lowered in sadness*)  
Until the Son of God appear! (*pick up the pace: new hope – point up to the sky with one index*)  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emma-a-a-nu-el (*with big smile, cup hands to mouth to tell everyone*)  
Shall come to you, O I-i-i-sra-el! (*make same action as at start*)

### Hark! The Glad Sound! (Advent: Jesus is coming)

PS. "Hark!" means "listen to that!"

Hark! the glad sound! (*cup hand to one ear and lean forward*)  
The Saviour (*make cross with fingers*)  
comes! (*make "come here" gesture with hand*)  
The Sa-aviour (*make cross with fingers*)  
pro-mised long! (*hold chin in one hand, then shift to other hand in waiting*)  
Let every hea-rt (*point at heart with both index fingers*)  
prepa-are a throne (*hold out one hand on top of the other as holding something precious*),  
and e-very vo-o-o-ice (*cup hands to mouth*)  
a song! (*hands, back side up & fingers facing mouth, move outward to extended palms*)



### This Little Gospel Light of Mine, I'm going to let it shine

PS. "Gospel" is an old word that means "Good News", that is, the good news of God's undeserved favour and saving work in Jesus Christ. It's really good news!

This little Gospel light of mine, I'm going to let it shine!  
This little Gospel light of mine, I'm going to let it shine!  
This little Gospel light of mine, I'm going to let it shine!  
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!

(Actions: hold index finger (as a lit candle) pointing upward, but in front of chest, where only few can see; at "let it shine", hold it up so everyone can see)

### Who's The King Of The Jungle?

Who's the King of the jungle? (*hold chin in one hand in wonder*)  
Woo! woo! (*"jungle": hands under arms like a monkey*)  
Who's the King of the sea? (*hold chin in other hand in wonder*)  
Bubbly, bubbly, bubbly! (*"sea": hands palm down, move beside each other, moving from right to left, with fingers all wiggling*)

Who's the king of the universe? (*"universe": large circular gesture*)  
And who's the king / of me? (*point index finger up / to self on "me"*)  
I tell you: J-E-S-U-S is, (*count fingers on hand for each letter in JESUS*)  
He's the king of me, (*point index finger up / point to self on "me"*)  
He's the king of the universe, (*point up with index finger, then "universe"*)  
The jungle and (*"jungle"*)  
The sea: bubbly, bubbly, bubbly... (*"sea"*)

(At end of the last time singing it:)

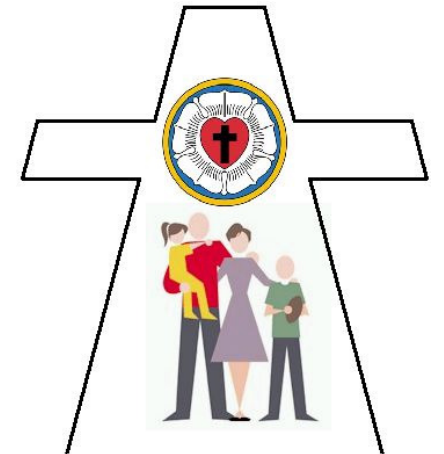
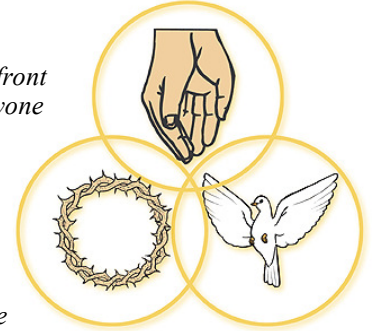
Splash! (*forward "tada" motion with both hands, as though shaking water off fingers*)

### Allelu, Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia – Praise the Lord!

PS. "Alleluia" is a Hebrew word that means "Praise Yah(weh)", or "Praise the LORD"! Note, this can get loud, and the kids get excited!

Allelu, Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia – Prai-aise the Lord!  
Allelu, Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia – Prai-aise the Lord!  
Prai-aise the Lord! Alleluia!  
Prai-aise the Lord! Alleluia!  
Allelu, Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia – Prai-aise the Lord!

(Actions: the actions are basically standing and sitting; either (A) sit for "Allelu/Alleluia" and stand for "Praise the Lord", or (B) divide group into two, one doing (A) actions, the other doing the reverse, but all standing together for the final "Praise the Lord!")



Refrain:

Yes, / Jesus / loves me, (bob head yes / cross with fingers\* / hug self)  
Yes, / Jesus / loves me, (bob head yes / cross with fingers\* / hug self)  
Yes, / Jesus / loves me, (bob head yes / cross with fingers\* / hug self)  
The Bible tells me so. ("Bible")

\* During Lent leading to Holy Week (just before Easter), we used a different action for "Jesus": palm facing palm, but not touching, poke middle of each palm with opposite middle finger once each. (This is sign language for Jesus.)



### Who Is Jesus? He's God's Son!

PS. On the tune of Frere Jacques. Sing more slowly than the words require, especially for "died and rose to give us" to give enough time for actions.

Who is Jesus? / Who is Jesus? (scratch head, "beard" / repeat other side)  
He's God's Son! He's God's Son! (point with index finger high in the sky)  
Came to earth to save us, (hand in air with palm down, bring hand diagonally down)  
Died (make cross with fingers)  
and rose to give us ("resurrection": hands back to back, pointing down, rise and open outward until arms out & palms up beside body)  
Life with Him! Life with Him! (hold hands way up in air in a "Y" shape)

### Our God Is So Great!

PS. We usually sing this song twice, once for the big things God does for us that everyone can see, and the other for the small looking ways God blesses and saves us but that can easily be ignored or missed – like when He was born a poor weak baby and laid in a manger to sleep, and when He suffered and died on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world, etc. The little version is sung more quietly, and the actions are pretty much the same, but holding two scrunched hands before your face, and using mostly just your index fingers to imitate the same actions as arms and hands do in the "big" version below. Regardless, usually the children get loud again during the final "for you" ☺!

Our God is so great, ("hooray": fist pulled back beside ear, then shot forward & upward)  
So strong and so mighty ("strong man": make a strong-man muscle with one arm, then with both arms)  
There's nothing our God cannot do. (wag one finger "no")  
Clap! Clap! (clap twice – you can say the words or not, as you prefer)  
Our God is so great, ("hooray")  
So strong and so mighty ("strong man")  
There's nothing our God cannot do. (wag one finger "no")  
Clap! Clap! (clap twice – you can say the words or not, as you prefer)  
The mountains are His, (make "mountain" with two arms up from elbows, with fingertips touching)  
The valleys are His – (make "valley" with same action, pointing down)  
The stars are His handiwork too! (hands up in air, in turn "explode" from scrunched to open on beats)  
Clap! Clap! (clap twice – you can say the words or not, as you prefer)  
Our God is so great, ("hooray")  
So strong and so mighty ("strong man")  
There's nothing our God cannot do... (wag one finger "no")  
For you! And you! And you! ... (point to each person, or at least many, on each "you")



### Away In A Manger (Christmas: the Birth of Jesus, Luke 2)

PS. A "manger" is a feeder-box for a cow or other barn animal. Jesus was born in a stable.

Away in a manger (using hand for visor, look into distance)  
no crib for a bed, (wag one finger "no")  
The little (hand measures short off ground)  
Lord Jesus (cross with fingers)  
lay down His sweet head. (palms together, sleeping motion on hands)  
The stars in the bright sky (hands up in air, in turn "explode" from scrunched to open on beats)  
Look down where He lay, (one hand as visor, look down "from above" toward ground)  
The little (hand measures short off ground)  
Lord Jesus (cross with fingers)  
asleep on the hay. (rock imaginary baby)

### Silent Night (Christmas: the Birth of Jesus, Luke 2)

PS. "Round yon" means "not far, over there".

Silent Night! Holy Night!  
All is calm! All is bright!  
Round yon virgin, mother and child –  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild –  
Sleep in heavenly pea-eace! Sleep in heavenly pea-eace!



### Angels We Have Heard On High: Gloria! (Christmas: the Angels tell the Shepherds, Luke 2)

PS. "Gloria in Exelsis Deo" is the old Latin phrase for "Glory to God in the Highest!" A lot easier for little ones: use "wo" instead of "o" in "Gloria". No action for "Glorias", they are challenging enough!

Angels (look around astonished)  
we have heard on high (cup hand to ear, still looking around)  
Sweetly singing over the plains (still looking around, use hand as visor)  
And the mountains in reply (hands down, pull back slightly with big bright eyes of surprise)  
Echoing their joyous strains: (bob head happily side to side)  
Glo- o-o-o-o-o- o-o-o-o-o- o-o-o-o-o- ria...  
In Exelsis De-o!  
Glo- o-o-o-o-o- o-o-o-o-o- o-o-o-o-o- ria...  
In Exelsis De-o!

### As With Gladness Men of Old (Epiphany: the Wise Men and the Star, Matthew 2:1-12)

PS. You will need a star to point to, ideally at the top of a crèche/manger scene or a tree.

As with gladness (fingers help to make smile on face)  
men of old (run fingers to a point on imaginary beard)  
Did the guiding (hand as visor, search for a star)  
star behold (point to a star)  
As with joy (big smile)  
they hailed its light (use hand to wave "hi!" at the star)  
Leading onward, (gesture with one hand, "come here")  
beaming bright (two hands "burst" from together upward and outward to a near circle)  
So most gracious Lord may we (praying hands)  
Evermore be led by Thee! (hand "sweeps" something alongside self)



## LENT/HOLY WEEK/EASTER (THE RESURRECTION)

### Hosanna, Loud Hosanna! (leading up to Palm Sunday)

PS. "Hosanna" is a Hebrew word used to greet a Saviour King, meaning "Save us now!" It was sung on "Palm Sunday" (Mark 11:1-11) when Jesus entered Jerusalem while people waved palm branches in the air like victory flags. Matthew 21:15 tells us kids sang too!

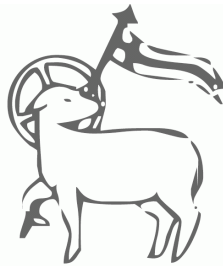


Hosanna! Loud Hosa-anna! (wave "palms" in air – hands, or real palm leaves)  
the li-ittle children (measure shrinking distance to floor with one hand)  
sang, (cup hands to mouth)  
Through pilla-ared court and (hold arms out on each side, with forearms and hands pointing straight up, stand as at attention)  
Te-emple (wobble above happily from side to side on each beat – like a bell)  
Their lo-ovely anthems rang (smiling, hands palms down & fingers to lips, move outward to extended palms)  
To-o Jesus (make cross with fingers)  
Who had ble-e-essed them ("blessing hand": thumb/index/middle up, two others down, palm out)  
Clo-ose folded to His breast, (cross arms across chest, hands to shoulders)  
The childre-en (measure shrinking distance to the floor with one hand)  
sang their prai-aises (back of one hand leads from mouth outward)  
The loudest and the best! (cup hands to mouth, often sung louder – but sung, not shouted! ☺)

### Jesus Christ Is Risen Today! Alleluia! (Easter)

PS. "Alleluia" is a Hebrew word meaning "Praise Yah(weh)" or "Praise the LORD"!

Jesus Christ (make cross with fingers)  
is risen toda-ay! ("resurrection": hands back to back, pointing down, rise and open to arch outward until arms out & palms up beside body)  
A-a-a-a-llelu-u-ia! (hands waving side to side in the air)  
Our triumphant holy da-ay! ("hooray": fist pulled back beside ear, then shot forward & upward)  
A-a-a-a-llelu-u-ia! (hands waving side to side in the air)  
Who did once upon the cross! (make cross with fingers)  
A-a-a-a-llelu-u-ia! (hands waving side to side in the air)  
Su-uffe-er to redeem our lo-oss! (wrists go from handcuffed to set free)  
A-a-a-a-llelu-u-ia! (hands waving side to side in the air)



### We Welcome Glad Easter When Jesus Arose (Easter)

PS. "Foes" is an old word for "enemies" or "bad guys", and the children were taught that, though we make fists, Jesus didn't win our salvation by punching or hitting, but by suffering and dying to pay for our sins on the cross. To teach the word "foes," sometimes we tried "toes" instead – "No, He didn't win a victory over His toes!" ☺).

We welcome ("come on" gesture)  
glad Easter (smile, with index fingers helping)  
when Jesus arose ("resurrection": hands back to back and pointing down, rise and open to arch outward until arms out & palms up beside body)  
And won a great victory ("almighty": two muscular "strong man" arms)  
over His foes (hold two fists one in front of the other like a boxer)  
Then raise your glad voices (cup hands to mouth and sing loudly – but don't shout! - upward)  
you children (measure shrinking distance to floor with one hand)

and sing (cup hands to mouth)  
Make sweet Easter praises (wave hands side to side in the air)  
to Jesus (make cross with fingers)  
our King! (palms on head, fingers pointing upward, as a crown)

## MORE

### I am Jesus' Little Lamb

PS. Find a picture of Jesus or a crucifix – a cross with a "Jesus" on it – to point to for "shepherd" below. The children know that it's just a picture, not the real Jesus (who is way better than a picture!) There are only actions for the first verse. We didn't learn the other verses (2-3), but they can easily be learned over time. Parents, don't be afraid of v3, it is actually comforting and not scary, especially when learned within the comforting arms of a parent who shares the same hope. This hymn is based on the famous Psalm 23, "The Lord is my Shepherd" as well as other parts of the Bible.

I (point to self)  
am Jesus' (make cross with fingers)  
little lamb (measure shrinking distance to the floor with one hand)  
Ever glad (make smile, helped by index fingers)  
at heart I am (point with two index fingers to your heart)  
For my Shepherd (point to picture of Jesus or crucifix)  
gently guides me ("come on" gesture toward picture or crucifix)  
Knows my need (hands one over the other palms up, close to body, looking down to empty hands)  
and well provides me (keeping hands this way, hold outward as though to receive food)  
Loves me every day the same (hugging self, twist side to side on beat without moving feet)  
Even calls me by my name! (cup hands to mouth, often sung louder – but not shouted!)



Day by day at home away  
Even now my staff and stay  
When I hunger Jesus feeds me  
Into pleasant pastures leads me  
When I thirst He bids me go  
Where the quiet waters flow!

Who so happy as I am,  
Even now the Shepherd's lamb.  
And when my short life is ended,  
By His angel host attended,  
He shall fold me to his breast  
There within His arms to rest.

### Jesus Loves Me, This I Know, for the Bible tells me so

PS. Find a picture of Jesus or a crucifix – a cross with a "Jesus" on it – to point to for "shepherd" below. The children know that it's just a picture, not the real Jesus (who is way better than a picture!)

Jesus / loves me, / this I know (cross with fingers\* / hug self / bob head yes)  
For the Bible tells me so. ("Bible": palm to palm, then open and close on beats as though a book)  
Little ones (measure shrinking distance to floor)  
to Him belong, (point to picture of Jesus or crucifix)  
They are weak, / but He is strong. (hang body weakly / make muscular strong-man arms)