

Celebrating our children at

First Lutheran Church



Art by Dan Erlander

TO THE FAMILIES OF THE LITTLE ONES:

- Relax! ALL ARE WELCOME... you, the children - everyone! We are an intergenerational community, and that is part of what makes church unique.
- Come sit upfront - it's easier for the little ones to see and hear up there! If you do need more freedom to move around, feel free to utilize the area in the back of the worship space—comfy seating provided.
- Please help your children WALK (not run) at church—it's safer for them and our older members (who may be more likely to take a fall). As a community, this is one easy way we can look out for each other.
- Sing the hymns, pray the prayers, bring all the little ones up for communion. Children will learn the liturgy by taking part! Sometimes they'll even show you how.
- If you must leave for any reason during worship, please feel free... but come back! Jesus said "Let the children come to me." Just as the children learn from us we also learn from them when they worship with us.
- This is public worship, so again, all are welcome. This also means, we are all invited to look out for each other and to consider the experience of those around us in the pews. If it's just one of those days, and your child cannot help but be disruptive, experiment with walking with them in the narthex for a while. Don't give up!

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH:

- The presence of children is a gift to the church. They are members of our community, reminders of the vitality of the church and teachers of simple and profound things.
- Please remember we want this to always be a welcome and safe place for the children and for all people - how adults welcome the littlest ones and practice healthy intergenerational relationships will shape their relationship to this place.
- We practice healthy relationship building here, so please remember that our littlest ones have just as much agency over their bodies as full-grown humans do. Please do not insist on hugging or high-fiving unless you are given explicit permission by the child.