

SPECIAL
SUNDAY

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY



Children's Activity



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

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This activity connects United Methodist Student Day with a lesson from Isaiah 2:1-5

Supplies needed to make Backpack Blessings:

- Cardstock cut into 6 rectangles (or pre-cut name tags for badge holders)
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or other embellishments to decorate
- Plastic name badge holders with clips (optional)
- Hole puncher and ribbon if not using name badge holders.

Other supplies:

- Crayons and paper

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

—Isaiah 2:3

INTRODUCTION

Open with a song like one of these:

Emmanuel Advent Song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ePJJ5Yuw8c>

I'll Follow Jesus:

<https://youtu.be/Dx6RWOUF1M8>

Thy Word:

<https://youtu.be/vY-C7-rKakE>

Please repeat after me:

*"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."*

The prophet Isaiah wrote these words a long time ago. Even before Jesus was born. He was telling people how important it is to learn how God wants us to live. When we walk in God's path we live in a way that loves God and everything and everyone created by God. Isaiah was telling the people to be students and to learn from God.



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In a moment we will read a little more from the passage. Isaiah shares a vision of people walking in God's path by taking weapons of war and using them to make peace instead.

Hand out a sheet of paper and crayons:

Let's read Isaiah 2:1-5 CEB. Pay attention to a word or words that you hear and draw a picture while you listen. I will read it one time while you have your eyes closed and the second time you will draw.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
will be the highest of the mountains.
It will be lifted above the hills;
peoples will stream to it.

Many nations will go and say,
"Come, let's go up to the Lord's mountain,
to the house of Jacob's God
so that he may teach us his ways
and we may walk in God's paths."

Instruction will come from Zion;
the Lord's word from Jerusalem.

God will judge between the nations,
and settle disputes of mighty nations.
Then they will beat their swords into iron plows
and their spears into pruning tools.
Nation will not take up sword against nation;
they will no longer learn how to make war.

Invite the children to share their drawings and what they heard in the reading.

Today we are celebrating United Methodist Student Day. We want to help you remember that when you are at school, or with your friends, and at church, you are important. We are all learning to live and love in the ways that God teaches us through Jesus. So today you are invited to make backpack blessing tags that you can bring home and put on your school bag. You can choose one of these words that we think of in these weeks of Advent leading up to Christmas or any words or pictures that you prefer on your tag:

PEACE

LOVE

JOY

HOPE

After the blessing tags have been completed, pray:

*Teaching God,
Thank you for these children. Help them to be lifelong students, learning to walk on your paths. Guide them with peace, love, joy, and hope as they follow Jesus and his teachings.
Amen*



Children's Activity

BACKPACK BLESSING TAG TEMPLATES

