

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY

# UMCOR SUNDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY



This children's activity is part of the UMCOR Sunday pastor and leader kit and connects with the theme "Embodying Compassion: Being God's Light." It can be adapted for your context.

## PREPARATION

### Materials:

- Large sheets of paper
- Washable paint in various colors
- Paintbrushes or sponges
- Water and towels for cleaning hands
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or decorative materials (optional)
- Small containers for paint

## OPENING

Lead the children in singing an opening song that connects with the theme "Embodying Compassion: Being God's Light."

["This Little Light of Mine"](#) by Listener Kids

["We are Marching in the Light of God \(Siyahamba\)"](#)  
by Elevation Kids

["Shine, Jesus, Shine"](#) by LBCM Children's Ministry

## THE BIBLE STORY

If the children haven't already heard the children's message from John 3:19, introduce it now. If they already received the message or you don't have time, share this abbreviated version:

Read John 3:19 (CEB) and ask the children to repeat:  
Jesus said "**The light came into the world.**"

Turn on a flashlight and say "Jesus is like this light, shining God's love into our lives. When we follow his teachings and show

love to others, we are also shining God's light. Jesus encourages us to shine brightly, which can mean doing good things, helping others and being kind. "Today we are celebrating UMCOR Sunday. UMCOR is an organization that our church supports that helps people in times of disaster. They are a Jesus flashlight that helps brighten people's lives with acts of abundant grace."

## ACTIVITY & CRAFT

Create abundant grace handprints to symbolize ways to share God's love.

Set up a craft station with large sheets of paper, containers of washable paint, paintbrushes or sponges and water nearby for cleaning hands.

Encourage each child to choose a color that represents love or grace to them. They will paint their hands with that color.

Have the children press their painted hands onto the large sheets of paper to create handprints. These handprints represent their willingness to embrace God's love and share it with others.

After the handprints dry, provide markers or crayons for the children to add drawings or messages around their handprints. They can write about how they plan to share God's love and grace. They can also be decorated with stickers and other embellishments.

## CLOSING

Gather the children together to discuss their handprints and the ways they plan to share God's love and grace with others.