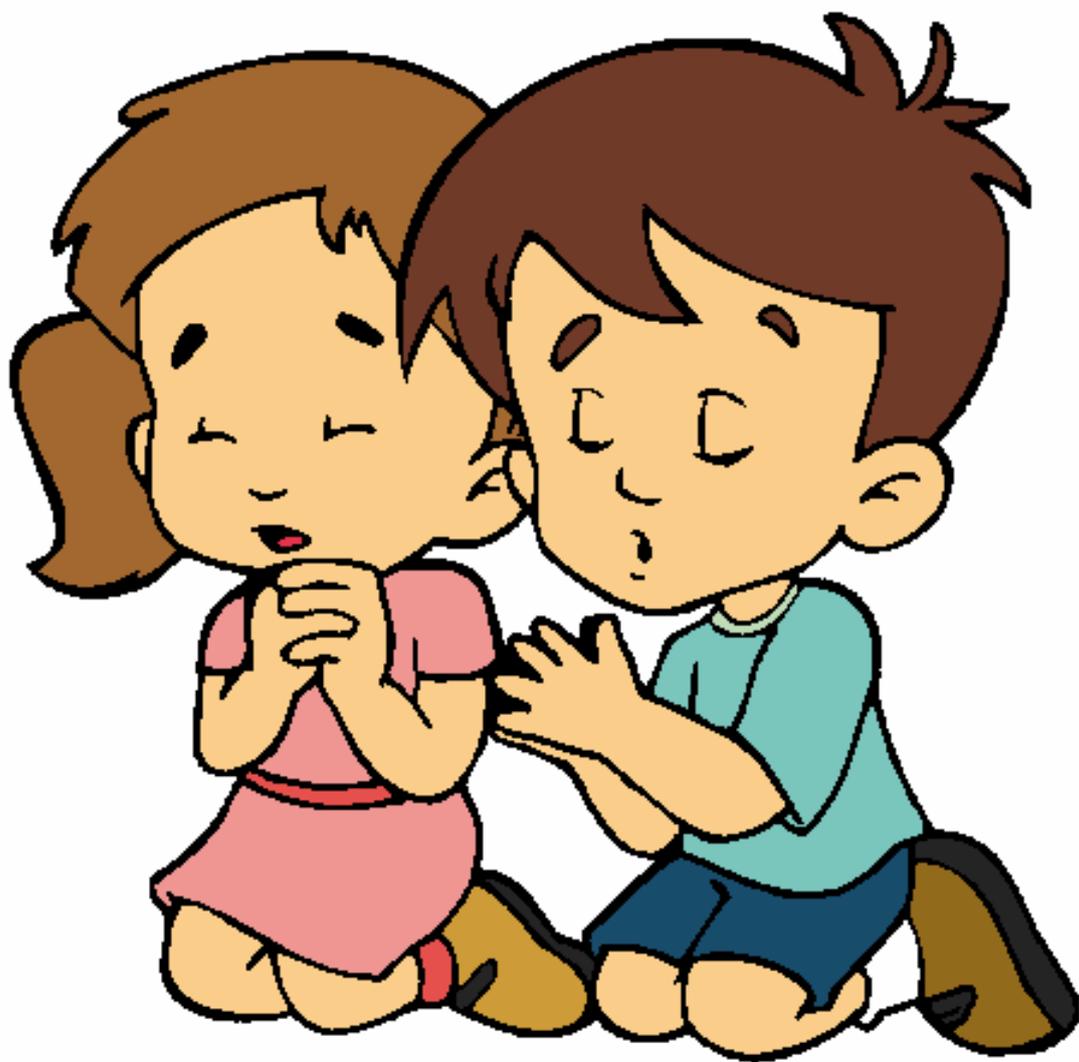


Missionary Children Prayer Service (1)



and commissioning of
Missio Champions



missio 
Scotland

Opening Procession of Priest Celebrant and Children.

Invite a child to read what is being brought to the sanctuary and why.

We bring a globe (or map of the world) to remember all the children of the world. We bring our candles in the mission colours: Green for the children of Africa, yellow for the children of Asia, white for the children of Europe, blue for the children of Oceania, and red for the children of the Americas. We also bring a Missio Scotland collection box (or some coins in a jar). We do without things we like, so that we can give to others. We bring the book of the Gospels (Lectionary) and today we will be hearing about how Jesus tells His disciples to tell everyone about Him and His teachings—to continue His mission.

Priest Celebrant

We are all called by God to make a difference, no matter how small. This is what being a missionary is about. October is mission month. Today is a special day to celebrate being a community and doing good things together. We are the community that continues Jesus' mission to proclaim the Good News to the whole world. Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to remain with us and to help us do His work and share His love. Each of us has a different role to play, but together we can perform it better. Together we are mission! Today we are gathered to celebrate, in a special way, how we are linked together and are called to love one another and to care for each other. We are called to care especially for those who live in poverty or fear.

In our prayers today we remember:

The children of Africa (light green candle)

The children of Asia (light yellow candle)

The children of Europe (light white candle)

The children of Oceania (light blue candle)

The children of the Americas (light red candle)



Collect Prayer

God our Father, you love us as a father loves his children. Help us to live and love like your Son, Jesus. We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Reading (Acts 2:1-33)

When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak. There were Jews living in Jerusalem and other religious people who had come from every country in the world. When they heard the noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages. In amazement and wonder they exclaimed: "These people who are talking like this are Galileans! How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages?" Amazed and confused, they kept asking each other: "What does this mean?" But others made fun of the believers, saying: "These people are drunk!" Then Peter stood up with the other 11 apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: "Listen to me and let me tell you what this means. Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through Him. You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you. God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact. He has been raised to the right side of God, His Father, and we have received the Holy Spirit from Him, as He promised.

What you now see and hear is His gift that He has poured out on us.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia,

“Go out to the whole world and tell everyone what I have done.”

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 28:16-20)

The 11 disciples went to the hill in Galilee where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him, even though some of them doubted. Jesus drew near and said to them: “I have been given all authority in Heaven and on earth. Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: Baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of time.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the Faithful

1) We pray that all the children of the world will be filled with your love and happiness. We pray to the Lord.

(Response) Lord, hear our prayer

2) We pray that we may work for justice and speak out in support of someone who is having difficulty; those who may be homeless, being bullied, sick or lonely. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

3) We pray that we will share the love of God with our brothers and sisters around the world and do acts of love and kindness for one another. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

4) We pray for all children who are suffering; whose spirits are crushed by war, violence and all forms of poverty. We pray that we may help them by supporting organisations such as the Society of Missionary Children. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

5) We pray for Pope Francis and the leaders of the Church, that they will always be guided by God’s love through the Holy Spirit. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

6) We pray for those who have died. May they be at peace in God’s loving arms in Heaven. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

Commissioning of Missio Champions

Priest Celebrant

Dear friends in Christ, Jesus sent out His disciples to spread the Good News and to serve others. Those first followers heard Jesus’ call and answered it. We believe that these young people are responding to a similar call. Our primary school pupils watching today are to be entrusted with serving God and others through faith

witness in their school. The young people present before us are representing our Church and, most importantly, Jesus as they become Missio Champions for their school.

The celebrant pauses and then addresses the candidates

In this service, you must be examples of Christian living in faith and conduct; you must strive to grow in holiness, unity and love. You must strive to help others in your school to come to know of the work of Missio Scotland and to help support this work. As witnesses to the love of God be especially observant of the Lord's command to love your neighbour. For, when He gave His body as food to His disciples, He said to them: "This is my commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you."

Priest Celebrant

Young people of Primary (?), I ask you do you undertake the service of being witnesses to God's love, to love your brothers and sisters and so serve to build up the Church?

(Childrens' response) With God as our help, we will

Priest Celebrant

The scriptures remind us that when we help the poor we are joining God in His work. Will you join God in His work?

With God as our help, we will

Priest Celebrant

Jesus called His followers to be his witnesses in their homes, their towns, countries, and to the ends of the earth. Will you answer Jesus' call to holiness by being a faith witness to others in your school?

With God as our help, we will

Priest Celebrant

St Paul tells us: "If your gift is serving others, serve them well." Will you serve God by serving others to the best of your ability?

With God as our help, we will

The rest of the congregation are asked to stand

Priest Celebrant

Members of God's family watching today, will you support these young people with your prayers? Will you pray that God works through them, that they will encounter Jesus in this role as MISSIO champion, and that God will bless those they help?

(Community Response) With God as our help, we will

Priest Celebrant

Before we conclude our service, let us pray the Missionary Children's prayer together.

May all children, In the world, Share love, Share friendship and live In the peace Of God's love Now and forever, Amen.

At the end of the service, the Priest Celebrant will then bless the badges to be distributed to the Missio champions of each school.