

## Godly Play Children & Worship Schedule

STORIES
Orientation / Talking to Gc
Orientation: Listening to God & The Light
How the Church Tells Time
Parable of the Great Banquet
Creation
Noah - The Flood & The Ark
Abram & Sarai - The Great Family
Exodus
The Ten Best Ways to Live
The Ark and the Tent
The Promised Land
Advent I
Advent II
Advent III
Advent IV
Christmas—Meeting the Christ Child
Epiphany
Boy Jesus in the Temple
Jesus is Baptized
Jesus in the Wilderness
Parable of the Good Samaritan
Parable of the Sower
The Mystery of Easter—Lenten Puzzle
Jesus and the Children
Jesus and Bartimaeus
Jesus and Zacchaeus
Jesus and the Twelve/Jesus' Last Passover
Jesus is King—Palm Sunday
Jesus is Risen - Appearance to Mary Magdalene
Jesus is Risen: The Road to Emmaus
Parable of the Good Shepherd
Parable of the Mustard Seed
Parable of the Pearl
Parable of the Leaven
Ascension
Pentecost
Jonah, the Backwards Prophet

## What to Expect

The Godly Play program is designed for children age four through Kindergarten. Children will begin the 11 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary with their families. Following the Children's Time, the children will go with the Assistant for the day to the Godly Play Room.

Parents of visiting children are welcome to walk with the Assistant to the Godly Play Room.

Before entering the room, children will receive a name tag and ready themselves for entering the sacred space for wonder and worship. After greeting time, hearing, and seeing the Bible story for the day, children are invited to respond to the story through art.

On special Sundays, the children will share the Feast, a simple experience of "table fellowship." Each child receives a blessing from the storyteller as they leave the Godly Play Room, reminding them that God's love is always with them.

As children live into the stories of scripture, they come to know themselves as children of God, Christ's ministers in the world.

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# University Presbyterian Church

Chapel Hill, NC



*Faith Formation and  
Worship Education for  
Children Age 4 - Kindergarten*

## What is Godly Play?

Godly Play is an interactive and developmentally appropriate model for teaching young children the stories of our faith and the sacred language used in worship and faith formation. Combining the works of educators Jerome Berryman and Sonja Stewart, Godly Play invites children into the biblical story by way of their own life experiences and the natural “work of children”... PLAY.

The special room used for Godly Play is designed to allow children time and space to worship. The pace is different beyond the door of Godly Play. Children sense the sacred atmosphere. It is a very special place to “be with God, to hear God, to listen and talk to God.”

A Godly Play session follows the flow of a worship service: The call to assemble in God’s name, to hear and respond to God’s Word, to give thanks, and to go forth in God’s name with a blessing.



## Characteristics of Godly Play

The Godly Play program recognizes children as spiritual beings who already have a relationship with God.

Adults are guides who offer space, tools, and language which help children deepen their already existing relationship with God. In Godly Play, we trust that given the opportunity, children will bring their own life experiences to the stories of God and will receive what they need.

At the heart of a Godly Play session is the telling of the story, experienced in the contexts of both the chronology of scripture and the church calendar. The storyteller uses simple, beautiful materials to illustrate the story and to engage imagination. The structure of Godly Play and the classroom itself offers children a safe space to explore, wonder, and worship.

“I wonder...” This is the open-ended response from the storyteller whose role is to encourage children to listen to God, ponder, and to grow closer to God.

Children are, after all, Theologians!



## Storytellers & Door Keepers for Godly Play

Stephanie Duncan  
Ann Henschel  
Alison Kavanaugh  
Daphne Little  
Adam Lovelady  
Winnie Morgan  
Day McLaughlin  
Ellen Parker