

Children's Sermons and Bulletin

Pockets of Faith

props and preparation: an old coat or apron (the older the better) that contains several pockets. Place a number of small items that represent God's love and how we should think about sharing in the pockets.

I have this old coat. What do you notice about it? [The children may say that it is really old or really large or brown or black or they may recognize that it has several pockets. Be sure not to ignore their responses. Rather, affirm what they say and then, if no one has suggested that there are many pockets, invite them to notice this feature.]

What are pockets for? To hold things in case of emergency, to hold things that you use everyday, to hold things that are very important to you. Most clothes have pockets for these purposes. Sometimes people carry knapsacks or pocketbooks [you might produce one]. What a great word pocketbook a whole book of pockets. What do you think I have in these pockets? [As you speak about one or more of the items, produce them from the pockets and show them to the children.] Pockets can teach us important things about our faith and about sharing God's love.

Pockets hold things that are special to us, like pictures of our family. Our congregation is a special family, too. Pockets hold useful things like pencils, rubber bands or money. Our faith teaches us useful things the ten commandments, how to love our neighbor things we can use in our day-to-day lives.

Pockets hold small, special toys we love to play with. Our faith also brings us joy. The music makes us smile and we love being here with our friends.

Pockets hold keys that help us unlock doors. Belief in God open doors too. They hold notes that remind us of things we must do. Sometimes they hold medicine or tissues or band aids that help us when we aren't feeling well, just like our faith that helps heal our hearts when we're sad.

Since your pockets go with you wherever you go, they are a good place to keep share-able things. Your faith is God is share-able, too. Sharing is an important part of what Jesus says we should do.

Our congregation is celebrating One Great Hour of Sharing, a time when Christians from all around the country share with those in need. Think about the things that are special to you like the things in your pockets and how you can share them with others. If you do, you will be following God's commandments and making the world a better place.