

Sunday, February 21

Lent, Lesson 1

Follow the QR code for this week's video and lesson webpage.



## The Season of Lent!

This year in Lent, we'll be focusing on God's key promises in scripture. In Lent, we remember and regret how we often break promises or let ourselves, one another, and God down. We learn that God forgives us and that God always keeps God's promises to us. Each week, we'll make a promise to God that we can grow into in the next forty days. On Sunday, March 21, St. Andrew's and St. Michael's kids will be invited to share about what we've learned this Lent in our Youth Sunday service.

Bible Story

Reflection Questions

Preparing for Youth Sunday

Our Lenten Journey

Activity

## God's Promise to All Creation

God's first promise was to all of creation after the Great Flood. When Noah and all the surviving animals got out of the ark, God made a promise to care for and protect creation. God placed a rainbow in the sky as a sign of that promise. We can promise to care for and protect creation, too!

### Key Lessons

- Unit theme: God keeps God's promises, even when we don't
- God promised to protect and care for all of creation
- We can promise to protect and care for creation, too!

## Preparing for the story

What do you remember about the story of Noah's ark?

God sent the flood to wipe clean the earth from evilness and corruption. But after the flood, God decided to try another way to help God's creation.

## Genesis 9:8-17, Children's Bible in 365 Stories, #10

How happy Noah and his family were to get out of the ark and into the fresh air once again! The animals frolicked and scampered, and the birds flew singing in the clear blue sky. Before they did anything else, Noah and his family thanked God for his kindness and care for them during the terrible flood. They piled up stones to make an open-air altar and offered gifts on it to God. God had kept them safe and given them a fresh start in the new world.

Then God blessed Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth. "Have many children," God said. "Spread out and fill the Earth. Care for the world and for all the creatures in it. I'm going to make you a promise. Never again will I send a flood, or destroy all living things. For as long as the Earth lasts, I will send you day and night, heat and cold, summer and winter. I will send a season for sowing and a season for harvest."

"I'm going to give you a sign to remind you always of my promise. Whenever you look up and see a rainbow in the sky, think of my promise to you and be sure that I will keep it."

After the terrible flood, Noah and his family felt a bit frightened whenever it began to rain. But they would look up, as the Sun Burst through the clouds, and see the rainbow shining in the sky. They remembered then that they were really safe. God would keep his promise.

### God's Promise to All Creation

"I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth." Genesis 9:11-13

## Preparing for Youth Sunday, March 21

During Lent, St. Andrew's and St. Michael's kids will prepare to create and lead our Youth Sunday service. This week, make a drawing of **Noah and the animals celebrating under the rainbow**. Send your drawing to Rev. Mia [mia@standrewswellesley.org](mailto:mia@standrewswellesley.org) to be featured in the Youth Sunday service!

## Reflection Questions

### Lower Elementary:

What helps you remember you are safe?

What are some ways humankind cares for the world and its creatures?

### Upper Elementary:

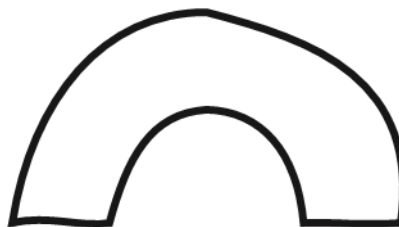
Noah and his family were grateful to survive the flood. Do you think they were mad at God for the flood, too?

Caring for creation well helps to prevent natural disasters like forest fires and floods. What kind of natural disasters do people face today? How do we help people survive and keep them safe?

## Messing Up

Sometimes when we mess up, it feels a lot better to throw away our mistake and start again from scratch, just as God set out to do with the Flood. Other times, it's better for us to try to repair and heal our mistakes. After the Flood, God vowed to heal the world in a new way. Try drawing a picture of your favorite animal with your eyes closed. Open your eyes! How did you do? Instead of starting over with a new drawing, add lines and colors to your original drawing to make it beautiful.

## Our Lenten Journey



Each Sunday in Lent, we'll be making a promise to God in response to God's promise to us. We'll grow into our promises throughout Lent—and "hatch" them together on Easter!

- Make and color a **rainbow** sticker for "God's promise to all creation."
- Write a promise you want to make **about caring for creation**. *God, I will care for creation by...* Put the promise in your **green** egg.
- Find a leaf or petal outside to put in your **green** egg as a symbol of creation.
- (Put a piece of candy in the **green** egg, too! You'll get to eat it on Easter)

Put your **rainbow** sticker on your **green** egg and keep it with your Alleluia box.



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Find videos and more on our children's page: [standrewswellesley.org/Christian-learning/children](http://standrewswellesley.org/Christian-learning/children)

Discover what other kids are learning: [@standrewswellesleyyouth](https://www.instagram.com/standrewswellesleyyouth) on Instagram

Online worship, Sundays at 10am: [standrewswellesley.org/live](http://standrewswellesley.org/live)

## Lent 2021

SUN	Unit 6: God Keeps Promises
Feb 21	Unit 6, Lesson 1— God's Promise to All Creation
Feb 28	Unit 6, Lesson 2—God's Promise to Abraham
March 7	Unit 6, Lesson 3—God's Promise to Moses
March 14	Unit 6, Lesson 4— Jesus' Promise to Us
March 21	Unit 6, Lesson 5—God's Promises on our Hearts Youth Sunday: Arrive on Zoom at 9:45am to be part of the Live Youth Sunday service!