

**Focus:** Telling others about Jesus.

**Materials:**

Prayer Altar: Cross, Candle, Chasuble on stand (priest's vestment) and Altar Cloth  
CD-Easter Season-Cycle C  
Bible: Children's Bible Storybook  
Sheepfold, sheep, shepherd  
Book:100 Bible Stories, 100 Bible Songs

**Gathering** (children find/sit on a carpet square)

*Say: Good Morning everyone, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. Last week we talked about when Jesus visited his disciples after he rose from the dead. This week we will here another story about Jesus visiting his disciples and the special way he asks Peter to be a leader of his sheep (those who follow him.)*

**Opening Prayer**

Together we make the Sign of the Cross (do in reverse so children can mirror).

*Say: Now let's put our hands together and bow our heads.*

*Let us pray.*

*Dear Jesus,*

*Thank you for always being with us. Help us to recognize you in the faces of everyone we meet.*

*In the name of Jesus we pray.*

*Amen.*

**Song/Movement**

*Join in the Dance, track: 1, from Easter Season Cycle C*

Play music, encourage children to stretch or move to the music (clapping, stamp feet march in place to the beat), turn to each other and shake hands, saying hello, etc.

Join in the dance of the earth's  
jubilation! This is the feast of the  
love of God.  
Shout from the heights to the ends  
of creation: Jesus the Savior is risen  
from the grave!

1. Wake, O people; sleep no longer,  
greet the breaking day!  
Christ, Redeemer, Lamb and Lion,  
turns the night away!

2. All creation, like a mother, labors  
to give birth.  
Soon the pain will be forgotten, joy  
for all the earth!

3. Now our shame becomes our  
glory on this holy tree.  
Now the reign of death is ended;  
now we are set free!

**Memory Verse**

*Say: Now let's take a moment together to learn a verse from the bible.*

*Feed my sheep*

Have the children repeat the verse after you a couple of times.

Say: *Jesus called all of us his sheep or lambs. He said that he cared for us and would protect us as a shepherd cares for and protects his sheep. Jesus was telling Peter to take care of his sheep so that Peter would understand that he would be the new leader of the Church. Today we call the leader of the Church the Pope. Jesus asked Peter to be the first church leader.*

*The pope leads the church, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. When Jesus told his disciples to follow him, he wanted them to do all the things he did, including caring for people, teaching about God, and helping others know God better. These are the kinds of things the pope does, with the help of bishops and priests. As members of the church, we are also called to follow Jesus, to spread the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection and to help those in need.*

**Sing Alleluia for Easter Season:**

*"Hallelu, Hallelu" Track 2 on CD Labeled EASTER SEASON CYCLE C,*

*Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah,  
Praise ye the Lord!  
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah,  
Praise ye the Lord!  
Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah, repeat 2 times  
Praise ye the Lord!*

*Repeat three times*

**Gospel Story**

Say: *Today we are reading from the Gospel of John.*

Have children make sign of the cross on their forehead, mouth and heart saying. *"Lord, open my mind, my lips and my heart so that I may learn it, speak it and love it."*

**Read:** *The Children's Bible Storybook*, pp. 360-362, 362-363, *Breakfast by the Sea and Do you Really Love Me?*

After the reading say: *The Gospel of the Lord*

Children respond: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

**Discussion Starters:**

1st Story:

- *What do the disciples decide to do?*
- *How many fish did they catch after fishing all night?*
- *What happens when the man on the shore tells them to try again?*
- *Who was the man?*
- *What did Jesus have ready for his disciples?*

2nd Story:

- *What does Jesus do after he eats a meal of fish and bread with his disciples?*
- *What does Jesus ask Peter?*
- *How does Peter answer Jesus?*
- *What special job does Jesus ask Peter to do?*

**Reflection on Reading:**

*In the first Gospel story the disciples having trouble catching fish. Then Jesus appears and tells them where to cast their nets. The result is a catch so great that the nets are bulging.*

*Jesus and the disciples take the fish that are caught and they share breakfast on the beach. As they share this meal together, the disciples know that the risen Lord is with them.*

*After the meal, Jesus asks the disciple who lied about knowing Jesus, "Peter do you love me?" He asks the question three times. Each time Peter answers, "Yes." Jesus responds with a request, "Feed my sheep." Like a shepherd who cares for his flock, Jesus is asking Peter to nourish and care for all people. Peter is being called to follow Jesus and in doing so to leave his old life, when he thought only of himself, and start a new life, where he cares and loves others more than ever.*

**Gospel Activity**Activity 1:**Tend the Sheep**

Jesus wants us to tend the sheep too, not just leaving it to the leaders of the church. There are many ways we can take care of others.

Using the sheep and sheepfold, Place Jesus (the shepherd) in the fold. Have the children take turns bringing others to Jesus.

As they say something they could do, they place a sheep in the pen. When all the sheep are used up, place the picture of the flock of sheep and then start again with the wooden sheep. Continue as time allows or until all the children have had a turn.

They can repeat what someone else has said.

Examples include: helping someone make the right choice to be kind to others, saying a prayer with someone who is sad or sick, telling someone a story about Jesus, reading a book about Jesus with someone, taking care of someone who is sick or sad, making a card for someone, telling someone that they love them and that Jesus loves them too.

Activity 2:

Read page 182 in **100 Bible Stories/100 Bible Songs**—A Big Catch—  
Sing and act out the song-Peter, James and John in a sailboat.

Lyrics: Optional actions in brackets []

*Peter, James and John in a sailboat (3x) Out on the deep, blue sea. [rock back and forth]  
Fished all night and they caught no fishes (3x) Out on the deep, blue sea. [cast a fishing pole]*

*A lesson they had learned from their savior, I will make you fishers of men. [Make sign of the cross]*

*O what a glorious savior, A wonderful teacher and friend. [Give yourself a hug]*

*Peter, James and John in a sailboat (3x) Out on the deep, blue sea. [rock back and forth]  
Out on the waves they saw their Jesus. (3x) Walking on the sea. [pretend to walk along]*

*A lesson they had learned from their savior, I will make you fishers of men. [Make sign of the cross]*

*O what a glorious savior, A wonderful teacher and friend. [Give yourself a hug]*

*Peter, James and John in a sailboat (3x) Out on the deep, blue sea. [Rock back and forth]*

*Out on the deep, blue sea.*

Complete the weekly bulletin as a group-let the children color them if there is extra time

### **Closing Prayer**

(Children respond: "I Believe!")

Ask: *Do you believe in God, is always with you?*

*Do you believe in Jesus, calls you by name and rescues us when we stray?*

*Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives us the strength to do and say what is right and true?*

### **Sending Forth**

*Say: Remember to tell others about Jesus. You can tell them that Jesus is the Good Shepherd that takes care of us so we can live with him forever, we can tell others how he is Risen and lives with God the Father in heaven. We can tell them about the big catch of fish he helped his disciples catch or any of the other amazing stories about Jesus.*

### **Lining Up/Closing Song**

Play "Rejoice in the Lord" track 3 from Easter Season Cycle C while children put away any materials and lineup. Hand out weekly bulletins. Remind them it is important that they return to their family quietly so that we may all listen and pray together in church.