

St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church Junior Church Activity Sheet

21st March 2021 The Fifth Sunday of Lent



Here is something to pass the time at home as we can't meet in church at the moment – a story and some activities.

Jesus teaching in the Temple

In Lent we are looking forward to the time of Easter. But before Easter happens we have to remember the sad events of Good Friday when Jesus was killed.

In the weeks before Jesus was arrested he and his friends had gone to Jerusalem and he was teaching people in the Temple. It was a dangerous place to be for him because the people in power thought that he was a person who might cause trouble – and in a way, they were right.

When Jesus had come to the Temple he had caused a terrible scene.

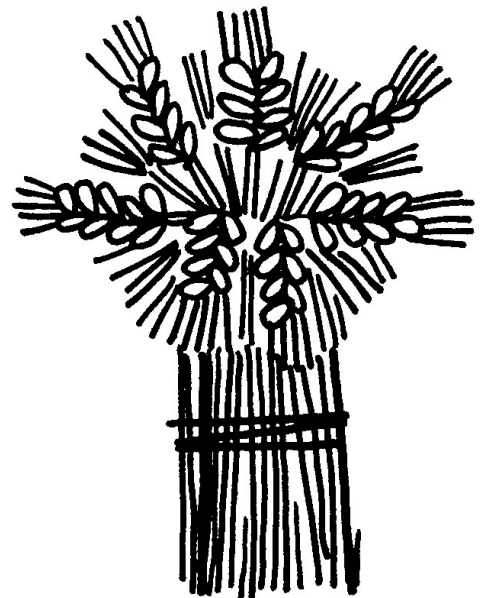
You have to understand that the Temple was a huge building, with lots of courtyards, and because people came to the Temple to offer animal sacrifices, businesses had been set up to buy and sell sheep and goats and doves for the sacrifices. You weren't allowed to use Roman money in the Temple, (which was what everybody used in everyday life). This was because the Temple authorities thought that it was foreign and unclean. So you had to change your money into special Temple money. So there were stalls set up where you could change your money, but this was expensive to do, and people were being cheated every day.

Jesus looked at all this noisy chaos and got angry. He made a whip of ropes and drove out the cheating stall holders, overturning their tables and spilling the money. He yelled at them: 'This is my father's house, a house of prayer – and you have made it a den of thieves!'

You can imagine that the people who ran the Temple were angry, but the crowds of people approved, because they hated being cheated by the stall holders, and Jesus was popular. They loved to hear him tell stories and show them what God was like. But Jesus knew that it was only a matter of time before the powerful people might try to get rid of him by killing him. So he told his friends something to comfort them. He said:

“ You know that a grain of wheat has to fall in the ground and die and be buried. Only then can it spring up again with new life and bring forth good fruit. One seed produces many more grains.”

After he had been killed, they remembered what he had said.



Things to do

If the weather permits, go out into the garden, or for a walk. Plant some seeds and put a marker down so that you can check on progress. Or plant some seeds in a tray inside so that you can see the seedlings and then plant them out when they are big enough. If you go for a walk, look out for baby plants and bulbs that are beginning to send their shoots up above the ground. If you can, take some photos of them.

WORD SEARCH



CHANGERS
DANGEROUS
FLOURISH
GOATS
GRAIN
JESUS
MONEY
OVERTURN
PIGEONS
PRAYER
SACRIFICE
SHEEP
STALLS
TEACH
TEMPLE
THIEVES
WHEAT
WHIP

On the next sheet, turn it to landscape and make the seeds grow: Draw in roots and the plants that come above the ground. I have started one off for you. Let your imagination flourish!

