PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

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PEACEMAKERS
Read and discuss the Scripture verse:

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”
Matthew 5:9, NRSV

Discuss what it means to be a peacemaker. Offer examples of people in the Bible or in today’s society who work to build peace.

Say, “Today, United Methodists celebrate Peace with Justice Sunday. It is a day when we think about how we can help change situations that are unfair. As Christians, Jesus wants us to share messages of peace. Today, we will create peace flags that you can hang inside or outside your home.”

MAKE PEACE FLAGS
Give each child a piece of fabric and put fabric markers or paint in the middle of the table.

Invite the children, first, to sketch their design on paper, thinking about situations where they feel peace is needed.

Offer various peace-related phrases and encourage children to use one of these or to come up with their own statement to write on their flag:

- Blessed are the peacemakers. Matthew 5:9
- The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23
- Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. Psalm 34:14

PRAY
Dear God, thank you for the beautiful messages these children have created. May they serve as reminders in their homes and schools to treat one another with kindness and fairness. Replace any fear in their hearts with your peace that passes all understanding. Amen.