Youth Ministry Master Curriculum 6th-12th Grade 6th Grade:

Who is Jesus - What is His promise to all of us? What is our promise to Him and each other?

Overview (26 Sessions)

Weeks 1-9: The Covenants of the Old Testament

- Week 1: Introduction to Covenants Understanding the Biblical Concept of Covenant/Adam and Eve and Cain and Abel
- Week 2: The Covenant with Noah God's Promise of Preservation "Lord, make me an ark."
- Week 3: The Covenant with Abraham The Promise of a Great Nation and Blessing
- Week 4: The Covenant with Abraham (Part 2) His Descendants and the Path to Slavery in Egypt
- Week 5: The Covenant with Moses From Royal Family to Shepherd with a Stutter to Liberator
- Week 6: The Covenant with Moses (Part 2) The Ten Commandments and Israel's Role as God's People
- Week 7: Saul -You Want a King; I'll Give You a King and the Covenant with David The Promise of an
- **Everlasting Kingdom**
- Week 8: The Wisdom and Frailties of Solomon and the Incompetence of His Sons
- Week 9: The Prophets and the New Covenant Anticipation of a Renewed Relationship with God

Weeks 10-26: The New Covenant of Jesus

- Week 10: Meet Mary and Joseph Mary and Elizabeth Connect and The Cousins Meet Each Other
 - Week 11: The Birth of John the Baptist Preparing the Way
 - Week 12: The Birth of Jesus The Incarnation of the New Covenant
 - Week 13: The Early Life of Jesus Herod, Simeon, Anna and more
 - Week 14: Passover Trip to Jerusalem and Growing in Wisdom and Favor
 - Week 15: The Ministry of John the Baptist Calling People to Repentance
 - Week 16: The Baptism of Jesus The Beginning of His Public Ministry
 - Week 17: The Temptation of Jesus Was He Tempted?
 - Week 18: A Sabbath Appearance Goes Badly Wrong and the Calling of the First Disciples
 - Week 19: The Wedding at Cana Jesus's First Miracle His Time had Come?
 - Week 20: Jesus Cleanses the Temple Demonstrating His Authority
 - Week 21: Jesus and Nicodemus Out of the Darkness
 - Week 22: Sermon on the Mount and the Lord's Prayer
 - Week 23: The Samaritan Woman Jesus as the Living Water and Savior of the World
 - Week 24: Jesus heals and performs miracles Why?
 - Week 25: Jesus and Lazarus The Last Straw
 - Week 26: Holy Week and Resurrection

7th Grade: RITE 13

Overview (26 Sessions)

1. Self: My Gifts and Abilities (9/8)

Goals

- To understand our own abilities and spiritual gifts
- To consider how to use those abilities and gifts in service to God

2. Self: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (9/15)

Goals

- To understand that our bodies are part of God's good creation
- To celebrate our bodies' unique abilities
- To celebrate our talents and skills

3. Self: Who Do I Come From? (9/22)

Goals

- To learn and tell the stories of our families
 - To understand some of the ways we contribute to our families
- To understand how God can bless our family and our non-family relationships

4. Spirituality: How Do I Connect with God? (10/6)

Goals

- To help youth discover avenues of prayer and spiritual nourishment that are natural to them
- To expose youth to new ways of connecting with God

5. Spirituality: Resources for Connecting (10/13)

Goals

- To introduce youth to resources for connecting with God
- To encourage them to seek spiritual guidance from wise friends and mentors

6. Spirituality: Images We Carry (10/20)

Goals

- To examine the images of God we have inherited and learned
- To recognize that God is made manifest in numerous ways

7. Spirituality: Walk in Love (10/27)

Goals

- To examine what it means to offer ourselves to God
- To encourage youth to adopt practices of offering

8. Society: God's Dream for Us (11/10)

Goals

- To recognize that God's dream for us is always that which is life-giving, that which makes us more whole
- To consider ways we might recognize whether something is either nurturing or detrimental to life

9. Society: Empowered to Choose (11/17)

Goals

• To show youth the ways in which they are already empowered to make choices about their lives and the ways they will be empowered as they mature

10. Society: Seeking Help (12/8)

Goals

- To show the importance of reaching out when we are struggling
- To help youth identify resources in their lives and how they can be a resource to others

11. Society: Choose Life (12/15)

Goals

 To help youth understand God's commandment to "choose life" To consider what this command means in practical situations

12. Spirituality: Foundations of Justice (1/5)

- To understand the scriptural basis for doing justice
- To explore the meaning of justice

13. Society: Walking Humbly (1/12)

Goals

- To understand that God provides for us
- To recognize that we do not have to hoard our money or possessions or resources

14. Society: Loving Kindness (1/19)

Goals

- To explore the connection between faith and works
- To consider how our faith might inspire us to action for justice

15. Spirituality: Loving God in Scripture (1/26)

Goals

- To understand the structure of the Bible and how it is used in worship
- To equip youth to read the Bible independently
- To encourage youth to explore scripture on their own and with others

16. Spirituality: Seeking God in Scripture (2/2)

Goals

- To help youth explore ways to interact with scripture
- To show that Christians encounter God in scripture through diverse means

17. Society: Finding God in Others (2/16)

Goals

- To understand that everyone is made in the image of God
- To practice seeing the image of God in others

18. Self: Needs and Wants (2/23)

- To consider the distinction between needs and wants
- To encourage youth to think beyond their own needs and wants to those of others
- To practice gratitude for what we have

19. Society: Who Has the Power? (3/2)

Goals

- To recognize that factors beyond our control affect our opportunities in life
- To consider the ways we have been advantaged or disadvantaged by these factors

20. Society: The Temptation of Power (3/9)

Goals

- To show that even good people, when given power, can use their power to harm others or limit their freedom
- To consider the ways in which we have power and how we can use it to bring about the kingdom of God, in which God's dream for humanity is realized

21. Society: My Role in the Kingdom (3/16)

Goals

- To understand how the Lord's Prayer calls us to help bring about the kingdom of God
- To understand that everyone has a different role in this work, because we are all parts of a whole

22. Spirituality: Reconciliation (3/23)

Goals

- To understand forgiveness and how mercy and reconciliation relate to forgiveness
- To understand the Rite of Reconciliation and why one might seek it out

23. Spirituality: Seeking Healing (3/30)

Goals

- To consider what healing and wholeness might mean in different situations
- To gain familiarity with the sacramental act of anointing
- To explore stories of healing in the Bible

24. Spirituality: Embracing the Creed (4/6)

- To understand some of the background of the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds
- To empower youth to consider their own views on the statements found in the creeds
- To consider how different understandings of the word "believe" can impact our relationship with the creeds

25. Society: Hearing Our Faith (4/27)

Goals

- To offer models of articulating faith stories
- To develop expanded understandings of how God works in our lives
- To build relationships across generational and other demographic divides

26. Self: Voicing My Faith (5/4)

Goals

- To support youth in giving voice to their faith
- To consider how we have seen God acting in our lives and how those experiences form and inform our faith

8th Grade: CONFIRMATION

Overview: Teen's Guide to the Epsicpal Church (26 Sessions)

#1. Sept 8: Introduction to Confirmation and Mentor Relationship

Goals

- To get to know each other and their relationship to their mentor
- To Learn course expectations

#2 Sept 15th Pray Journals

Goals

- To introduce a prayer journal, explain the role and significance of the journal
- To let the kids customize their journals to make them personal

#3. Sept 22: Chapter 1: Baptism and Confirmation: Beginnings

Goals

- To learn the convent that their parents made on their behalf
- Understand the importance of water in baptisms

#4. Oct 6: Chapter 1: Baptism and Confirmation: Beginnings

Goals

- To learn what confirmation entails
- To learn how baptism and confirmation are connected

#5. Oct 13: Chapter 2: The Bible: Stories about Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Goals

- To exam the structure and some of the main themes of the Bible
- To understand that Christian faith is fundamentally about entering into God's story

#6 Oct 20 Chapter 2: The Bible: Stories about Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Goals

- To learn who God interacts with normal people throughout history
- To talk about Jesus and his disciples

#7. Oct 27: Ask a Priest (Bible)

- To give the youth an opportunity to wrestle with difficult questions about the Bible
- To reinforce that Christian faithfulness includes asking hard questions

#8. Nov 10: Chapter 3: Knowing Our History

Goals

- To learn the basic branches of the Christianity (Western and Eastern split, Protestant reformation, multitude of american protestant denomination)
- To learn how the Episicpal church is similar to and different from other branches

#9. Nov 17: Talking about our own History

Goals

- To learn think about how God has worked in your life
- To understand their personal journey of faith

#10. Dec 8: First Meeting with Mentor During Formation Time (meet up in Attic, then scatter in courtyard)

Goals

- To establish a relationship with their mentor
- To hear the mentors personal journey of faith and share some of their own

#11. Dec 15: Chapter 4: Faith: What Do We Believe?

Goals

- To learn about God's identity as Trinity
- To examine The Apostle's Creed and to bring curiosity and questions to the Creed

#12. Jan 5: Chapter 4: Faith: What Do We Believe?

Goals

- To give youth an overview of the basic building blocks of the Christian faith.
- To discuss the Christian belief in the Incarnation.

#13 Jan 12th: Ask a Pastor (Beliefs)

- To give the youth an opportunity to wrestle with difficult theological questions
- To offer an opportunity for youth to get to know a range of clergy

#14. Jan 19 Mentor Meeting

Goals

- To grow in relation with their mentor
- To engage in active discussion about faith

#15 Jan 26: Chapter 5 The Meaning of Worship

Goals

- To understand meaning of liturgical acts
- To see how worship connects to mission

#16. Feb 2: Chapter 6: Eucharist as a Sacraments

Goals

- To understand the Biblical foundations of the Eucharist
- To become familiar with the prayers spoken during the Eucharist

#17 Feb 16 Instructional Eucharist

Goals

- To watch a priest celebrate the Eucharist up close
- To understand the liturgical acts and symbols used during Eucharist

#18 Feb 23: Chapter 7: Spirituality: Created for Prayer

Goals

- To understand the importance of communal prayer (and to write the class ACTS prayer)
- To become familiar with the Book of Common Prayer

#19. March 2: Chapter 7: Spirituality: Created for Prayer

- To understand the importance of personal prayer
- To understand the different components of prayer (how pray and what to pray for)

#20 March 9 Movement and Visual Prayer

Goals

- To explore different ways of praying beyond words
- To learn about icons and walk a labyrinth

#21. March 16: Ask a Pastor: Prayer and Relationship with God

Goals

- To openly discuss experiences of God and relationship with God with a clergy person
- To have honest conversation about the youth's personal prayer life

#22. March 23: Chapter 8: Navigating the Church: Our Local Parish

Goals

- To reinforce the importance of being a part of a local Christian community for Christian faith
- To explore the various ministries at All Saints'

#23. March 30: Chapter 8: Navigating the Church: From Local to Worldwide Church

Goals

- To understand that we are a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion
- To explore a few ministries in the global south

#24. April 6: Chapter 9: The Mission of God: What Is Your Ministry?

Goals

- To examine Paul's description of spiritual gifts
- To discover the youth's spiritual gifts through an inventory

#25. April 27th: Chapter 9: The Mission of God: What Is Your Ministry?

Goals

• To explore youth's ministry in their school settings

• To discern how All Saints' might help youth live their faith at school

#26. MAY 4: Final Questions with Priest and Confirmation Leader

Goals

- To clarify any questions about what it means to be confirmed
- To have an opportunity to ask a seasoned priest about anything the youth have discussed all year

9th-12th Grade: YEAR ONE (J2A YR 1) 2024-2025

Overview (26 Sessions)

#1. Society: Creating a Community Covenant (9/8)

- To examine the nature of a covenant community, between God and God's people and among one another
- To work as a group to develop a code of behavior that will govern all activities and interactions of the group when they are together

#2. Self: What Role Do I Play? I (9/15)

- To explore the ways that individual members of a group function naturally
- To examine the God-given diversity of any group and how we use our differences to contribute to the whole
- To discuss the differences between how we see ourselves and how others see us

#3. Self: What Role Do I Play? II (9/22)

To learn about the leaders' own spiritual journeys and how they see themselves

#4. Spirituality: Welcoming the Stranger (10/6)

- To invite Christ into the space as we welcome people from outside the class
- To create a beautiful classroom

#5. Society: Respecting Self and Others (10/13)

- To explore why God's image-bearers deserve respect
- To learn "to do unto others as you would have them do unto you"
- To learn "to do unto yourself what you would do unto others"

#6. Spirituality: God of the Old and the New I (10/20)

• To familiarize youth with the basic structure and content of the Old and New Testaments

#7. Spirituality: God of the Old and the New II (10/27)

• To emphasize the continuity between the Old and New Testaments, the God they both proclaim, and the life they both call God's people to live

#8. Spirituality: God the Father I: God Our Creator (11/10)

To learn about the first person of the Trinity, our Father and Creator

#9. Spirituality: God the Father II: God Our Provider (11/17)

To reflect on how God relates to us as a provider

#10. Spirituality: God the Son I (12/8)

• To reflect on the identity of Jesus as the eternal Son of God

#11. Spirituality: God the Son II (12/15)

• To explore the implications of Jesus as the human one inviting us to be children of God together with him

#12. Spirituality: God the Spirit I (1/5)

• To learn more about the Holy Spirit's personality and activity in our lives

#13. Spirituality: God the Spirit II (1/12)

To practice ways of listening to the Spirit's quiet guidance

#14. Spirituality: Naming God I (1/19)

- To reflect on the names of God and what they communicate
- To reflect on the divine name given to Moses and what it communicates

#15. Spirituality: Naming God II (1/26)

To appreciate the power, and limits, of names

#16. Society: Love As I Have Loved You I (2/2)

 To see ourselves as a people whose primary characteristic is love, as defined by the example and teachings of Jesus

#17. Society: Love As I Have Loved You II (2/16)

• To repent of the many ways we fail to love as Jesus loves

#18. Society: God of the Outsiders I (2/23)

• To learn about the Biblical themes of God's welcome

#19. Society: God of the Outsiders II (3/2)

• To explore how we can partner with God in welcoming outsiders

#20. Society: Seeing and Using Our Privilege I (3/9)

To learn about privilege and the systemic advantages people have

#21. Society: Seeing and Using Our Privilege II (3/16)

To reflect on Jesus as the best example of what godly use of privilege looks like

#22. Self: Using Our Voices I (3/23)

• To strengthen our God-given gift of voice, and to consider how we can use it to make the world more just for others and for ourselves

#23. Self: Using Our Voices II (3/30)

 To explore local efforts to bring about a more just world and how we may partner in them by lending our voices

#24. Society: Taking Action With and For I (4/6)

• To learn how others in the local community are working to advance God's vision of a merciful and just world To join alongside those who are working to help and to heal God's world

#25. Society: Taking Action With and For II (4/27)

• To advocate and provide for those who have less of a voice or fewer resources than we do

#26. The Journey We Shared This Year? (5/4)

To reflect together on all that we have learned and how we have grown this year

9th-12th Grade: YEAR TWO (J2A YR 1 & 2)

Overview (26 Sessions)

#1. Society: Creating a Community Covenant

- To examine the nature of a covenant community, between God and God's people and among one another
- To work as a group to develop a code of behavior that will govern all activities and interactions of the group when they are together

#2. Self: What Role Do I Play? I

- To explore the ways that individual members of a group function naturally
- To examine the God-given diversity of any group and how we use our differences to contribute to the whole
- To discuss the differences between how we see ourselves and how others see us

#3. Self: What Role Do I Play? II

• To learn about the leaders' own spiritual journeys and how they see themselves

#4. Spirituality: The Church Year I

• To learn about the seasons of and reasons for the church year

#5. Spirituality: The Church Year II

To explore ways to make the church year personally relevant

#6. Spirituality: Baptism and Eucharist I: Baptism

• To learn about the importance of baptism in Scripture, Christian tradition, the local church, and in our lives

#7. Spirituality: Baptism and Eucharist II: Eucharist

 To learn about the importance of the Eucharist in Scripture, Christian tradition, the local church, and in our lives

#8. Society: Loving Our Jewish and Muslim Neighbors I

To better understand the faith and lives of our Jewish and Muslim neighbors

#9. Society: Loving Our Jewish and Muslim Neighbors II

To build bridges with our cousins in faith to work together for a peaceable world

#10. Self: Identity and Vocation

To explore our sense of self as children of God

#11. Self: Sharing Our Gifts from God I

To explore our God-given talents and gifts and how they may be nurtured and shared

#12. Self: Sharing Our Gifts from God II

 To consider experiences we might not first think of as gifts and how God can use them to benefit others and ourselves

#13. Spirituality: In God's Presence I

• To introduce youth to a few ways to enter God's presence

#14. Spirituality: In God's Presence II

To stretch our understanding of prayer

#15. Spirituality: Contemplative Prayer

To introduce youth to practices of contemplative prayer, including centering prayer

#16. Spirituality: Repentance and Fasting I

 To learn about the Christian disciplines of repentance and fasting and how they teach us about our dependence on God

#17. Spirituality: Repentance and Fasting II

• To experience together both traditional and non-traditional fasting: a technology fast

#18. Spirituality: Scripture Surprises I

• To whet teens' appetites for scripture by showing them some of the beautiful and bizarre passages that are fun and challenging to read and interpret

#19. Spirituality: Scripture Surprises II

 To challenge students with the reality that we don't have it all figured out, including Bible passages that have been read and reread for thousands of years!

#20. Spirituality: Sacramentals I

To learn about the sacramental rites traditionally practiced by most Christian churches

#21. Spirituality: Sacramentals II

• To reflect on how objects and actions can connect us to God, and to share with one another about such objects and actions in our lives.

#22. My Personality I

- To introduce the idea that God has made us diverse in the ways we process and interact with our world
- To learn how personality differences can cause conflict when they are misunderstood, but are a necessary component of any healthy community

#23. My Personality II

• To appreciate our differences and learn how to better show love to one another

#24. Self: My Purpose Statement I

• To reflect on God's general purposes for creation and for humanity

#25. Self: My Purpose Statement II

• To identify our specific purposes as individuals created by God with unique gifts and desires

#26. The Journey We Shared This Year?

To reflect together on all that we have learned and how we have grown this year

9th-12th Grade: YEAR THREE (J2A YR 2)

Overview (26 Sessions)

#1. Society: Creating a Community Covenant

- To examine the nature of a covenant community, between God and God's people and among one another
- To work as a group to develop a code of behavior that will govern all activities and interactions of the group when they are together

#2. Self: What Role Do I Play? I

- To explore the ways that individual members of a group function naturally
- To examine the God-given diversity of any group and how we use our differences to contribute to the whole
- To discuss the differences between how we see ourselves and how others see us

#3. Self: What Role Do I Play? II

• To learn about the leaders' own spiritual journeys and how they see themselves

#4. Self: Who I Am/Who I Will Be I

• To talk about the differences between who we are and who we want to become and to realize that we are all "works in progress," loved by God

#5. Self: Who I Am/Who I Will Be II

• To broaden our understanding of human nature and of God's nature

#6. Self: Doubting Faithfully I

• To learn about the place of healthy doubt in the life of a Christian

#7. Self: Doubting Faithfully II

- To learn to "doubt our doubts," and let our doubts lead us to a more mature faith
- To ask God to "help our unbelief" (Mark 9:24)

#8. Society: Money and Food I

• To begin to raise awareness of the social, moral, and economic implications of food

#9. Society: Money and Food II

- To reflect on what we eat and to approach our diets with mindfulness, thanksgiving, and repentance
- To reflect on how we eat and the role meals and the Eucharist play in Christian community

#10. Society: Race and Racism I

- To explore our identities as individuals and as God's beloved children created in God's image
- To learn concepts of race and racism

#11. Society: Race and Racism II

- To study racial justice scriptures, our baptismal covenant, and spiritual practices to become the Beloved Community today
- To process what all of this means to your youth and your faith community

#12. Self: Gender I

- To explore the concept of gender
- To define terms: biological sex, gender, and gender identity

#13. Self: Gender II

• To invite youth to stand in their sacred ground as a unique creation of God

#14. Self: Sexuality I

- To review terminology around sexuality
- To engage youth in conversation around sexuality

#15. Self: Sexuality II

- To engage in conversation around stereotypes
- To introduce Hebrew words for love—Raya, Ahava, and Dod

#16. Self: Consent

- To consider the role of consent in healthy relationships.
- To read scripture to learn what the Bible and our faith have to say about healthy relationships.
- To learn aspects of consent.
- To practice giving and receiving consent in everyday situations.

#17. Self: Noticing God I

• To reflect on how we can experience God in creation

#18. Self: Noticing God II

• To practice noticing God's presence in creation

#19. Spirituality: Wonder in the Psalms I

• To connect with creation with a sense of awe, wonder, and majesty

#20. Spirituality: Wonder in the Psalms II

• To explore creation imagery in the Psalms

#21. Society: Justice and Creation I

• To explore the connection between love of God, love of neighbor, and love of creation

#22. Society: Justice and Creation II

• To consider how climate change disproportionately impacts some wildlife and marginalized communities

#23. Society: How Do I Love Thee?

- To talk about the different kinds of love and how they relate to one another
- To reflect on Christian love and how it is expressed in our lives

#24. Spirituality: Mission: Possible I

• To think about and listen for God's call to Christian mission

#25. Spirituality: Mission: Possible II

• To explore the relationship between God's mission and our calling

#26. The Journey We Shared This Year?

To reflect together on all that we have learned and how we have grown this year

9th-12th Grade: YEAR FOUR (4Ward)

Overview (26 Sessions)

#1. Society: Creating a Community Covenant (9/8)

- To examine the nature of a covenant community, between God and God's people and among one another
- To work as a group to develop a code of behavior that will govern all activities and interactions of the group when they are together

#2. Self: What Role Do I Play? I (9/15)

- To explore the ways that individual members of a group function naturally
- To examine the God-given diversity of any group and how we use our differences to contribute to the whole
- To discuss the differences between how we see ourselves and how others see us

#3. Self: What Role Do I Play? II (9/22)

• To learn about the leaders' own spiritual journeys and how they see themselves

#4. Society: (M) Many Members, One Body I

• To clarify what is and is not a spiritual gift

#5. Society: (M) Many Members, One Body II

To assess and share about our spiritual gifts

#6. Spirituality: Questioning Scripture I: Scripture as Human and Divine

To prompt questions about the nature and purpose of scripture

#7. Spirituality: Questioning Scripture II: Texts of Terror

• To offer young adults strategies for thinking about and wrestling with scripture

#8. Society: Liberation I

• To introduce young adults to liberation theology and what it means that God is on the side of the oppressed

#9. Society: Liberation II

• To accept the challenge of listening to the voices of the oppressed and to become part of God's liberated and liberating church

#10. Society: The Five Marks of Mission I

- To reflect on the Five Marks of Mission
- To learn about how the local church fulfills the Five Marks

#11. Society: The Five Marks of Mission II

To imagine new or better ways the local church could fulfill the Five Marks

#12. Spirituality: Christ Who Is Our Life I: Christ of the Creeds

- To consider the Christ we meet in the history of the Church
- To consider what it means to believe

#13. Spirituality: Christ Who Is Our Life II: Christ of the Gospels

To see Jesus from different perspectives

#14. Spirituality: Being Episcopalian I

To explore prayers in the Book of Common Prayer and how "praying shapes believing"

#15. Spirituality: Being Episcopalian II

To reflect on scripture and how reason and tradition guide our understanding of God

#16. Society: Christ and the Culture I

- To consider the various ways Christianity intersects with culture
- To learn how Christians and the Church have engaged the broader culture in our community

#17. Society: Christ and the Culture II

• To practice discerning questions of faith and culture

#18. Self: Like Us in Every Respect I

• To reflect on Christ's incarnation and what it tells us about being human

#19. Self: Like Us in Every Respect II

To reflect on Christ's resurrection and what it tells us about the value of our bodies

#20. Self: Learning Our Limits I

- To reflect on the limits of what we can know and believe
- To reflect on the limits of our questions and doubts

#21. Self: Learning Our Limits II

To consider prayer in light of our limitations as humans

#22. Self: Sin and Forgiveness I

- To explore what scripture and the liturgy say about sin
- To reflect on ways of conceptualizing and categorizing sin

#23. Self: Sin and Forgiveness II

- To relate sin and salvation
- To stress the importance of confession and repentance

#24. Self: Creatureliness and Interdependence

- To reflect on who we are as inherently interdependent participants in creation
- To consider our ecclesial interdependence

#25. Spirituality: (M) The Life of Faith

- To share faith practices that have contributed to the lives of mentors
- To demonstrate what it means to change what one believes about God, and how to do that honestly and carefully

#26. The Journey We Shared This Year?

To reflect together on all that we have learned and how we have grown this year