songs of the church Year



A Collection of Songs and Activities to Teach the Church Year



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ON CD

Copyright Clarification

(copyright_info.pdf)

PowerPoint Presentations of Song Lyrics (PPT only)

PowerPoint Presentations of Songs Lyrics with timed music (PPT and MP3)

Song Lyrics

(songs_of_the_church_year_lyrics.pdf and songs_of_the_church_year_lyrics.rtf)

Song Melody-Line Scores

(PDF)



Text: Rachael E. Weber Tune: Jacob B. Weber

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ACTIVITY

List the seasons of the year (fall, winter, spring, summer) on the board, or ask the class to name them. Have the students work in partner groups to identify something special about each season of the year. Allow time for them to share their ideas before you continue.

Tell the students that Advent is a season too. It is the first season of the Church Year. The lyrics of "Advent Song" (CD track 1) help us understand what God's people do in Advent.

Distribute the lyric sheets or melody-line scores to the partner groups (print them from the CD). Tell the children to examine the words of Advent Song for clues about what God's people do in Advent. Allow volunteers to share their answers.

In Luke 1:17, an angel told Zechariah that he and his wife would have a son who would "make ready for the Lord a people prepared." Their son would be named John. Point out that the word *prepare* is the first word of the refrain.

Remind the students that God still works in our hearts to make us ready for the Lord. God sends pastors and others to teach God's Word to children and adults.



Welcome the students by ringing a bell. Begin by telling the students that it is a happy day! They are learning about Christmas, a time when we hear lots of bells ringing! Ask what other times they hear bells ringing. (Some churches ring bells at the beginning of a church service. Some schools ring bells at the start and end of the day or class period.) Bells are rung to mark happy times, as when wars cease, but they are also rung at sad times, such as when someone dies. When we hear bells ringing, we can remember God's peace. The angels said that Jesus brought peace to earth, peace between God and man.

Distribute copies of the lyrics (print them from the CD). Teach the song by assigning different stanzas to small groups of students. All students can ring jingle bells as they sing the repeating lines "Glory be to God!" and "Spread the news abroad!" Play and sing the song (CD track 2)

Option: Use a xylophone to play the D, F, E, G, F pattern and accompany the words "Glory be to God!" Explain that the notes skip tones. Then, use the xylophone to play A, A, G, E, F to accompany the words "Spread the news abroad!"

Option: When you sing the song without the vocal recording, change the lyrics "Glory be to God!" to "He is God with us!"







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