

Sacred Circle for Young Children

Created by Rev. Kathy Kellogg

With young children, the adult leads and moves the time forward; children as helpers are guided in how to do their piece.

1. Transition to the Circle

Because the younger children may be at activity centers, use a signal like a chime to signal that it is time to stop what they are doing and listen. Then sing them to the circle.

We come to the circle to greet the new day. We come to the circle to welcome and say, I see you. I see you. You are the love of God. I see you. I see you. You are the love of God.

2. Set Up the Circle

As you sing the song, look into the eyes of the children. Eye contact is important. While you are singing, have the **Circle Helper** set the circle. This might include: round felt cloth (the color can change for the season or for the power of the month), a candle, offering basket, hearts, Safe Keeping Chest, Wish You Well wand.

3. Let There Be Light

Invite the **Candle Lighter** to turn on the candle.

4. Affirm the Children

I see the love of God shining from your eyes and I can feel the love beaming through your heart. Put your hand on your heart and feel the energy.

5. Safe Keeping Check

Invite the children to pick up a heart from the center cloth. Have them hold it in their hands while you explain that your responsibility to them is to keep them safe. Invite them to place their heart in the safe keeping chest letting them know that you will keep their hearts safe during the class time.

6. STAR

Have the **STAR** helper lead the group in a breathing exercise.

7. Affirm One Another

Sitting in the circle, the affirmation helper start the affirmation, "My name is _____ and I am _____. The group then says back to them, "(Name), you are _____." Example: Individual: My name is Tony and I am the love of God. Group: Tony, you are the love of God.

8. Prayer

Invite the group to say what/who they want to pray for. Have the **Prayer Helper** start the prayer with, "I am grateful for _____."

9. Offering

Let the **Offering Helper** lead the blessing. Make it short for the younger ones.

10. Song

Choose a song with directed energy to move their bodies before sitting down for story.