

## Sunday School Lesson: March, 22, 2020: World Water Day

Good Morning BUC Children and Families,

We will send out our lesson each week, so that you may read and take part in weekly learning activities based on the United Church Lectionary, and other pertinent events. Included today is a "World Water Day" skit that you can practice with your family at home.

### Church Season: 4th Sunday in Lent Colour: Purple

Remember that Lent is a time for reflection (thinking) and preparing for Easter that lasts for 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday (the day before Easter!). We think of the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert leading up to Easter Sunday.

### Morning Prayer:

*God, In this time of COVID-19, we pray:*

*When we aren't sure, God,*

*help us be calm;*

*when information comes*

*from all sides, correct and not,*

*help us to discern;*

*when fear makes it hard to breathe,*

*and anxiety seems to be the order of the day,*

*slow us down, God;*

*help us to reach out with our hearts,*

*when we can't touch with our hands;*

*help us to be socially connected,*

*when we have to be socially distant;*

*help us to love as perfectly as we can,*

*knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."*

*Amen*

*Excerpts taken from [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca) : A prayer during times of COVID-19 by the Right Rev. Richard Bott, originally posted on Facebook.*

**Bible Reading:** As today is World Water Day and our children are learning to care for the water God has created for us on our planet, we will focus on an excerpt from:

**Genesis 1:9-10** **9** Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. **10** God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas". And God saw that it was good.

Excerpt from Genesis 1:9-10 taken from:

'Dancing in the Desert: Devotional Bible", New Living Translation, Pg. 4, Features and Bible helps copyright 2015 by Chris Tiegreen. All rights reserved. Tyndale House Publisher's Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois

### **Discussions:**

We have discussed how during Lent, we can do something good each day, that will make life better for others and that we are able to carry on into our day to day life. Something very important we can do today is to recognize that today is **World Water Day**. Today and every day, we can help God take care of the water on our planet by conserving (not wasting) water and keeping our water resources clean for generations to come!

Since 1993, the United Nations' World Water Day happens every year on March 22. This day is an opportunity to celebrate how important freshwater is to all of us. It is a human right. It is our most precious resource.

The **theme for 2020 is Water and Climate Change** and how the two are tightly linked. We need to conserve and take care of our fresh water so that it is available to everyone. If everyone around the world does this well, it will help reduce floods, droughts, scarcity and pollution.

Two weeks ago the children started practicing a skit focussed on how we can all conserve fresh water ; it was to be presented to the congregation during Children's Time this coming Sunday March 22nd. Although we are unable to be at Worship Service this Sunday, families can practice the skit at home to get ideas regarding the conservation of our freshwater!

### **World Water Day Skit**

**Child 1** is standing under the shower (picture of shower head with running water-attached to movable bulletin board)) pretending to wash her hair.

**Child 2:** Wow, You have been in that shower for at least 30 minutes! You really are wasting a lot of water!!!!

**Child 1:** What are you talking about? Water is free! I just turn on my tap and can have all the water I want!

**Child 3: Points to world map on bulletin board-**Although the planet is made up of 71% water, did you know water is not a renewable resource? Today is World Water Day. Today we are learning ways to use our water responsibly, so future generations will also have water!

**Child 1 :** Maybe I should take a shorter shower!

**Child# 2:** Yes, your showers should be no more than 5 minutes.

**Child 2 starts brushing her teeth, Child 3 starts shaving (Toothbrush and shaving paraphernalia will be on small table)**

**Child 4:** And don't keep the water running when you brush your teeth and when you are shaving!!!!

**Child 5:** Life cannot exist without water. Our bodies are made up of 70% water. Did you know people in India have to walk hours sometimes so they can fill their buckets with water? Water is so valuable, and we need to think about ways in which to limit our use.

**A group of children start watering their plants (big flower pot on stage with a hose)**

**Child 6:** I see you are watering your plants with water that runs continuously from a hose.

**Child 1:** What else can I do? We have to water our garden and plants!

**Child 7:** You can use this giant barrel to catch rain-water. **(Point at rain barrel at side of lily-pad)** Then you just have to take your bucket, fill it up from the barrel and pour it onto your garden! **(Pretends to fill bucket and water plants)**

**Child 8:** What a great idea! Now I don't have to keep the hose running and waste all that fresh water!!!

**Child 9: Goes over to world map and points to Africa-** There are 1.2 billion people in the world that do not have access to safe drinking water and 2.8 billion people are affected by a limited water supply? A lot of those people live in Africa.

**Child 3:** Imagine not being able to go to your sink to get a cup of water when you are thirsty?

**Child 2:** Wow, we really need to conserve our water. Another way we can use less water so there is more for other people is to use energy rated dishwashers and washers. These appliances use a lot less water!

**Child 10:** We also don't need to flush the toilet every time we use it, especially at night!

**Child 9 and Child 7:** You must have heard the saying? If it's yellow, let it mellow!!!!

**All the children come to front of Lily Pad:**

**Child 10:** We have learned a lot of ways to conserve our water. God wants us all to take care of the planet and water he has given us.

**Child 5:** Talking about conserving our water makes me think of a quote from Isaiah

**All of the children say together the scripture from Isaiah 44:3-4**

“For I will pour out water to quench your thirst, and to irrigate your parched fields. And I will pour out my spirit on your descendants, and my blessing on your children. 4 They will thrive like watered grass, like willows on a riverbank.” taken from:

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**Child 3** If we all follow these tips we’ve learned today, on World Water Day, our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will continue to have fresh, clean, water!

**Child 2: Comes forward and spreads out arms and says loudly-The End!!!!**

Water facts From the “World Water Day Skit”, taken from:

[https://www.unicef.ca/sites/default/files/legacy/imce\\_uploads/UTILITY%20NAV/TEACHERS/DOCS/GC/Global\\_Citizenship\\_Calendar/March-World%20Water%20Day/World%20Water%20Day%204-8.pdf](https://www.unicef.ca/sites/default/files/legacy/imce_uploads/UTILITY%20NAV/TEACHERS/DOCS/GC/Global_Citizenship_Calendar/March-World%20Water%20Day/World%20Water%20Day%204-8.pdf)

### **More Resources for Information on Water Conservation**

[www.unicef.ca](http://www.unicef.ca) has valuable information regarding “World Water Day” and ways in which we can take care of our planet and keep it sustainable.

“My River”- [Cleaning up the LaHave River by Stella Bowes with Anne Laurel Carter](#). This is a very inspiring book about a river in Nova Scotia. Stella was 11 in grade 6 when she started to learn about and campaign against sewage pipes draining straight into the river on her doorstep. After 2.5 years she shamed all 3 levels of government into funding a \$15.7M cleanup in late 2017, which included funds to help homeowners put in septic systems. This book can be found at the Public Library (when open again!) or [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca)

“One Well: Story of Water on Earth” by [Rochelle Strauss](#): This story helps children become better caretakers, as they learn to take care of the water on our planet. Available through [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca), or through the Sunday School (contact Tammie Hill)

[www.safewater.org](http://www.safewater.org) Safe Drinking Water Foundation., A Canadian organization devoted to teaching students about drinking water issues so that all Canadians have access to safe drinking water:

We at Barrhaven United hope this lesson brings a little bit of Sunday School home to you as we make our way through this unchartered territory.

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