

OUR PHILOSOPHY

We believe that the most important gift we can give our children is a relationship with God. We want them to know God not just know about God. We want to help them know God as the source of life and a nourishing wellspring from which they can always drink. Children are inherently attuned to the sacred and divine. Our task help them hold on to their divine nature and to nourish their wonder and awe so they recognize where God is active in their lives.

INFANTS AND TODDLERS

For parents of children 3 and younger, during the service we offer the choice of a family area in the southeast corner of the sanctuary or nursery with two trained members. The nursery is located in the Jean Emery Family Center on the lower level. There is a video camera in the nursery that allows parents to check on their children through an online app or with the monitor located in the Great Hall adjacent to the church.

A GODLY PLAY BLESSING

As you make your journey, may God come so close to you and you come so close to God that you know all of God is in every place - in all of creation.

May you always carry with you the gifts given to you before you were born by the man who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people still know him in every season, in every mystery, in the bread and the wine.

Remember that you are forever part of this sacred circle, where the Spirit moves among us like a dove bringing comfort, strength, and power.

You are storytellers and peacemakers, light bearers, and people of God, who are creating the part that hasn't been written yet.

CONTACT US

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St. Thomas
Episcopal Church



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CHILDREN

Children are full members of the body of Christ. As such, they are invited to take part in the life of the church. We welcome and relish their squeals of joy, cries of indignation, questions, and unexpected interruptions. We believe that it is important that children experience and take part in our Sunday Eucharist. It is amazing how quickly and easily children absorb the prayers, songs, and rhythm of our common prayer when allowed to be immersed in worship as they play. Towards that end we encourage families of children to sit in the front so that they have an unobstructed view of the service. We offer activity bags to keep little hands busy, and we invite older children to participate in the service as acolytes and oblation bearers. The children are dismissed during the service for a Godly play story. This gives them the opportunity to stretch, wiggle, and hear a story that is geared to them. After church, the children are invited to return to the Godly Play room during coffee hour for crafts and play.



GODLY PLAY

Children have an innate sense of the presence of God. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language, and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiritual curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle, and late childhood and beyond.

NURSERY

Parents are always welcome to bring children of any age to worship with them. We also provide a nursery with two trained childcare workers for infants and toddlers up to four years old.

A video monitor of the nursery is available in the Great Hall adjacent to the church allowing parents to check on their children at any time.

