Children and family talk for 22nd November 2020.

Good morning, and welcome to the children and family worship from Christ Church URC, Rayleigh. Lets' begin by talking to God:

Lord Jesus, help us to leave our troubles behind as we come to you now to hear your word, understand and learn about you and your kingdom. Amen

Our Bible reading today is from Matthew 25 verses 31 - 46

Jesus said, 'When the Son of Man comes in glory, the whole world will be gathered before him and he will separate people as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. He will say to those on his right, "Come, you are blessed by my Father; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

'The sheep will answer, "When did we see you hungry and give you food, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we meet you as a stranger and welcome you, or see you naked and give you clothing? When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?"

'The king will say, "Whatever you did to the least important members of my family, you did it to me."

'Then he will say to those on his left, "Get out, worthless goats! You are good for nothing. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, I was naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." The goats will answer, "When did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?"

'He will answer, "Because you did not do it to the people in need, you did not do it to me. And the goats will be sent to eternal punishment and the sheep to eternal life."

Let's praise God now as we sing:

When I needed a neighbour

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When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there? When I need a neighbour, were you there? And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there? I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there? I was hungry and thirsty, were you there? Chorus I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there? I was cold, I was naked, were you there? Chorus. When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there? When I needed a shelter, were you there? Chorus. When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there? When I needed a healer, were you there? Chorus Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there, Wherever you travel, I'll be there. And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there. Sydney Carter Copyright 1965 Stainer & Bell Ltd.

Let's talk some more about the bible reading:

Imagine if Jesus was still walking around today as he did in the new testament times. Now imagine if you met him. How would you react? Would you be happy and pleased to see Jesus? Would you be nervous or worried? Would you invite him to your house? Perhaps Jesus is hungry and thirsty. Maybe you could take him to Macdonald's?!

In our bible reading today, Jesus was talking to the people, trying to help them to understand that we should treat everyone as if they were Jesus. This is the real evidence of our belief in Jesus Christ, that we show what we really think about Jesus' words by the actions that we take. It's no good saying you are going to do good for others and then not doing it. If we can help to feed those that don't have enough by giving to the food banks or supporting charities, by showing that we care with our actions, then we are showing that we are truly one of Jesus' sheep – his followers, and not one of the goats! Jesus wants us to be personally involved in caring for others needs. The focus of this story is that we should love every person and serve any we can, by showing this love for others and being kind, caring and compassionate, we are showing our love for God and reflecting it out to the world.

Praying together

Dear God, we want to be more like you, and show your love to those we meet every day Help us to remember to be kind, generous, and loving to all those people we meet. Amen.

Let's all do the Grace together, follow me for the actions

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out hands as if expecting a present)
And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart)
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands)
Be with us all now and for ever. Amen! (raise hands together on the Amen)

The children's sheet from Roots:

https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21509/22-nov-2020-childrens-sheet.pdf