



Diocese of Athabasca

Sunday School Lesson Plan – Sunday, August 16, 2026

Here's a **Sunday School Lesson Plan** for young children (ages 4–8) and some activities for older children using the **Revised Common Lectionary readings** for **August 16, 2026 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (Year A)**. Bible Verses: Genesis 45:1-15, 12-28; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28; Preface of the Lord's Day

✨ Sunday School Lesson Plan

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – August 16, 2026

Based on the Revised Common Lectionary

- Genesis 45:1–15
- Psalm 133
- Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32
- Matthew 15:21–28

Preface of the Lord's Day

Lesson Title

Jesus Loves Everyone

Theme

God's love is for everyone, and Jesus welcomes all who come to him in faith.

Big Idea

Jesus hears our prayers, loves all people, and teaches us to forgive and care for one another.

Lesson Focus for Kids

Children will learn that:

- Jesus loves everyone.
 - God hears our prayers.
 - We can forgive others just as Joseph forgave his brothers.
 - God's family includes people from every nation and background.
-

Scripture Readings (Kid-Friendly Language)

Genesis 45:1–15

Joseph's brothers had treated him badly many years before. Now Joseph was an important leader in Egypt. When they met again, Joseph forgave them and welcomed them with love. God had used Joseph to save many people from hunger.

Psalm 133

How wonderful it is when God's people live together in peace, kindness, and love.

Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32

God always keeps his promises and never stops loving his people. God's mercy is for everyone.

Matthew 15:21–28

A mother asked Jesus to heal her daughter. She trusted Jesus completely and did not give up. Jesus praised her great faith and healed her daughter because of her faith.

Welcome Activity

"Everyone Is Welcome"

Place a welcome mat or a large paper heart at the classroom entrance.

As each child arrives, greet them by name and invite them to place a sticker or write their name on the heart.

Talk about how everyone is welcome in God's family.

Opening Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for loving every person.

Thank you for listening when we pray.

Help us to forgive others and to welcome everyone with kindness.

Fill our hearts with your love today.

Amen.

Circle Time

Object Lesson

Show:

- A large heart
- A bandage
- A family photograph (or picture of people together)

Ask:

- What makes someone feel loved?
- Have you ever forgiven someone?
- How does it feel when someone forgives you?

Explain:

Today's Bible stories teach us about forgiveness, faith, and God's love for everyone.

Memory Verse

Psalm 133:1

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Simplified Version for Young Children

"Live together in love."

Actions

Live together — join hands.

In love — place hands over your heart.

Repeat together several times.

Bible Story Time

Joseph Forgives His Brothers

Many years before, Joseph's brothers had been jealous of him.

They treated him very badly.

But God never left Joseph.

God helped Joseph become an important leader in Egypt.

Later, when there was no food in the land, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt asking for help.

Joseph recognized them.

His brothers were afraid because they remembered how badly they had treated him.

But Joseph surprised them.

He hugged them.

He cried tears of joy.

He forgave them.

Joseph said that God had helped turn something sad into something good.

Joseph welcomed his whole family to Egypt where they would have food and safety.

Just like Joseph forgave his brothers, Jesus teaches us to forgive others.

Jesus and the Canaanite Woman

One day a mother came to Jesus.

Her daughter was very sick.

The mother believed Jesus could help.

She did not give up asking.

Jesus saw her great faith.

He healed her daughter.

Jesus showed that God's love is for everyone who comes to him in faith.

Discussion Questions

- Why were Joseph's brothers afraid?
- What did Joseph do?
- Why was the mother so determined?

- What did Jesus do for her daughter?
 - How can we show kindness and forgiveness?
-

Craft Activity

Heart of Forgiveness

Supplies

- Large heart template
- Crayons
- Stickers
- Glue
- Small paper hearts

Directions

1. Color the large heart.
2. Glue smaller hearts around the edge.
3. On each small heart write or draw:
 - Love
 - Kindness
 - Forgiveness
 - Peace
 - Welcome
4. Write in the center:

"Jesus Loves Everyone!"

Alternative Craft

Welcome Wreath

Children decorate a paper wreath.

Write across the middle:

"Everyone Is Welcome in God's Family."

Game

Pass the Heart

Children sit in a circle.

Play music while passing a paper heart.

When the music stops, the child holding the heart shares one kind thing they can do for someone else.

Everyone responds:

"Jesus loves everyone!"

Song Suggestions

Traditional

- Jesus Loves Me
- This Little Light of Mine
- The B-I-B-L-E

Action Songs

- I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy
- He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
- Father Abraham

Reflection Songs

- Bind Us Together
 - They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love
-

Snack Suggestions

Friendship Mix

- Cheerios
- Pretzels
- Raisins
- Goldfish crackers

Mix together to remind children that many different people make one family.

Heart Cookies

Heart-shaped sugar cookies with icing.

Talk about God's love for everyone.

Fruit Sharing Snack

Apple slices
Grapes
Bananas

Encourage children to share with one another.

Wrap-Up & Reflection

Ask:

- What did Joseph choose instead of revenge?
- What did the mother keep doing?
- Does Jesus love only some people?
- How can we welcome others this week?

Give each child a paper heart.

Write:

"Jesus Loves Everyone."

Invite them to take it home and place it where they will see it each day.

Closing Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for loving everyone.
Help us forgive others just as you forgive us.
Help us welcome everyone with kindness.
Thank you for always hearing our prayers.

Amen.

Take-Home Idea

Family Kindness Challenge

This week:

- Forgive someone who hurts your feelings.
- Welcome someone new.
- Help a neighbor.
- Pray for someone who needs God's love.

At supper, ask:

"How did we show God's love today?"

Teacher Notes

Main Teaching Points

- Joseph teaches forgiveness.
 - The Canaanite woman teaches faithful prayer.
 - Jesus welcomes everyone.
 - God's family includes all people.
 - God's love never runs out.
-

For Younger Children

Keep the focus on:

- Joseph forgave his brothers.
- Jesus listened to the mother's prayer.
- Jesus loves everyone.
- We can be kind and forgiving.

Avoid discussing the more difficult dialogue in Matthew 15 in detail. Instead, emphasize the mother's trust in Jesus and his compassionate response.

Anglican Connection

The **Preface of the Lord's Day** reminds us that every Sunday Christians gather as one family in Christ. We hear God's Word, pray together, and celebrate God's love, which welcomes people from every nation and language into God's family.

Lesson Summary

Main Message

Jesus loves everyone and welcomes all who come to him in faith. God calls us to forgive, pray, and live together in love and unity.

Other Idea Links

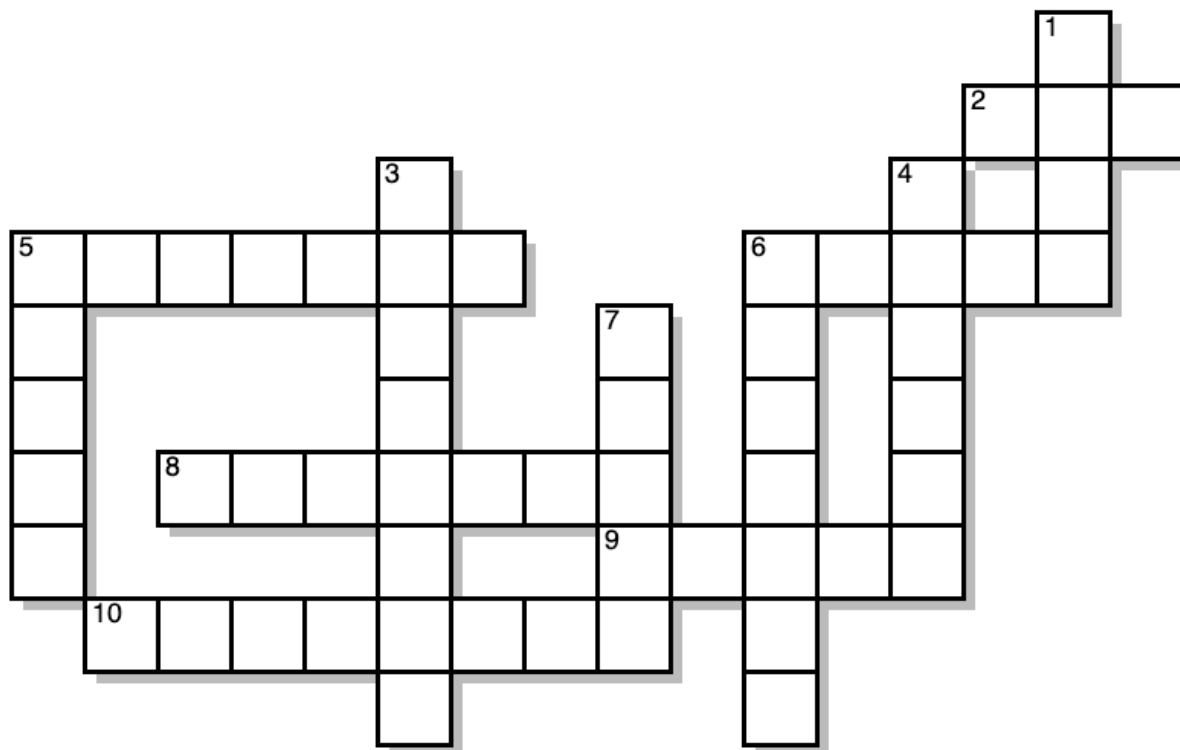
Jesus Loves Everyone

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



Jesus Loves Everyone

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



ACROSS

- 2 The Father
- 5 Pardon
- 6 Harmony
- 8 Messages to God
- 9 Oneness
- 10 Compassion

DOWN

- 1 Adore
- 3 All people
- 4 Relatives
- 5 Trust
- 6 Vow
- 7 God's son



Jesus Loves Everyone

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

K Y T I N U B E K E J Y
F I J D X Z N Y S J R J
O P N G K O Q I S P R Q
R L S D Y T M U E G O D
G X R R N O S A N F Z W
I B E Z R E C F A I T H
V V Y P J E S M Y W Z Z
E Y A M R D I S E V O L
B P R B T L Q J P Z V J
Z P P D Y Z R L Y N R Z

Jesus
Love
God
Everyone
Prayers
Forgive

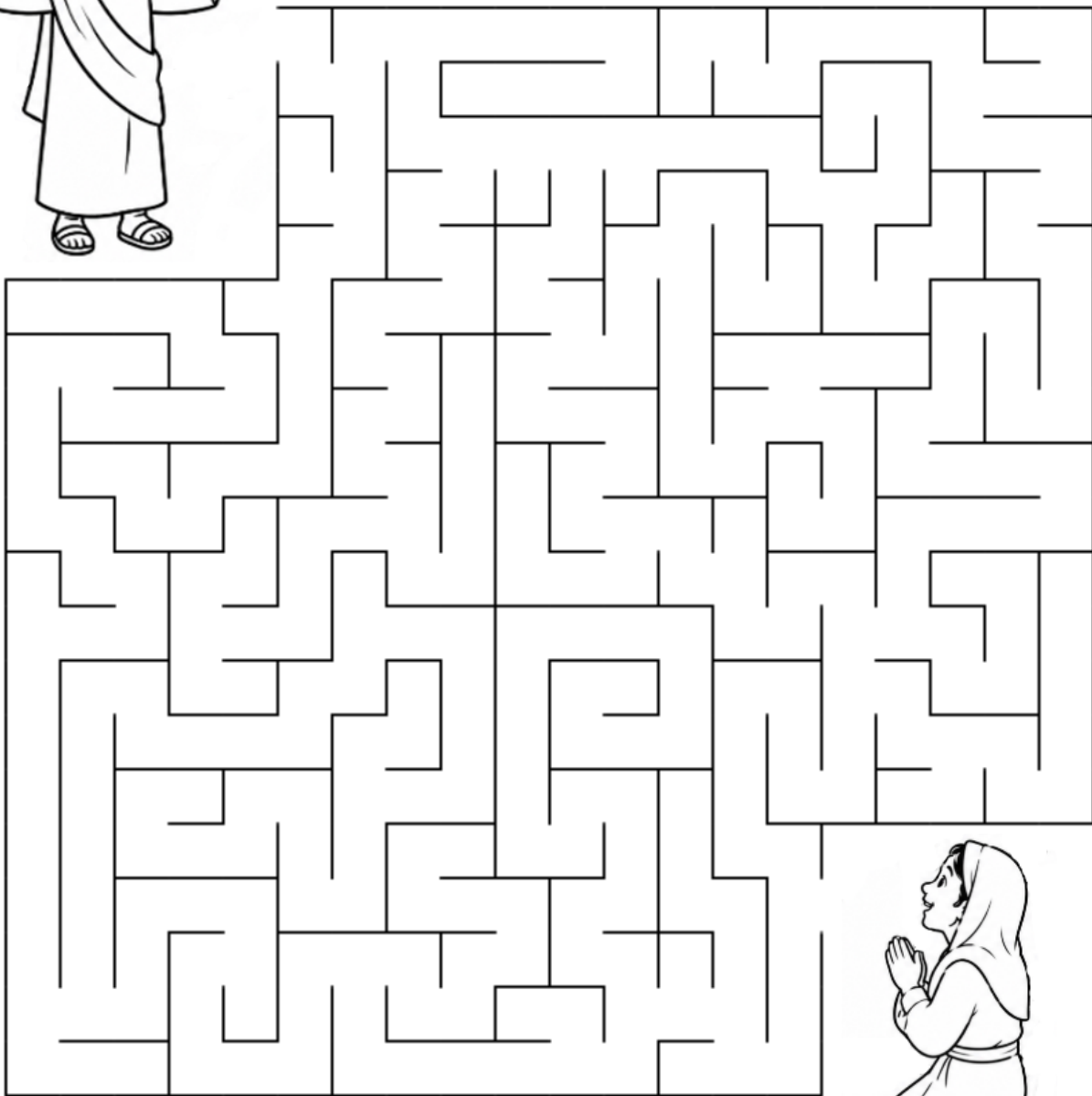
Family
Peace
Kindness
Promise
Faith
Unity



Jesus Loves Everyone

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Help the mother find her way to Jesus.



Jesus Loves Everyone

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
				20		23											2	14							

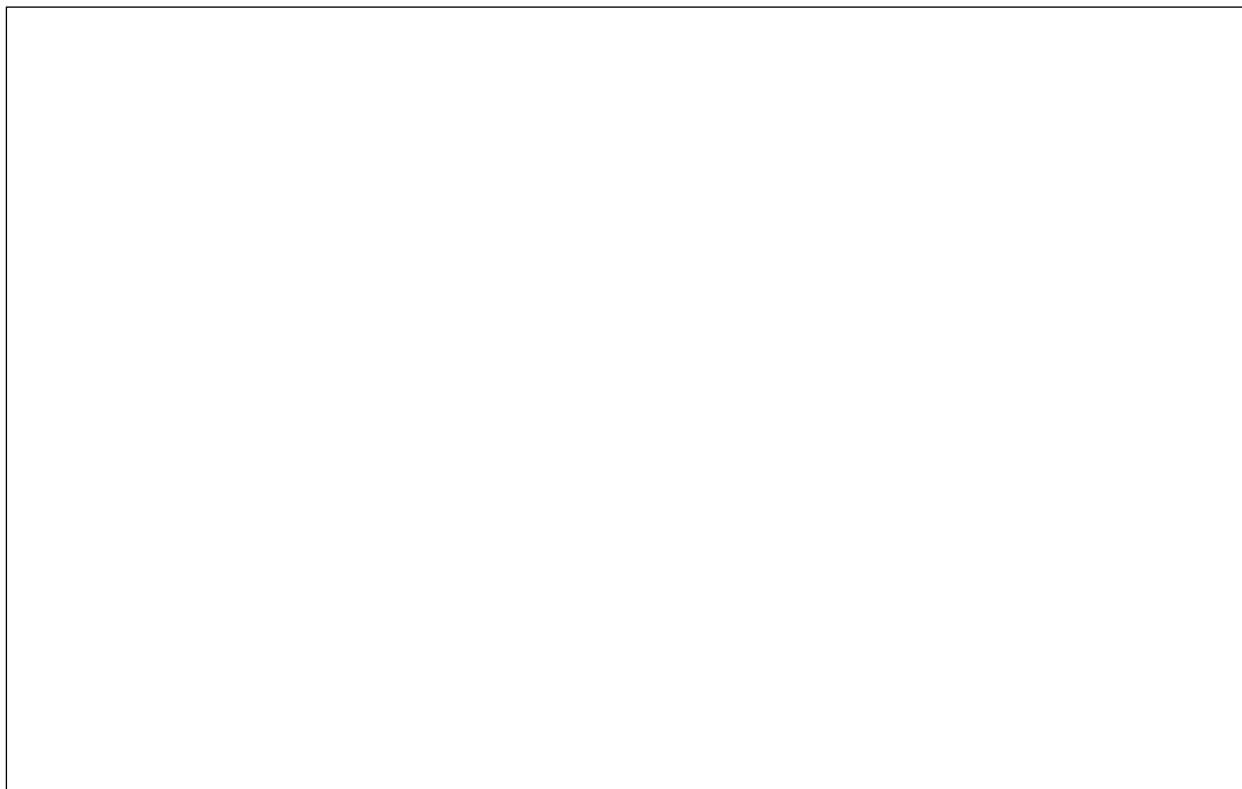
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>				<u>23</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>22</u>			<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>													
<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>					<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>20</u>														
<u>18</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>22</u>					<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>							<u>4</u>	<u>20</u>					
<u>23</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>					<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>							<u>3</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>26</u>					
<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>25</u>				<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>			<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>												
<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>										<u>18</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>						
<u>13</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>										<u>12</u>	<u>25</u>							
<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>				<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>26</u>						<u>25</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>									
<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>4</u>				<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>								<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>26</u>				
<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>					<u>20</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>											
<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>20</u>																						



Jesus Loves Everyone

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Draw yourself doing something kind for another person.



Crosswo



Across

- 2. God
- 5. Forgive
- 6. Peace
- 8. Prayers
- 9. Unity
- 10. Kindness

Down

- 1. Love
- 3. Everyone
- 4. Family
- 5. Faith
- 6. Promise
- 7. Jesus

Cryptogram – Key:

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.