

3. Move to the story corner. Read *Our Life Together*. Say: “Mother Theresa and Tsuveeg did beautiful things for God. What are some beautiful things you can do for God?” (Some answers you might hear: say a prayer, go to church, attend Sunday School, help parents, be kind to others, draw a picture for someone, play fairly with a friend, plant a seed or a flower.)
5 min.
4. Direct the children’s attention to the picture of an angel and St. Mary. Read the text, *God’s Word To Us*. Ask the children, “Do you remember the words of the angel Gabriel to Mary? What was Mary’s answer?” Read from *We Learn About God*.
5 min.
5. Say: “ Now let’s look at the picture which has three parts. This picture with three parts is called a triptych. Boys and girls, point to the center panel. This is Mary (Maryam) and the angel Gabriel. The Armenian word for angel is *hreshdag*. What is the angel saying to Mary? What is Mary saying to the angel? What the angel told Mary is called the Annunciation. The word “annunciation” means “something that is announced.” (Next, point to the picture of the candle.) In Armenian, it is called *mohm*. (Now point to the picture of the rose.) In Armenian, it is called *vart*.” The beautiful rose is a flower we associate with St. Mary.
5 min.
6. Snack.
10 min.
7. Distribute the triptych. Have the children color it and when they are finished they can cut it out. Distribute glue for children to glue the triptychs onto oak tag. Fold into thirds. Help them glue and sprinkle glitter on the haloes. The children can place the triptychs on the display table for everyone to see.
15 min.
8. Move to another area of the room where the children can stand to learn “*Mary’s Song*.” With the children, review the story and explain that this song was written just for Mary to show her how much we love her. Proceed to teach the words in Armenian and English. You can sing or say the verses. If you have access to musical instruments for young children, for example tambourine, triangle, sticks, use them as accompaniment to the song.
5 min.
9. Story Time: “A Way to Live”
Conclude story time: “We call the beautiful prayer Jesus taught us ‘The Lord’s Prayer’ – in Armenian, the ‘Hayr Mer.’ It is one of the many beautiful prayers you will learn in Sunday School.”
10. Dismiss the class.
5 min.

Lesson 9: Jesus is the Light of the World

Key Concepts

1. Jesus is the Son of God.
2. Jesus came to bring the message of hope and forgiveness.

Objectives

During this session, students will

1. Examine the display table.
2. Talk about cousins and friends.

3. Identify John the Baptist as a friend and cousin of Jesus.
4. Recall why God sent Jesus to us.
5. Sketch a special person in their lives.
6. Tell what happens at the *Jurakalooytz* service.
7. Make a lantern.
8. Learn and sing the “*Song of the Lanterns*.”

Materials Needed

1. On the display table place a finished lantern; magazine pictures of children playing; family photographs; a candle; flashlight; storm lantern or other type of lantern.
2. Pattern for lantern (see Appendix), precut lanterns (gray or brown construction paper – 2 folded sheets (17" X 22") per lantern), 1 sheet of yellow cellophane or tissue (5"x7"), glue. Lanterns need to be cut and ready before class begins. To make the lantern, there should be two pieces (front and back) for each child.
3. A Children’s Bible.

Procedure

1. Welcome children warmly and direct them to the display table. Discuss various light sources and the importance and benefits of light.
2. Stand to say the opening prayer together. 5 min.
3. Move the children to the story corner. Discuss *Our Life Together*. At this time, ask the children to think of the name of a good friend or cousin. You will need to write that name on the line provided. 10 min.
4. Read *God’s Word To Us*.
5. Move the class to their table. Say: “Find an empty space with a red line around it in your lesson. It is going to be a frame for the picture you are going to draw.” Read *We Learn About God*. Say: “I would like you to draw a picture of someone who loves you, who helps you and forgives you.” Offer suggestions, if needed. 5 min.
6. Snack. 10 min.
7. Read *Our Armenian Way*: “In your lesson, find the page with music. We will learn this song after we finish making lanterns. At the end of the *Jurakalooytz* service, all of the lights and candles in the church are lit. We are going to make a paper lantern to remind us of that service. *Jrak* means lantern in Armenian.” Ask the children to help you give out the supplies. Each child should get two gray (or brown) shapes and one sheet of yellow cellophane or yellow tissue paper to glue between the two shapes. 15 min.
8. Say: “And now we are ready to learn *The Song of the Lanterns*. You already know the tune of the song. Listen to the words. Say the words after me.” Sing the song once for the children. “Now let’s sing the song.” As a culmination, let the children walk around the room singing the song and waving their lanterns. 5 min.
9. Story Time: “Birds and Lilies”
Conclude story time: “How happy these people must have been to be helped by Jesus. And everyone was amazed just like we are when we read this story from the Bible.”
10. Dismissal. 10 min.