

Activity Page Instructions:

Today's activity page insert is a coloring page of our Synod 2021 logo. You are invited to work together as a family to decorate it or print additional copies at:

www.generalsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Draft-Day-1.pdf

We encourage you to combine this activity with the next 3 weeks of Synod activity pages to create a mural expanding from the logo you decorate today. To make a mural, get a poster board that you can add them all to or pick a wall or bulletin board you can post to. Don't forget to share your creativity online with #RootedInLove!



General Synod Children's Devotion

July 18, 2021 * Synod Devotion 1



Watch the video version instead which includes special music at <https://vimeo.com/564656814>



Welcome



Hello Church Family! Welcome to General Synod 33 Children Devotions. General Synod 33 began July 11th and ends today.

Let's start with the big question, what is *synod*? No, *synod* is not a made-up word. It is just a really old word that means, a meeting. This summer, our whole, big church, the United Church of Christ will be meeting, or connecting all across the country. Some from churches and some from home.

Over the course of the next few weeks, we will be exploring topics from General Synod 33 together. We hope these devotions will help connect you to God and to a church that is bigger than you might know. Each devotion will have a scripture, reflection, closing pray, and an activity sheet that you can do with your family, friends, or by yourself. May these devotions create conversations about God and how God is at work in the world! Conversations about God that allow us to learn from each other, building roots of faith for all of us, nurturing what God has been growing in our hearts.

Verse of the Day



They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season. (Psalm 1:3a, NRSV).

Today's Reflection

By Robbie Arovelos, Youth Director

Church of the Foothills UCC (Southern CA & Nevada Conference)



People are planting all over the place. Some are farmers who plant in fields with long rows, watched over by crows. Some are grandmas, who plant pots full of flowers and share them on the balcony of apartment towers. Some are children, planting one seed at a time. Some are older, singing as they plant their rosemary and thyme.

People are planting all over the place. Some may be tiny mustard seed that will grow into a large bush. Some may be large nuts planted by squirrels that are buried in a rush. Some may bring fruit that we can all share. Some may be flowers, whose scents fill the air.

People are planting all over the place. The earth opens up to welcome each seed. The creation provides what each plant will need. The water, the sun, the earth below are provided by God who help us all grow.

I wonder what you might plant?

I wonder how you will take care of God's creation?

I wonder how God might use your hands?

Praising God Together

Song written by Reverend Tracey Powell.

Sung by Phoebe Spier, Managing Director at UCC Camp Retreat Center N. Wisconsin.



The world is in God's hands,
Which are our hands,
Which are God's hands.
(Repeat 4 more times)

Oh, and justice will come.
Yeah.....
It's embodied in us.
(Repeat 3 more times)

The world is in God's hands,
Which are our hands,
Which are God's hands.

Listen to the song and sing along at [Sing along at https://vimeo.com/564656814](https://vimeo.com/564656814) (or sing it to your own tune!)

A Prayer to Say Together:

Prayer by Karen Georgia Thompson

Creator,

We give thanks for all the blessings of the earth. Help us remember how connected we are to all you created including our big UCC Church family. Amen.



