



All age Christmas service outline

Please adapt these suggestions to suit the needs of your church



Reg charity no 299717
(England) and SC049792
(Scotland)



Welcome to the service. Explain that in this service you will be thinking about what Christmas means to us and how you can support families in rural Africa to grow healthier futures by helping to provide trees!

Carol: Once in Royal David's City

First reading: Luke 1: 26 - 55 (an angel appears to Mary; Mary's song)

Carol: Away in a Manger

Children's Quiz: Stand up/sit down

Stand up if the answer is yes. Sit down if the answer is no!

1. Who has put up their Christmas tree already?
2. Who has more than one Christmas tree?
3. Who has decorated the outside of their house with Christmas decorations?
4. Who's good at climbing trees?
5. Who has ever planted a tree?

Second reading: Isaiah 55:1-13

Talk. Here are some points for you to consider to include in your talk:

- Ask the children:
 1. What does a tree need to grow? (Sun, rain, soil...)
 2. Why are trees important to us? (Clean air, shelter, habitats for wildlife...)
 3. In what ways does climate change affect us in this country? (Flash floods, endangered wildlife...)



- Explain that, for those people who contribute least to the problem of climate change, they are experiencing the greatest impact. Introduce them to Zemuye on the PowerPoint. For Zemuye, climate change is preventing her from being able to feed her family, but with Send a Cow's support that can change. Send a Cow is providing trees and training to help protect land that's being devastated by climate change and helping



Zemuye, Ethiopia

- Isaiah 55 speaks of the rain and the snow coming down from heaven, making the earth bud and flourish. This is what we pray for Zemuye and her family.

'The trees in the fields shall clap their hands.' What an image! With your support we will be able to provide families like Zemuye's with trees and training, so that they can transform their lives from being fearful of the future, to be able to dream dreams!

Song: You shall go out with joy

Prayer:

Thank you Heavenly Father for the abundance you give us. Thank you for the joy we have at this time of year when we remember the birth of Jesus. Let's pray for families like Zemuye's, and ask that you would bless them and that they would know the joy of Christmas this year and that with the support of Send a Cow they would be able to combat the effects of climate change. Amen

Final carol: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



However you make your collections at this point in time, can you dedicate yours to help transform the lives of families like Zemuye's?



£315 will provide 15 trees for families like Zemuye's in rural Africa and help them tackle the devastating effects of climate change.



For further information and resources visit
sendacow.org/church-christmas