

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY

# UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church®



# UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*While your congregation may observe it at any time, United Methodist Student Day is traditionally celebrated on the fourth Sunday of November. In 2021, the date coincides with the First Sunday of Advent. This children's message is based on the lectionary readings for November 28, 2021 and can be adapted for any Sunday and to fit your context.*

*The liturgy, sermon starter and offering talk are designed to work together with the children's sermon or may stand alone to celebrate United Methodist Student Day in your congregation*

### **Supplies needed:**

- Backpack
- Sack lunch/lunchbox
- School supplies
- Hand sanitizer
- Bible,
- Children's prayer book
- Communion plate and cup

**If you have college students in your congregation, invite them to gather with the children.**

### **SAY:**

Stay alert at all times, praying that you are strong enough to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand before the Human One."

Luke 21:36, CEB

### **REPEAT AFTER ME:**

"Stay alert at all times."

### **SAY:**

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and we are beginning to count down to the day that Jesus was born. One of the ways we do this is by lighting the Advent candle. Each week we will light a new candle.

Today we heard the words of Jesus saying that we should be alert. Alert means "aware" or "prepared." These are some of the items that we might need to be prepared for school so that we can be stronger students.

Show the children a backpack filled with things like a lunch, school supplies and hand sanitizer.



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So I wonder what supplies might help us be stronger students of Jesus? How are we prepared for him to be in our lives? One of the ways we do this right now is by lighting the Advent candle. But there are other ways as well.

Show the children items like a Bible, a children's prayer book, a Communion plate and cup.

### Gesture to the congregation and say:

Do you know that this whole church is also a source of learning and support for you? This congregation loves you and prays for you. And today they are also joining with other churches to support college students who grew up in churches like ours—students who once were children like you but now are growing up and need more school supplies including money, love and prayers.

Today is a day that we prepare for Jesus by celebrating students of all ages. It is United Methodist Student Day. We want you to know that this church will be here for you throughout your whole life to help you follow Jesus, stay strong in school and to love and pray for you.

### Let's pray:

Dear God,  
Thank you for these students and for this congregation who cares for them. Be with all students as they prepare themselves in body, mind and spirit to serve you and your people. Thank you for loving us so much that you sent Jesus.  
Amen.



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