

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES



# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



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

# Children's Message



On **Native American Ministries Sunday**, you are invited to incorporate this children's message into your order of worship. The message can stand alone or be used to coordinate with the Native American Ministries sermon starter, children's activity, offering talk, liturgy and children's bulletin.

**Prepare an image of the "Lamb of God."**  
For example, this one:



<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/diglib-fulldisplay.pl?SID=2021122040371308&code=act&RC=58989&Row=24>

Or use a lamb stuffed animal.

## Say:

Repeat after me today's memory verse from Revelation 5:13:

"To the Lamb"

"be blessing and honor"

"and glory and might"

"forever and ever!"

If you have a photo of a "Lamb of God," or a stuffed animal, hold it up.

## Then say:

Did you know that this verse in the Bible was written many years after the first Easter? It was during a time that it was dangerous to follow Jesus. And John, who wrote this book of the Bible, used the word "lamb" as a code word to share about Jesus. So this message is saying that we honor Jesus, the Lamb of God, forever.

What are some other ways that we talk about who Jesus is? (allow for answers: Christ, Messiah, savior, etc.)

# Children's Message

Today we are continuing to celebrate Easter. And we also celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday. A common tradition in Native American culture is to name people based on different qualities they have. For example, these are the names of historically famous Native Americans (source: <https://www.ethnictechnologies.com/blog/2018/10/2/native-american-naming-traditions>). (Select 2-3 to share and invite the children to pantomime them):

**Crazy Horse** (Thašúŋke Witk):

Lakota: "His-Horse-Is-Crazy"

**Sitting Bull** (nicknamed Húnkešni):

Lakota Sioux Plains: "Slow"

**Squanto** (also known as Tisquantum):

Patuxet Tribe: "divine rage"

**Geronimo**: Chiricahua Apache Tribe:

"the one who yawns"

**Sacajawea**: Shoshone:

"Bird-woman"

These are not code names but names that were gifted in a ceremony that considers the special qualities of each person.

It's similar to Jesus as the Lamb of God who was gifted to us to show us how to love one another and love God.

God has given us so many ways to express ourselves! We remember that, as followers of Jesus, we are more alike than we are different. And, sometimes, we might sing different songs or pray differently. No matter what language we speak, we are all part of God's family. The Lakota people have a saying, "Mitákuye Oyás'ín," which means "we are all related."

## Repeat after me:

"To the Lamb"

"be blessing and honor"

"and glory and might"

"forever and ever!"

## Please pray with me:

Thank you, Creator, for these children, for the many ways to express our praise, and for the many languages and traditions of your people. Thank you for our Native American church family. Show us how to best honor your son, Jesus, the Lamb of God, through our relationships with one another. Amen.

