

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020

Psalm 114



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INTRO

Share a piece of art you love and why it's important.

DISCUSSION

- Do you ever make art? (Give examples like coloring, drawing, painting, writing poems or stories, crafts, etc.)
- Why do you make art? What do you enjoy about it?
- Do you ever make art to show how you feel? Why does making art help with that?

WRAP-UP

Tell the children today's scripture is a psalm that celebrates God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Briefly describe how the pharaoh in Egypt forced the Israelites to do hard, dangerous work without pay, or any human rights, to build his empire. Explain that many countries over the centuries have enslaved people to build up wealth and power—including America—even though it is unjust. Then, describe how God freed the Israelites, briefly mentioning the plagues, the Passover, the parting of the sea, etc. Show the children the illustration for the day. Tell the children how the psalm is a poem that uses art and creative expression to depict God's wonder, strength, and loyalty toward the Israelites. In the poem, God even taunts the mountains and the seas—which should be immovable forces or objects—saying that they trembled and fled. Explain how art like this psalm can be a way to resist (push back against) mighty powers and oppressive forces that harm people. Invite the children to look around for art that resists mistreatment and unfair practices in their communities—in the church, at their schools, public spaces, even at home. Perhaps also provide some examples of your own. Invite the children to pray with you as you close.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for art and all the ways you give us to express ourselves. Thank you for caring for your people and for calling on us to resist injustice. **Amen.**

