

“I will write it on their hearts!”

Jeremiah 31:33

(“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.” These words are from the prophet Jeremiah. He speaks God’s Word to a grieving community that is unwilling to change its ways. The king and his court insist that the temple and the law is all that they need. Jeremiah is telling them that a new covenant must be formed – a covenant of the heart – not a covenant based on the temple and the law. Children learn that God is within us and God lives within our hearts. Let’s journey with the children as we again affirm the presence of God within our hearts and souls.)

Good morning boys and girls!

This morning I am trying to find someone,

And I don’t know where to look.

Can you help me?

Can you look and see?

Is it a he or is it a she?

Is he under the pew?

Or is she sitting next to you?

I am not sure if he is tall or if she is small,

Or if she has a big nose or if he has very large toes.

If don’t know when he walks if he stomps

Or when she chews if she chomps.

Is he or she in a tree?

How silly that would be!

He is not on my shoulder,

She is not under a bolder.

He is not on my knee,

As you can clearly see.

Is she in my tummy?

Umm – yummy, yummy!

I am told he is here.

I am told she is there.

Who am I looking for?

What is his or her name?

I am looking for God and Jesus

Who are one in the same!

Where did God go?

I don’t know!

It might surprise you to know
That God is at church and wherever you go.
God is at school and in the park,
He is always with you – even in the dark!
Where did he go? Where can he be?
God is right here if we just open our eyes and see.
Down from my eyes and below my chin,
Inside my heart – God is within!
Thumping and pumping he keeps me alive.
Thumping and pumping deep down inside.
God is right here (pointing to my heart)
God is right there (pointing to the heart of one of the children).
God is everywhere!

Let us pray.
Dear God,
I heard you this morning as I awoke.
You gave me a poke.
Thumping and pumping you're in my heart.
Thumping and pumping you give me a start.
Help me to listen to father and mother,
Help me to care for sister and brother.
Teach me to touch the heart of another.
Teach me to hug and how to love.
Thumping and pumping you're in my heart.
Thumping and pumping you give me a start.
Thumping and pumping you keep me alive.
Thumping and pumping you are deep down inside.
Amen.

- Rev. Larry D. Laine

(The words at the beginning of this message can be addressed to the congregation as the children are coming forward to join you. To make reference to the scripture text will help the members of the church make the connection between the scripture and the message you are sharing with the children. The prayer is done in repetition - the children and the congregation repeat the phrases of the prayer after you.)