



## ***God Is Our Father***

### **Engage: Page 15**

- ▶ Invite your child to help you plan a meal for your family to show that you care. Make each person a special place mat, using construction paper and markers.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. Point out the picture. **Ask:** *Who do you think gave this girl her bowl of food? Why do you think we prepare meals for one another?* **Say:** *In this session we will find out how God our Father cares for us.*
- ▶ Together set the table for your meal and remind your child that God provides for his creation just as you are providing a meal for your family. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### **Explore: Pages 16–17**

- ▶ Together make a list of the things you do to care for a real or an imaginary pet. Discuss why it is important to be a loving caregiver.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud page 16. **Ask:** *Who feeds and cares for birds and flowers in nature? (God)* **Say:** *We can trust God to care for us the way he cares for the birds and flowers.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *We pray this prayer during Mass to be one with God and one another.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 17. Point out the vocabulary words. **Ask:** *What are some reasons we might pray a prayer of petition? (to ask for help with our cares or worries, to ask God to bless our families)* *For what can you praise God? (my family, home, pet)* **Say:** *The Lord's Prayer is a prayer of praise because we honor God. It is also a prayer for petition because we ask for God's help.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Say:** *As you prepare for the Sacraments of the Eucharist and of Reconciliation, your heart shares the excitement your godparents and I had on the day you were baptized.*

### **Art Exploration: Page 237**

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a view of Earth from space.



- ▶ **Say:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the land and the water.
- ▶ **Say:** *God takes care of all of his creation, including us.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 237. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Together read aloud Trust in God. **Ask:** *What are some things God has created for us that show his love and care?* (people to care for us, nature, food)
- ▶ Read aloud Resting in God's Hands and discuss the question. Have your child write how it might feel to be held lovingly in God's hands. Compare his or her answer to your own.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Ask:** *What does Peter tell us to do in his letter?* (trust in God) *What does he tell us not to do?* (worry)
- ▶ Invite your child to use blue and green paper on a blue background to make an earth like the one in the picture. Ask him or her to cut out pictures, such as animals and plants, to represent God's creation. Have your child include this caption: *God gives us the gift of his creation.* Display the art in your home.

### Reflect: Pages 18–19

- ▶ Together look at page 18. **Ask:** *How does the boy show he is praying?* (hands together, eyes closed) Remind your child that he or she is in the holy presence of God while praying.
- ▶ Read aloud the first two paragraphs. **Say:** *This is an important prayer because Jesus taught it to us. It is important to take it to heart. I will help you.* Invite your child to read the Lord's Prayer with you slowly and reverently. Allow time for silent prayer. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first sentence on page 19. **Say:** *Find the place in the Lord's Prayer where we praise God.* ("hallowed be thy name") **Say:** *Find the place in the Lord's Prayer where we bring God our needs.* ("Give us this day our daily bread.")
- ▶ Read aloud the directions for Picture of Praise. **Ask:** *How do you feel when you are praising God? Are you happy? Are you alone or with a friend?* Have your child complete the activity.

### Respond: Page 20

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can listen to a parent.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.