

**Children's address - 09-05-24, Easter 7, Year B**  
**Acts 1:15-17 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19**

**God's hole-y people**

- A few weeks ago I ripped my pants. There was a big hole in them, so I couldn't wear them any longer. That wasn't good.
- But sometimes holes can be good.
- A door or a window is just a dressed-up hole in a wall, yet without them we couldn't get into our homes, or see what is happening in our front yard.
- A garden hose has two holes in it, one at either end - and if either hole were missing, we'd have a lot of trouble watering our gardens.
- And a balloon has to have a hole, so that we can blow it up!
- We have holes in us, too: our ears, our eyes, our nostrils (noses), our mouths. We need them, to hear, and see, and breath, and eat, and speak.
- And there are other holes in our lives: ways in which people can see what sort of person we are, and ways in which the love and grace of God can shine through us.
- Sometimes the holes made by sadness - when we miss someone who has died, or when it feels like there's a great big hole in our hearts because our friend has said they don't want to be friends any more - sometimes these can be a way in for God to come close to us. Sometimes we need to trust God more.
- And we need to have holes in our lives so that we can reach out to other people. If we were totally closed off from everybody, there'd be no way to make friends, or to help someone who needed our help. That's when the grace of God can flow through us, like water through the garden hose.
- God gives us God's love, and God's grace - we're filled with them, like a balloon that's blown up. But if we share that love, what happens then? Do we go down, like a balloon that we've had for a week or more? Or like a balloon when you blow it up and ... *fizzt* ... all over the room, and then is all limp and flat? No, it's not like that ... because there are actually two holes: the one through which the love of God pours out of us, and the one through which the love of God pours into us - pours into our hearts and our minds and our lives forever.
- So you see, it's good to be God's hole-y people. Amen.