Hide & Seek; Feast with Music



Students will play hide-and-seek. Once all the children have been found, enjoy a feast to celebrate the lost son's return. The activity includes a page to color with the father's gifts to his son and a space for children to draw their own gifts from their Heavenly Father.

1. The prodigal son went far away from his father—all the way to a foreign land where his father couldn't see him any more. There, it seems, he forgot all about his father.
2. Do you think his father forgot about him? (No.) How do we know this? (As soon as he saw his son come back, he ran to meet him—he was very excited to see him.)
3. Just like the son, you are all going to go into a place where I can't see you. And then, like the father, I will hurry out to find each one of you!
4. Teacher hides his or her eyes and counts out loud until the children hide themselves. Let the children know that you are coming to look for them.
5. Once one child is found, express great excitement, and invite him or her to go with you to find the others.
6. When all the children have been found, invite them to a feast to celebrate.
7. *Optional*: give each child a robe to put on and talk about the other gifts the father gave his son—a ring and some sandals.
8. Enjoy the feast. *Optional:* watch the video of The Prodigal Son Song to add to the celebration at www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-the-prodigal-son-song/.
9. If you have extra time, hand out the coloring page, *Gifts for the Prodigal Son* (p. 2), and crayons. Once the children have colored the robe, ring and sandals, invite them to draw pictures of things the Lord has given them on the other side of the page. If you don't have time, give the chil-dren the pictures to take home.

Materials Needed

good hiding places (maybe outside); food and drink for a feast; *Gifts for the Prodigal Son* p. 2; crayons or markers *optional:* "robes" to put on for the feast; video of The Prodigal Son Song at www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-the-prodigal-son-song/

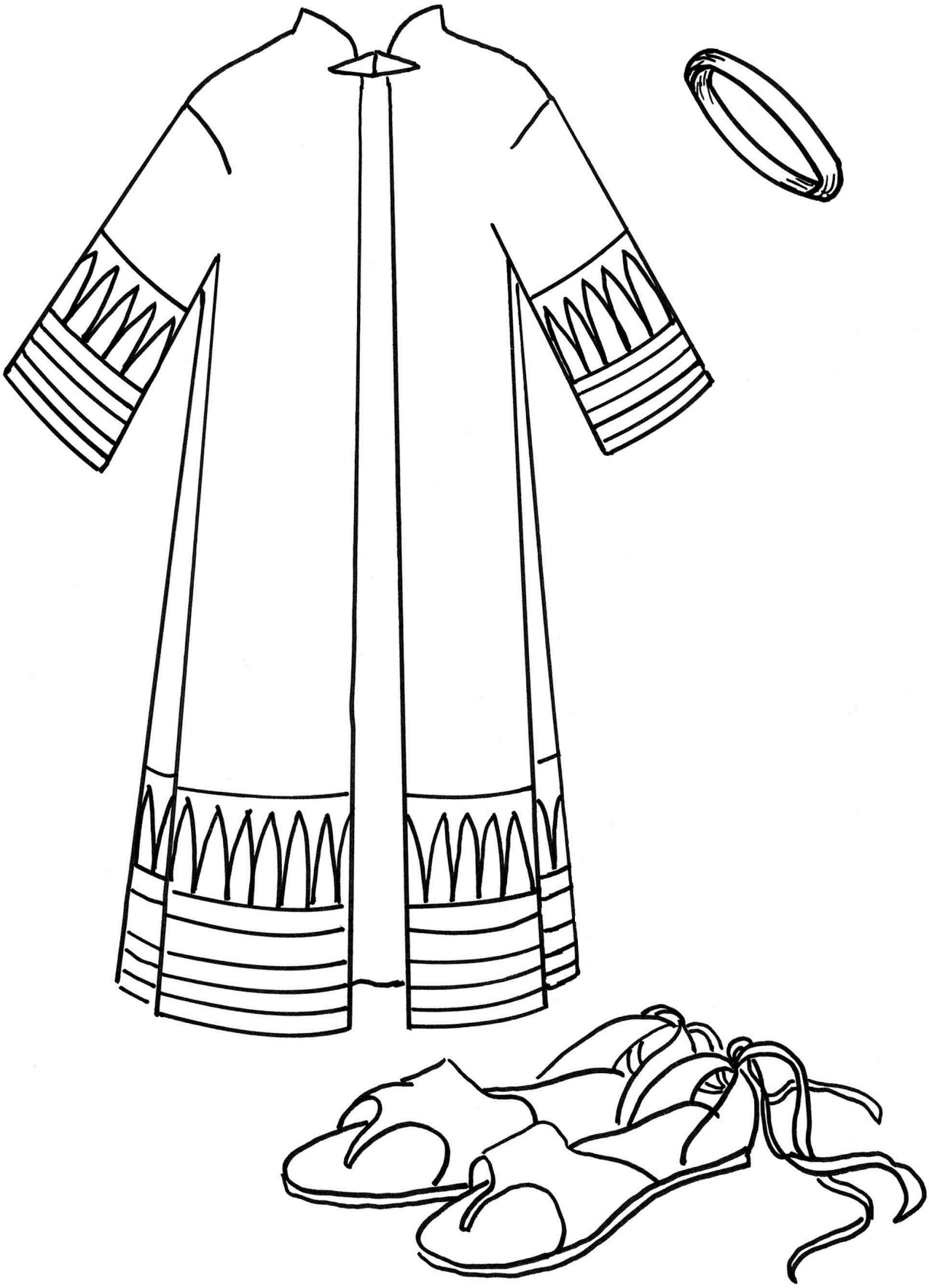
Prepare in Advance

Think of a good hide-and-seek location. Prepare food and set up a feasting table where the children will not see it.

Optional: prepare robes for the children to wear during the feast. Set up the video.

New Church Concept The Robe and Feast

The best robe that is given to the son means important first truths. The ring means the conjunction of good and truth in the internal person. The fatted calf symbolizes the goodness of love and charity. Eating and being merry mean heavenly joy and affection. See *Apocalypse Explained* 279



Gifts for the Prodigal Son