

What is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) uses Scripture, liturgy, and insight from the Montessori teaching method to help children engage with God, learn about his kingdom, and celebrate his great gift to us of himself.

CGS takes place in the atrium, a space set apart for the children to work and worship. Any activity that is beneficial to the human person, including play and learning, is considered work.

A trained catechist (adult leader) presents short narratives and parables from Scripture or introduces the children to a liturgical element that deepens engagement in the life of faith. The children then have the freedom to return to that work when they visit the atrium. These works often include hands on pieces: models (such as the Good Shepherd and his sheep) or elements of a parable (such as real mustard seeds). Art supplies and other forms of contemplative work are also available for the children's use.

Each session in the atrium includes time around the prayer table where we read a verse of Scripture together, pray, and sing songs of worship. As liturgical seasons change, we have processions and celebrations to mark major events in the great story of salvation.

These sessions take place during the week on church property. There is a link to the schedule on the Children's Ministry webpage.