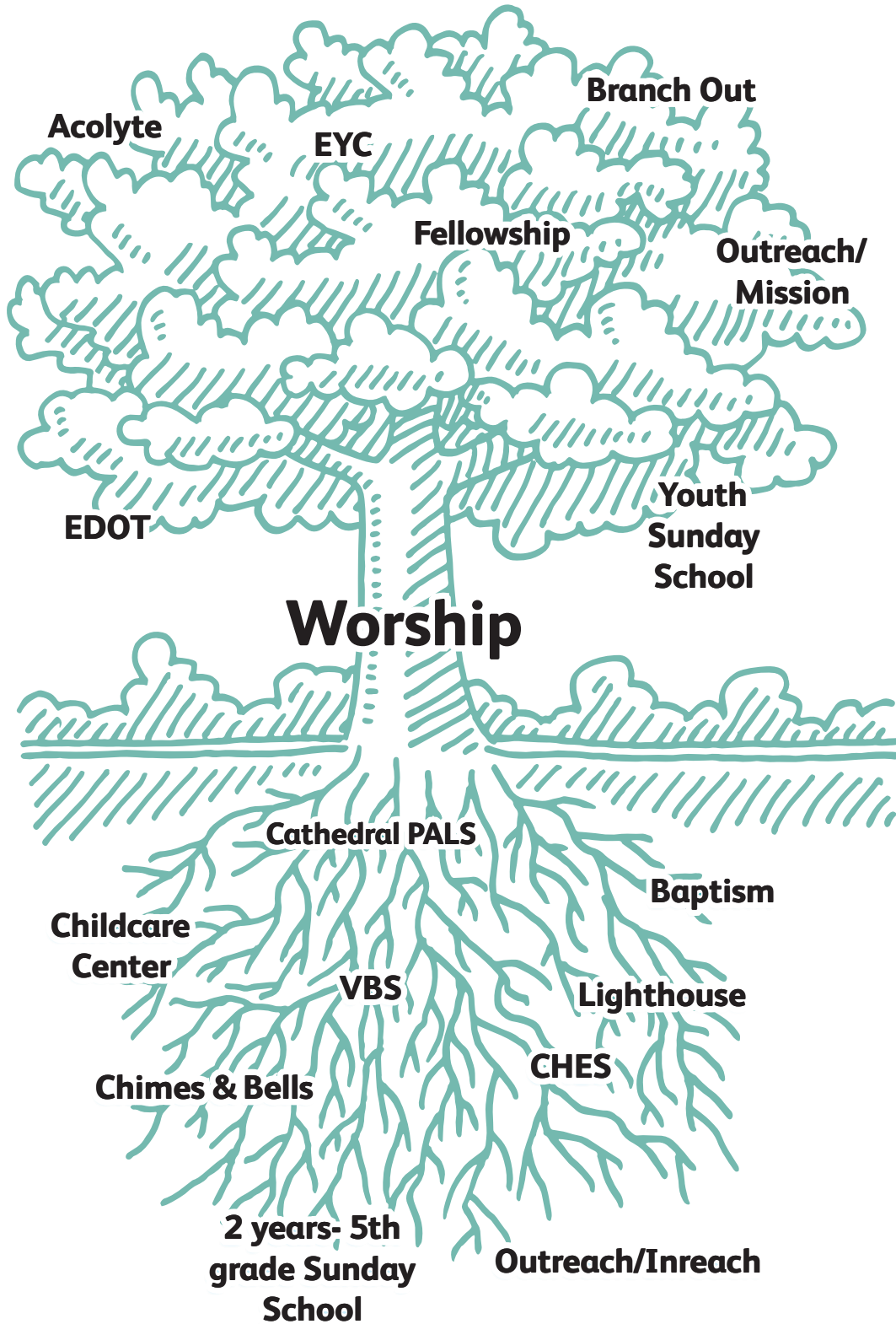


---

# ROOTS TO FRUITS

---



Christ Church Cathedral Children and Youth Ministries

**“Roots to Fruits”** is Christ Church Cathedral’s holistic vision for children and youth spiritual formation and community service. It is a comprehensive program of Christian education designed to track alongside the developmental stages (physical, cognitive, social-emotional) of children and youth from birth through high school.

Here’s a brief outline adapted from the Learning Goals for Children found on the EDOT website:

## PRESCHOOL – 1ST GRADE

- to know God loves the child deeply.
- to talk with and respond to God.
- to know that we’re God’s children, created by God to love.
- to experience church as a lively, secure place where people care and listen to them.
- to know teachers’ and classmates’ names.
- to explore Old Testament stories and many New Testament stories, especially stories of Jesus.
- to learn key phrases from the church’s liturgy: *And also with you. Thanks be to God.*
- to understand at baptism we are washed with water and welcomed into God’s family.
- to understand at communion we eat bread and drink wine, happy that God loves us.
- to know the names, colors, and symbols of the liturgical seasons.

## 2ND – 5TH GRADE

- to begin to understand and relate to God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.
- to feel comfortable with spontaneous prayer and to have experienced various kinds of prayer (intercession, thanksgiving, and praise).
- to understand God creates and loves our world and we in turn are responsible for caring for it.
- to know the Bible stories that recount Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost events.
- to understand Jesus’ acts, as recounted in the Bible, that lead to our celebrations of Baptism and Eucharist and recognize the actions of both sacraments as experienced in worship.
- to understand key phrases from worship — the Nicene or Apostles’ Creed, The Lord’s Prayer, and the Ten Commandments.
- to experience church as a welcoming community, knowing they are an important part of the people of God.

## JUNIOR HIGH

- to begin to expand a role in the church family: serving as an acolyte, volunteering at Youth Service days.
- to memorize and understand key phrases from worship services and biblical passages: the Nicene Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Lord’s Prayer, the Confession, certain prayers.
- to master Bible skills; to be able to read and discuss short biblical passages.
- to explore the plot and characters in Jesus’ parables.
- to become familiar with stories of Jesus’ care for the sick, the poor, and the outcast.
- to gain an understanding of Church seasons, colors, and symbols, creating symbols with personal meaning.
- to explore the liturgies for Eucharist and Baptism, connecting the sacraments with biblical events and our relationship to God today.
- to explore promises we make to God (Baptismal vows), connecting them to daily actions.
- to pursue study leading to a choice about Confirmation.

## SENIOR HIGH

- to begin building a more mature self-image, more stable relationships (outside of the family), and a more coherent understanding of the world.
- to continue involvement in ministry and outreach.
- to begin to identify one’s gifts and interests.
- to be able to explain the biblical story of God’s people and the life of Jesus.
- to begin to reflect on scripture and its meaning in our lives.
- to understand the format of the lectionary and how it ties to the liturgical calendar.
- to reflect on and discuss moral issues with integrity and love.
- to gain a sense of responsibility for belonging to large and small communities.
- to become familiar with books related to the Episcopal tradition (Bible, The Book of Common Prayer).
- to understand the basic governing structure and polity of the Episcopal church.

# Christ Church Cathedral Children and Youth Ministries

## Birth, Preschool, Kindergarten

Worship Sundays Services at 8, 9, 11, 1, 5  
Baptism

Childcare Center safe and loving childcare to support families and their growing needs  
CHES Cathedral House Episcopal School (SAES accredited Montessori preschool)  
VBS Vacation Bible School

## Elementary

Instruction in Eucharist

Chimes & Bells

Lighthouse Programming

for children with special needs

Cathedral PALS

Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday offering

2 YEAR OLDS: SPARK Twos (lectionary-based faith foundation)

K – 1ST GRADE: Cathedral Godly Play (Montessori-based faith formation)

2ND – 5TH GRADE: Rotation Sunday School (workshop Bible story-based faith formation)

VBS

Outreach/Inreach

## Junior & Senior High

Acolyte at the 9, 11, and 1 o’clock services

Fellowship

Confirmation (Confirm not Conform, an Episcopal Curriculum)

Youth Sunday School (Living the Good News, an Episcopal Lectionary Curriculum)

EYC: Episcopal Youth Community

EDOT: Episcopal Diocese of Texas

Outreach/Mission

Branch Out: Meeting with students outside the walls of the Cathedral

# ROOTS TO FRUITS