On December 15 the Kids Klub children brought the congregation a message for new life as we await the birth of Baby Jesus. They began by asking, “What kind of world will Baby Jesus be welcomed into? Will he be welcomed into a world that’s healthy for all God’s creation, or will it be a world that is hurting and sick from global warming?” They brought a message of how important it is for all of us to become good stewards of God’s creation, as the children lead the way.

Since September the children have been learning and practicing the Three R’s of Stewardship: Re-Use, Reduce, and Recycle. They started to encourage church-wide participation by hosting a workshop to make Christmas ornaments from recycled materials. Our Christmas tree in the chancel displayed the beauty and the whimsy of brightly colored stars, flowers, wreaths, snow men, and reindeer ornaments that began as plastic bottles, tab tops from soda cans, paper bags, CDs, and old keys.
No Christmas program is complete without music, so the children recycled a folk song from the ‘60s, *This Land Is Your Land*, and they sang it to new words (author unknown):

Verse 1
We must take care of the world we live in.
We must not waste what nature has given.
We need clean air, soil, and water, too,
   This land was made for me and you!

CHORUS
This land is our land; we must respect it.
We must protect it, and not neglect it.
If we take care of what we've been given
   This land will stay for you and me!

Verse 2
We breathe the air and we feel the sunlight,
Our plants need water and soil to grow right.
   We need both plants and animals, too.
This land was made for me and you! [Chorus]

Verse 3
Pollution poisons our air and farmlands.
It's not from nature, but from our own hands.
   The health of nature rests on what you do.
This land was made for me and you! [Chorus]

The children invited everyone to join them in this new mission, *Going and Growing Green in the Holy Spirit*, and gifted each person in worship with eating utensils that they can carry with them to cut down on the single-use plastic ware in circulation. Each act of stewardship, no matter how small, is significant in leading us toward a more global consciousness of the life-giving truth that we are part of a magnificent interdependent web of life created and sustained by our loving God.
“Save God’s Creation” A set of reusable utensils to carry with you to reduce consumption of single-use plastic utensils.