

Fresh Approach Collective Worship Planning

Year B Term 4

Lent, Jesus' example/ministry and Easter.



Week 1	Lent
Week 2	Jesus cares and provides
Week 3	Following Jesus' example
Week 4	Exploring the Eucharist
Week 5	Holy Week 1
Week 6	Holy Week 2



Week 4 – Exploring the Eucharist

This week's worship explores the features of the Eucharist service and its importance to Christians within worship. You might want to get advice and support from your vicar during this week, so the pupils can get a feel of how communion is celebrated in the local parish church. It is important that these acts of worship remain invitational, inclusive of all and non-confessional.

Holy Week Collect:

Almighty God whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for him: give us the will to be the servant of others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

These plans continue from Term 3, the life of Jesus. Week 2,3 and 5 continue with stories from the Gospel panel of the Big Frieze.



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Lent – Jesus’ ministry - Easter					
Liturgical colour	Monday <i>Whole School</i>	Tuesday <i>Whole School</i>	Wednesday <i>Whole School</i> <i>Psalm Praise / Singing</i> <i>Worship</i>	Thursday <i>Worship in the classroom</i>	Friday <i>Celebration worship</i>
Week 1: 24/2/20 Lent	<p>Lent – remembering Jesus’ temptation Luke 4v1-12</p> <p>This week we start Lent, a time when Christians remember Jesus spending 40 days in the desert, fasting & praying, as they prepare for Easter.</p> <p><i>‘There is a time for everything’</i> (Ecclesiastes 3v1). Are we surprised that, right after God the Father affirming Jesus as God’s Son at his baptism, Jesus is sent into the desert to be tempted? Can this really be God’s plan?</p> <p>Have you ever been ‘tempted’ to do something? How easy was it to do what you knew was right? Is it harder if you are lonely/hungry?</p> <p>Read Luke 4v1-12, an account of the events. Who was Jesus tempted by and what was he tempted to do? Jesus was the Son of God! So could he have done these things? What kind of leader was Jesus showing he was?</p> <p>Unlike the Israelites who spent 40 years in the Sinai desert (Deuteronomy 8v2&3), Jesus resisted temptation, and proved that his heart wanted to follow God’s commands. As the Son of God, he chose God’s way. How did Jesus find strength and the right answers when he was tempted? (<i>Exodus 20v3</i>,</p>	<p>Shrove Tuesday: Matthew 4 v1-4, Psalm 51</p> <p>You could start with some pancake facts. <i>Pancake day/‘Mardi Gras’ is a chance to use up food, to enable Christians to ‘fast’ and focus on prayer leading up to Easter. On Shrove Tuesday, Christians confess and ask forgiveness for the wrong they have done as they start preparing for the greatest celebration ever: remembering Jesus’ resurrection and how it has brought new life, at Easter. Traditionally a ‘shriving bell’ called Christians to confess/pray. Fasting can enable us to focus our senses on worshipping God, rather than on ‘bread alone’/treats.</i></p> <p>Read Matthew 4:1-4. Reflect: What are our lives too full of? Do we need to give something up in order to have time this Lent to focus on God? Do we need to give up chocolate, TV, gadgets or x-box time, or maybe give up pride, selfishness, envy? Will we spend our time missing treats, or use it to focus on relationships, gratitude, and think about our values? What does God want us to give up/sacrifice? What new way of life does He want?</p> <p>Jesus took time in the desert to talk to God. How can we hear and understand God’s words so we can live by/be guided by them, not just focusing on food/treats ‘bread alone’? You could use Psalm 51:1-4 & 10-12 to reflect, or the confederate soldier’s prayer:</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday ‘Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ’</p> <p>Psalm 103:8-17</p> <p>Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Traditionally at the ‘ashing’ service, Christians say sorry and may be marked with an ash cross on their foreheads to symbolise repentance (could be the ashes of last year’s palm crosses).</p> <p>Ashes in the bible symbolise saying mourning and saying sorry, <i>‘So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.’</i> (Daniel 9v3) Ashes also remind us that humans were formed from dust, and that this life is temporary, that we look forward to a new eternal life in heaven, but that this life is broken.</p> <p>How is our world broken, like ashes rather than like a beautiful leaf of God’s creation?</p> <p>Use a time of reflection to consider to what extent we live out Micah 6:8 and Matthew 22:36-40.</p> <p>The children could write their sorry prayer on a piece of paper to be burned to ash in a fire bucket.</p> <p><i>‘May this season of repentance bring us the blessing of Your forgiveness and the gift of Your light.’</i></p> <p>Read Psalm 103:8-17 as reassurance that God’s love and compassion assures forgiveness.</p>	<p>What does fasting look like? Isaiah 58v6-9 (Luke 9v23)</p> <p>Play some quiet music and have visual of desert or similar empty space. How does having this space perhaps free the children for constructive reflection? Jesus frequently took time out when he was busy, to pray and to consider his mission/next life choices. How does God want us to live?</p> <p>Do our lives sometimes seem hard and empty, as though we are in a desert? Do we spend our time ‘in the desert’ wishing for the things we don’t have, or growing our values and vision? If we were in a desert would we miss being a part of a community? Why? What do we bring to our community?</p> <p>Pray the Lord’s prayer to focus reflection. (Note that later in this same passage Jesus talks about fasting.)</p> <p>Jesus fasted, does this mean giving up food/treats, or something else?</p> <p>Read Isaiah 58v6-9 and reflect on how this could be applied in our lives/community, noting God’s presence to help us.</p>	<p>Palm 16v8-11</p> <p>How can we celebrate now, whilst reflecting as we use this time of Lent to think forward to the great celebration of Resurrection?</p> <p><i>You may wish to use this Lenten prayer:</i></p> <p>We are waiting. God on whom our lives depend, We are waiting for you and with you. We are waiting and preparing.</p> <p>Open us: For then we will know your possibility.</p> <p>Challenge us: For then we will know your way.</p> <p>Forgive us: For then we will know your grace.</p> <p>In this time, in all time. In the name of Jesus Christ who journeyed to the cross Amen.</p> <p>https://urc.org.uk/images/FastsAndFestivals/Monthly-resources/Lent.pdf</p>

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Week 1: 24/2/20 <i>Lent</i>	<p>Deuteronomy 8v3) - I wonder how you could copy Jesus when you are next tempted?</p> <p>Jesus regularly took time out to pray. In Matthew 26:41, Jesus tells his disciples to pray when they are tempted.</p> <p>Pray together – ask God to help us to love and serve God with all our heart and all our soul, living Christlike lives and having the strength to resist temptation as we remember God’s promises to us.</p>	<p>https://www.beliefnet.com/prayers/protestant/gratitude/the-blessing-of-unanswered-prayers.aspx</p>	<p>I wonder how you will live, knowing that you are forgiven?</p> <p>You may wish to listen to: ‘So Great is Jesus’ Love’ (n.b. amit the bridge)</p> <p>https://emumusic.com/pages/so-great-is-jesus-love</p>	<p>Finish with a time of personal reflection/prayer. How can our Lenten fasting show love to a broken world? You may wish to consider your school charity links, where as a community, this type of fasting is put into action.</p> <p>Ending: Luke 9:23 : following Jesus may mean that serving others costs us something.</p>	
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Week 2 : 2/3/20
Jesus Cares & Provides

Jesus Feeds the 5000: Luke 9:10-17/John 6:12-17

This miracle is recorded in all 4 gospels, so this is clearly an important story/message. Jesus performing a miracle shows not only that He is God, but that God is compassionate and caring. Jesus teaches, but also cares for the people's hunger in this remote place:

Psalm 146 v6&7

He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— he remains faithful forever.

⁷ *He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.*

I wonder how the people felt...?

Disciples – do we worry & try to always find our own answers or trust God to love us, to walk alongside us and to solve our problems? Do we tell God our needs? (John 6 – do Philip and Andrew understand that Jesus is God?)

Crowd – do we know not only the words Jesus told (the bible stories), but trust his character - to abundantly provide what we need? (note the leftovers!)

Small boy – how does God want to use us? What gifts and talents has he given us, to share with our community? We are never too small/insignificant, don't underestimate yourself or overlook anyone in your community. (*Zechariah 4v6*)

Pray/Reflect on God's power and generosity, how we can bless our community by sharing our gifts and talents. Thank God for his gifts.

Closing: *2 Corinthians 9v8 – 'And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.'*

'Peace' Jesus Calms the Storm: Luke 8:22-25

You may wish to show a stained glass window or images of stormy/tranquil sea to explore emotive responses.

Tell the story or use a clips:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyzwCpofQSA>. (Jesus Film)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzPwRXytr7U> (KidsHub TV) *You may also wish to use*

'The Storm that Stopped' picture book by Alison Mitchell.

Jesus' power over nature and care for his followers was sung about in the Old Testament: Psalm 107v29-31

²⁹ *He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed.*

³⁰ *They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven.*

³¹ *Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.*

Who can control nature, with just a word? *'who is this, even the winds and the water, obey him!'* Did the disciples understand that Jesus is God? You could mention King Canute the Great (11th century AD), who commanded the tide to not stop, so that his failure was proof that even kings are worthless, compared to God who alone controls nature.

Reflect on what storms may face us, do you ever feel like you're drowning? Even seasoned fishermen felt out of control sometimes. Jesus didn't promise no troubles in life (John 16v33) but that He has the power to bring peace even in the middle of life's storms.

You may wish to finish with the image frequently used in stained glass, that the Holy Spirit is the 'wind in our sails', or use a song e.g. 'Jesus, Be the Centre', or to remind children that Jesus is 'Immanuel', God with us, and end with prayer.

Peter walks on the water: Matthew 14:22-33

This is a great story to read/act out and freeze-frame to explore how the children feel at every stage. Remind them of Jesus' power shown over the past two days. Is it easy to trust?

Who do we trust, and why? Again, this story is to show Christians that Jesus is fully God (verse 33)

What happened first? Even though the crowds wanted him, Jesus again took time out to pray – why is this important?

Yesterday we were reminded that life isn't always easy. We don't always get to walk beside still waters (Psalm 23v2-3), sometimes we will face challenges that seem impossible, like walking on water.

Why does Jesus walk on the water? Was Peter brave/foolish? How does Jesus respond to the disciples' fear, and then to Peter's fear?

Jesus says to 'have courage' (to do something even when it frightens you). The disciples could have courage because Jesus was there alongside them, demonstrating that he was in control.

Reflect: When may we feel afraid? Where will we find our strength when we are in 'deep waters' or feel like we are drowning? How might this experience have strengthened Peter's faith in Jesus?

Pray together for courage, to have our eyes on Jesus so that we can seek to live like Him, even when it seems too challenging. 'Don't be afraid' End with Psalm 34:4, or a song: 'Be bold, be strong'

'Care & Love' Parable of the Lost Sheep: Matthew 18:12-14

If you lost a football card/sticker, how hard would you look for it? Would different stickers have different value? How hard will the children look around the hall for a stone... for a sweet?

To God EACH of us is infinitely valuable...

Do you sometimes just feel invisible, like yet another person wearing the same school jumper?

Read Matthew 18:12-14. This picture story/parable comes just after Jesus calls a child to him in response to his disciples asking who is the most important (Matthew 18v1-5).

How would you describe this shepherd? (love, grace)

Why do you think the shepherd is even happier about this sheep when he finds it? What does this tell us about God's love for us?

Jesus is responsible for keeping us safe, and each of us is personally valued by him, it isn't about what we do/are worth, but because we are uniquely 'us'.

Did you know that the picture of a Shepherd carrying sheep on shoulders was the original figure used to identify Christians before crosses, it was found in Roman catacombs as the most common picture of Christ?

<https://seeingodinart.wordpress.com/2015/02/06/the-good-shepherd/>

You could end with a reflective sung version of 'The Lord's my shepherd' by Stuart Townend. Eg <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN4tPKXOMGO> (Trinity Fellowship)

Micah 6v 8 How does our self-image relate to the way we care for others? How does our relationship with God affect the way we care for others in our community?

The Prayer of the Grail Community (Pinner, Middlesex)

Lord Jesus I give you my hands to do your work. I give you my feet to go your way. I give you my eyes to see as you do. I give you my tongue to speak your words. I give you my mind that you may think in me. I give you my spirit that you may pray in me. Above all, I give you my heart that you may love in me your Father and all mankind. I give you my whole self that you may grow in me, so that it is you, Lord Jesus who live and work and pray in me

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/media/childrenandschools/collectiveworship/freshapproach/prayerstouseinschool.pdf>

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<p>Week 3: 9/3/20 Following Jesus' example</p>	<p>Zacchaeus – Listening to Jesus Luke 19:1-7</p> <p>Today's story may be very familiar, but encourage the children to consider how Zacchaeus is feeling. Set the scene, of a 'traitor' Jew collecting taxes for the Roman occupiers, and very likely for himself too. How do the children feel about him? Would they want him as a friend? Challenge whether they think he is happy... but he is important and wealthy...?</p> <p>Act out the story... Did Zacchaeus' actions surprise anyone? Wasn't he too important/wealthy to risk looking foolish and climbing a tree? Were the people watching right in their reaction? Are you surprised by Jesus' reaction? What excuses do we have to not listen to Jesus? Too busy? Too young? Not important enough/too important? Worried we will be rejected by others? Do your parents/friends ever say 'Not now, I'm busy'? Even though Jesus was only 'passing through', he wanted to come into Z's house, get to know him as a friend.</p> <p>Luke 11v9&10, Jesus promises that anyone who prays to God will be answered.</p> <p>Reflect: Are we sometimes also too busy to value our friends, to look for someone who isn't valued/befriended... ?</p> <p>No-one was 'beneath' Jesus? who can you 'invite in' today?</p> <p>Do you think Zacchaeus' life will be the same after this encounter with Jesus? Who else can you think of that we have met in the Bible's 'Big Story', who listened to God and it changed their lives?...</p>	<p>Zacchaeus – saying sorry Luke 19: 8-9</p> <p>How do we say sorry?</p> <p>How do we prove we mean it? Not just words or gestures, but actions!</p> <p>There is a difference between guilty regret/remorse 'I wish I hadn't...', and repentance, a commitment to change/live differently, accompanied by a feeling of relief, forgiveness, starting with a clean slate...</p> <p>So yesterday Zacchaeus met Jesus. What difference do you think it made to his life? You may wish to improvise/act out the end of the story, or to use 'God's story' video clip to recap story of Zacchaeus https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fe7dTNID6h8 (Crossroads Kids' Club)</p> <p><i>Help the children to see what this shows about God's 'grace' (undeserved healing /help/love, given freely, transforming lives, Jesus wanting to have a friendship with us).</i></p> <p>Jesus' generous friendship led to Z's generous repentance and amends.</p> <p>'Sorry' is hard to say, Jesus showed he valued and accepted Zacchaeus, despite the opinions of others, so Z felt safe to say sorry. Do we hold grudges and make it hard for anyone to say sorry to us? 'this man, too, is a son of Abraham' Jesus said 'Zacchaeus is in our family'! Is there anything you want to change in your life/say sorry for? Are there friends you want to help feel included in our school family?</p> <p>Saying sorry isn't just words, but motivated by Jesus' acceptance and love. <i>1 John 4v19 'We love because he first loved us', and first forgave us – take a moment to reflect on the salvation plan told in the Bible's 'Big Story', link to the parable of the lost sheep.</i></p> <p>Quietly end with the Lord's Prayer 'forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors'. Or a song such as 'This little light of mine', to reflect on how life is changed when we say sorry and are forgiven.</p>	<p>Good Fruit: Matthew 12:33</p> <p><i>What do you think Jesus meant? Jesus has already used this picture language in Matthew 7v16-18.</i></p> <p>Show an image of a dying tree: would this make you want to visit Kew Gardens?</p> <p><i>What is a good tree? A tree that grows and weathers storms and seasons, that is flourishing and bears fruit. What is needed for a good tree? How can this symbolise each of us?</i></p> <p>What do we need to be rooted in?</p> <p>Ephesians 3v17-18. What will nourish us, so that we can grow and bear fruit? We are surrounded by God's love (As plants turn their leaves to soak up the sunshine, do we look to God?)</p> <p>We use family trees to picture our connections. In John 15v1-8. Jesus extends this picture to explain that life may not always be easy, but life's challenges are like pruning a tree, resulting in growth and fruit. Our strength comes from being attached to the vine (Jesus), our help from the gardener (God), God wants us to bear fruit, but it isn't all on us. What fruit does he want you to give your community?</p> <p>You could cut open a rotten piece of fruit– goodness comes from the inside –What are our core values... are our hearts full of love and kindness, or mean words, jealousy?</p> <p>God wants us to have this fruit: Galatians 5v22 What kind of fruit will you show today?</p> <p>You could use Colossians 1 v9b-10 as a closing prayer. Or reflectively read Jeremiah 17v7&8. Or listen to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-hrxEiWxkE (Starskills: Fruit of the Spirit song)</p>	<p>Speaking words of love:</p> <p>Yesterday we looked at Jesus' picture of us being like a good, fruit-bearing tree. The fruit of the Spirit starts with love, and Jesus said he chose us to bear this fruit, to show love (You could read John 15v16b-17)</p> <p>Read Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus reminds the Pharisees that the greatest commandment, the priority for our life, to share his message of love: to God, and to all people.</p> <p>Jesus, throughout his ministry, spoke words of love, and lived actions of love through healing, compassion, rescue... Which of Jesus' words and actions of love can you remember?</p> <p>What a challenge – is ALL of our heart, ALL of our soul, ALL of our mind full of love, and do our words and actions always show all-inclusive love? The challenge is to engage our feelings/hearts as well as our decisions/thoughts/minds in this mission to be Christlike.</p> <p>Use images to contrast Proverbs 16v24, Psalm 49v3, Proverbs 10v31a with Psalm 64v3, Proverbs 6v2 and James 3v5/6, to show the power of words for love or for damage. You can use a toothpaste tube to show how hard it can be to retract unloving words/actions</p> <p>You may wish to end reflecting on this song: 'Lovin me, by Jonathan Reynolds. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mfyVeJ2OdOg</p>	<p>Showing Love like Jesus John 13v34&35</p> <p>You may wish to look ahead to next week and use this prayer for Maundy Thursday to reflect back on this week.</p> <p><i>You call us to live your life, follow where you have trod, be your presence in these streets, show compassion to the poor, support the weak, embrace the outcast, bring lives into your kingdom.</i></p> <p><i>Yet our hearts are troubled, we are fearful of the task, deafened to your promise to be with us wherever we might go. Forgive our timidity, grant us peace for the journey, and strength for the day, that we might demonstrate our love in the life we live and share . Amen</i></p> <p>https://www.faithandworship.com/Prayers_Maundy_Thursday.htm</p>
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Week 4: 16/3/20

Eucharist

'The Sign of the Peace'

Read John 14v25-27



'Eucharist'/'Holy Communion' services are a very special time when Christians gather together to **'do this in remembrance of me'**, following Jesus' instruction before he died. You could watch this video, which helps to explain what communion is.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=a5zqtswkDw&feature=emb_logo

How might this service help Christians to feel connected to the global church? Christians often start this service by saying:

'The peace of the Lord be always with you, **and also with you**, Let us offer one another a sign of peace'

Why do you think this service starts with these words?

In the gospels, on many occasions, Jesus encouraged his followers to be peaceful people, e.g. 'be at peace with each other' (Mark 9v50), 'Blessed are the peacemakers' (Matthew 5v9). How can you promote peace in your school community today?

When Jesus rose again, he greeted his disciples with the words 'Peace be with you' (Luke 24v36). Why do you think he chose to greet his friends in this way?

Show a variety of symbols of peace and discuss what symbols the children think are best. Discuss how in a church there may be a pause while people shake hands, hug, etc. How would you communicate peace? Would you use an action or a symbol?

The Eucharist service is intended to help Christians feel closer to God and to each-other. You could use the words of Colossians 3v15 as children share their peace action/symbol with others in the school family, or read Romans 15v13 as a prayer.

'Confession' – assurance of God's forgiveness. Psalm 103 v 8-13

Take a moment of calm, e.g. light a candle, shut doors, draw curtains. I wonder is there anything that is making it hard for you to feel calm right now? Are your minds and thoughts still busy even while sitting still?

At the start of Eucharist, Christians take a moment to say sorry, so that they know that they are freed from any mistakes they have made, forgiven, ready to have a fresh start. Invite children to join in a prayer, silently filling in their own words in the gaps, or using the silences to reflect.

Father God,

For the wrong things we've done, we're sorry. (pause)

For the wrong things we've said, we're sorry. (pause)

For the wrong things we've thought, we're sorry. (pause)

Amen.

Do you sometimes find it hard to feel that it's ok, even when you have said sorry? Is it hard to be sure that those things have truly been forgiven and gone away?

Adding bleach to coloured water, or shredding/burning a piece of paper, may help children to grasp the concept of forgiveness as completely getting rid of the wrong thought/word/action.

Read Psalm 103v8=14.

How might these verses reassure Christians about how God forgives them? What promises does God make? How does it make you feel reading these promises?

You could listen to this song which shows how Christians feel knowing that God totally forgives them:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LO-2fm7IKcU>

How does today's Psalm inspire you to go out and live? Can this picture of forgiveness help you to forgive others?

The Apostles' Creed

Are you a member of a club? Does your club have a motto/promise which you all make? Does your school have a vision that you all share? Why is this important? How do you remember this?

At the Eucharist service Christians say the words of 'The Creed'. These words were written by early followers of Jesus, to explain what it means to be a Christian, in the same way that your club or school may have words that say what is most important to them. The 'apostles' were disciples that Jesus chose to go and tell others about him, like messengers.

Listen to the words of the Creed. Why do you think Christians choose to say these words at every Eucharist Service?

As a leader, read/show the Apostles' creed: <http://anglicansonline.org/basics/apostles.html> (*don't expect the children to join in as this is a personal declaration of faith*).

How do these words remind Christians of the 'Big Story' of the Bible?

Which promises from the Bible does the Creed remind Christians of?

How do you think Christians feel when they say the Creed? How would it make you feel to know that Christians long ago, and today across the world say these same words?

You could end by inviting children to join in the Lord's Prayer, words that again help Christians to remember that they are part of a church family across the globe, sharing a belief in the same loving Father God. (this website shows how to use actions: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOugEQpcc_k)

Eucharistic prayers

Mark 14v22-25

What do you notice Jesus does first, before he shares the bread and the wine? I wonder do we always take time to stop and say thank you for things we appreciate every day?

In the Eucharist service, Christians pause and say thank you to God for his Creation, his Salvation and his gifts, before they take communion, just like Jesus did, saying:

'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise'

I wonder how you might add your words into these prayers that are written to be said during Eucharist? What are you thankful for?

'Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory.

You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish...

What do you see in our world that you are thankful for today?

You give us friends and families...

Which people are you thankful for today?

You give us happy times and things to celebrate...

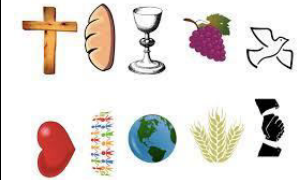
What happy memories are you thankful for?

You made us all, each wonderfully different...

How are you thankful for the wonderful person you are?

The biggest thank you of all at the Eucharist service is that Christians want to remember Jesus. As they remember Jesus, through the symbols of bread and wine, they remember that they are chosen, loved, forgiven and a part of the church 'family'.

I wonder how you may choose to live today with an 'attitude of gratitude?'



You may wish to include the words of the Grace in your Celebration Worship:

The grace is often used to remind Christians that they live as part of one family, strengthened by God and sharing a vision to share his love with the world.

'And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all now and for evermore. Amen.'

Christians may end a Eucharist service with these words:

'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.'

I wonder how you could share the love God has for his people with all those you meet today?



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Week 5: 23/3/20
Holy Week 1

Palm Sunday – symbol of the leaf
Matthew 21v1-11 or Luke 19v28-38,
What kind of a leader do you think the Jews were expecting? What leader would you follow?
Display crown of thorns and a golden crown – I wonder who would wear this crown? Why? Who wears a crown? Who do they wear it for? For themselves/for others? Do leaders have power for themselves/others? Is being a leader glorious or costly? What ‘good’ leaders do you know about?
Read one of the gospel accounts:
Jesus was recognised as the prophesied Messiah (deliverer), This procession with palm leaves (symbolising goodness and victory) celebrated Jesus coming as a king, with everyone crying ‘Hosanna’ (‘save now’). For Jews, waving palms was a symbol of rejoicing (Leviticus 23v40) and part of the Sukkot festival, a bit like we would wave flags to rejoice at a Royal Wedding/National event.
Yet the donkey Jesus chose to ride on showed that he would be a very different king, a humble Saviour king, not the political rescuer that some were expecting, but God’s plan for an eternal kingdom. The type of King Jesus would be was prophesied over 500 years before (**Zechariah 9v9**)
Reflect on Jesus’ servant leadership. How can you show gentleness in your life?
You may wish to finish with reading of Psalm 118v1 or make a Palm cross:
<http://www.kingofpeace.org/palmcrosses/>

Last Supper – Washing the disciples’ feet
What does water symbolise? Use images to inspire. Display bowl of water and towel.
Gather: *You could use this Call to Worship which reminds that Jesus is the Living Water (John 4v13-15): Invite a child or adult to read this.*
<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2015/02/call-to-worship-all-who-are-thirsty.html>
Read: John 13v1-17 Or use online clip such as (<https://www.bible.com/en-GB/videos/66-the-last-supper-from-lumoproject-dot-com>)
Why is this account a surprise to Peter and maybe to you? (Read verse 3, also compare to the events of Palm Sunday) Should it have been a surprise that ‘King’ Jesus acted in this way? What does this say about the kind of King Jesus was? Compassionate, humble, servant... Note that the story starts with Jesus’ love for his disciples.
Reflect: What does Jesus want the disciples to learn? What does water symbolise in today’s reading?
‘Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.’
What did Jesus mean? Jesus said we are all ‘clean’ by his gift of salvation, but as when our feet get dusty when we walk in sandals, so we need to ‘wash away’ (confess and say sorry for) our wrong choices that every day get in the way of us living our life with and for Jesus. What do you need to wash away? As you reflect, you could use the words/music of ‘River, wash over me’
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0Am96tYuVo> (Divine Hymns)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4DQI9Z5UOU> (Maranatha!)
How does Jesus want his followers to live? How could you follow Jesus’ example in serving your community, your friends? On Maundy Thursday (9/4/20) how will you remember Jesus’ ‘mandatum’ (command) in John 13v34 *‘A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another?’*
Close by reflecting on Philippians 2v5-8 Or you could listen to/sing ‘The Servant King’ by Graham Kendrick.

Last Supper- Bread and wine
Can you think of any symbols you use to help you remember?
Read Matthew 26v26-29 or you could use the opening of this clip from the Miracle Maker Film:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20vOuZAcSBO>
Do you ever have special meals to celebrate, with family or friends? Jesus knew he was going to leave his disciples, and wanted to share this last meal with them, to prepare them for what was going to happen to him, to leave symbols to help them remember this. Symbols still used by Christians today to remember Jesus, in Eucharist/ Communion Services. In Luke’s gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to ‘do this in remembrance of me’.
Bread: *Bread is the most basic food that will keep us alive. What do you think Jesus meant when he said ‘I am the Bread of Life’? (John 6v35). In John 6v51 Jesus explained that giving his body gives us eternal life.*
Wine: *At the Passover festival, Jews used animal blood and remembered God ‘passing over’ their house, protecting their eldest child from the plague on the Firstborn, and rescuing them from Egypt. (Exodus 12) How does Jesus change the meaning of this symbol/keep it the same?*
Pray/reflect: Jesus cared for his friends, even when he was facing the cross. Jesus also started out by thanking God for the bread and the wine. How can we be thankful for God’s forgiveness plan and look forward to Jesus’ other promise (verse 29 that one day we will be with Jesus in his ‘Father’s kingdom’) coming true? How might this affect your choices today?
You might want to close by listening to this song.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhFBX5ZSvSo>

Garden of Gethsemane – Jesus is betrayed and arrested
You could open by talking about consequences. Recall term 3&4 stories – healing, miracles... how would you expect Jesus to be treated in return?
Read **Matthew 26v36-50** or use a simple animated version e.g.: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqvRshgtO2o> (Beginner’s Bible)
– how is this fair/possible? I wonder why Jesus allowed this to happen? *‘What crime has he committed?’* asked Pilate (Matthew 27v23)
Would Jesus have felt alone? He was faced with the biggest challenge, yet his disciples fell asleep, and tried to prevent God’s rescue plan (John 3v16) from happening because they didn’t understand (verse 52-56) what had been prophesied. *Only perfect God himself, incarnated, could pay the price of sin, so the world could be forgiven.*
Jesus fully trusted God, he went ‘as usual’ to the Mount of Olives with his disciples, knowing that he would be arrested, feeling sadness, fear and sorrow about what lay ahead, yet praying ‘not as I will, but as you will’ and ‘may your will be done’. I wonder are we ready to follow God’s plan for our lives?
Jesus models praying when faced with challenging situations, and that God’s plan will always succeed, even when it is hard to understand it. I wonder where there are times in your life where even your best friends can’t help you... How might Jesus’ example help you to trust God today? Even when you are afraid, or feel alone, how may God help you to persevere?
Close with Psalm 17v6-7

‘Love one another as I have loved you’
I wonder what it would have been like to have been one of Jesus’ circle of friends, his disciples, walking with him through the events of Holy Week?
How is being ‘Christlike’ different from modelling your life on one of today’s leaders? (royalty, sport, music...)
I wonder how people will see you being Christlike today? How are you celebrating gifts that God gave you when he made you in his image today?
Holy Week Collect
Almighty God whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for him: give us the will to be the servant of others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.



Collective Worship Plan – Year B Term 4

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Week 6: 30/3/20
Holy Week 2

Good Friday – curtain tears in 2 (Matthew 27:50-54)

You may wish to use 'The day the earth shook' picture book by Helen Buckley

You could start with images of tearing open to reveal, e.g. Superman, geode crystals, entering sterile room, opening present. *Or start with meditative music, for older children you could listen to the Easter story overview in: 'See him in Jerusalem' by City Alight*

Gather: "Christ has died and Christ is risen from the dead."

Read: Why do you think the guards said "Surely he was the Son of God!"?

Quietly consider how the people present would have felt.

In the Old Testament (Exodus 36:31-35), God's presence was symbolically in the 'Holy of Holies', at the centre of the temple. The High Priest could only go in once a year, on behalf of the people, and only in the way God had said, going through the veil when a sacrifice had been made to say sorry and ask for forgiveness. What did this remind the people about God?

When Jesus died, the curtain was not just opened, but torn completely open - Anyone, at anytime, can go through and be with God! Only the perfect Son of God could completely and forever forgive all sins, meaning that they no longer are a barrier between Christians and God. I wonder how this might change the way we may see God/talk to God?

You may wish to read John 14v6 consider how Jesus opening the way to God might impact how Christians choose to live their lives.

Closing: *"Plant the cross on your heart, so that in its power and love you can continue to be Christ's representative in the world at work, school, and play."*

from [The Prayer Book Guide to Christian Education, 3rd edition](#)

Holy Saturday – waiting

A Tenebrae Service recaps the Easter story, in a sensory way, and creates a space for reflection and anticipation, looking back, like the disciples, remembering and trusting, not yet able to celebrate the fulfilment of the Easter story -confidently waiting, relying on God's promises that Jesus had shared while with his disciples.

Come in in total silence, but with 7 bright candles lit, no other lights/low light.

Opening: Jesus said 'I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' (John 8v12)

How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus said this.... and now, on Easter Saturday? How does it feel to wait? Is it hard to trust that the promises will be true?

Gather: *Almighty God, as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son, may we know your love for us, that in humility, love and joy we may place at his feet all that we have and all that we are; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.*

Use props (e.g. chalice for last supper and bread, prayer hands for garden of Gethsemane, manacles for arrest, broken heart for betrayal, crown of thorns, cross) to retell each moment of the Easter story. You could get children to tell the meaning of each item. Then blow a candle out as you cover each one, so that everything is gradually blacked out. These links give ideas to help structure your worship:

<https://formedbyexperience.blog/2018/03/02/a-tactile-tenebrae-reading-of-the-passion-for-palm-sunday/>

<https://buildfaith.org/holy-week-tenebrae/>

<http://jesuitinstitute.org/Pages/Liturgy/Tenebrae.htm>

Closing: Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.' *Silence as you leave the hall*

Easter Sunday –Resurrection! Luke 24v1-8

Open with joyful music/ church bells ringing out.

"Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!"

Easter Sunday across the whole globe is full of traditions: fireworks, Easter bunnies/hares, French flying church bells, chocolate... The whole world celebrates! The waiting is over!

Read: I wonder how the women felt? Why? Does having time to wonder/anticipate sometimes make events more significant/meaningful?

'...then they remembered his words' How were the women's feelings transformed? Today we remember Jesus' words too, that are written down for us in the Bible, how does this guide our lives?

Jesus' resurrection was the ultimate miracle – 'saving the best 'til last' – transformed the darkest moment into a celebration of the fulfilment of God's plan and the greatest act of power and unconditional love the world has ever known: victory over death. Proof that all the bible promises in God's 'Big Story' of Salvation, of a restored relationship between God and humans were true:

You may wish to re-light a candle as you read each of the following fulfilled promises, symbolising that Jesus, the Light of the World, has risen.

'She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.' (Matthew 1v21)

Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25)

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' (John 3:16)

You could end with 1 Peter 1 v 3-4 as a closing:

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.'

or with the Easter Collect:

'God, who by the glorious death and resurrection of your Son, destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through him who is our living Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ.'

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