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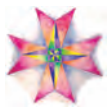
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# Worship

## Overview

## Components

Altar or Worship Center Arrangement  
Banner(s)  
Children's Messages  
Music  
Scripture  
Sermons  
Symbols  
Worship Resources

## Supplies

## Advance Preparation

Banners  
Worship Center Arrangement

## Leadership

## Enhancements

**Ash Wednesday: Choices**

**First Sunday in Lent: Covenant**

**Second Sunday in Lent: Commandments**

**Third Sunday in Lent: Connection**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent: Challenge**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent: Compassion**

**Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Contrasts**

**Holy Thursday: Contentment**

**Good Friday: Convictions**

**Easter Sunday: Celebration**











First Sunday in Lent: Covenant  
Scripture: Genesis 6:14

Second Sunday in Lent: Commandments  
Scripture: Exodus 25:10

Third Sunday in Lent: Connection  
Scripture: Isaiah 11:1

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Challenge  
Scripture: Amos 7:14

Fifth Sunday in Lent: Compassion  
Luke 2:7

Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Contrasts  
John 12:13

Holy Thursday: Contentment  
Matthew 26:30

Good Friday: Convictions  
Matthew 27:29

Easter Sunday: Celebration  
Matthew 28:5-6

### Homilies/Messages

Each theme may be used as a springboard for developing a message appropriate to each week's emphasis. Themes include:

Ash Wednesday: Choices

Theme: God's gift of freedom means people must make choices. In Lent we acknowledge that too often our choices do not honor God.

First Sunday in Lent: Covenant

Theme: God's promise is that he will not abandon us to sin, but will provide us with a means of salvation.

Second Sunday in Lent: Commandments

Theme: God's law is a gift to protect us from the harm of sin, if we carry the Word with us.

Third Sunday in Lent: Connection

Theme: God's power continues through the generations who trust God's promise.

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Challenge

Theme: God's challenge is for us to accept correction and discipline in order that our lives may produce the fruit of repentance and justice.





















encounters with religious leaders, and passages that relate Jesus' awareness of his mission and its consequences. The Christian's challenge to spend forty days in reflection and spiritual discipline seems to parallel the message of the season.

The color for Lent is again purple, a color reminding us of the darkness of our sin and the royalty of Jesus. On Good Friday the color is black until Easter Sunday to symbolize mourning. Often an early sunrise service (Easter Vigil) marks the transition from darkness to light, replacing black with white.

### **Easter**

The season of Easter begins with the Sunday of the celebration of the resurrection, which changes each year based on the cycles of the moon. Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox that occurs around March 21. So Easter can be as early as March 22 and as late as April 25. Some scholars say the day for Easter was set to assure the light of the moon for pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem. Obviously, the first Easter was established based on the Jewish celebration of the Passover. The Orthodox churches continue to use Passover as the determining date for Easter services with their Palm Sunday occurring the first Sunday after Passover begins.

On the first Easter morning, God made a difference for human beings forever. God raised Jesus from death to new life. Easter is a season of hope that invites God's people to rejoice that because Jesus lives, we, too, will live—eternally. Easter reminds us that we can experience God's renewal now and forever when we believe in Christ's resurrection.

Easter is more than a special day in the Church Year. It is actually a season of fifty days in which we celebrate the joy of the new day Christ's resurrection brings to the world. But even more, as we proclaim God's plan of hope and salvation for all people, we discover that Easter is a way of life. During the season of Easter, Christians celebrate the resurrection and tell the stories of Jesus' appearances to the disciples. Ascension Day occurs during this season, forty days after Easter Sunday, and celebrates Jesus' return to Heaven to reign at the right hand of God. The promise of the gift of the Spirit and the challenge to "go into all the world" are a part of the Easter season as well.

The color for Easter is white, the color reserved for the holiest festivals of the Church Year.



- Paper
- Trays
- Twigs

#### Method

Choose leaves with prominent vein structure, branches of evergreen trees, or twigs that are flat.

Cover the work surface with newspaper. Apply a small amount of black print ink, or fingerpaint, onto a tray. Spread ink by rolling a brayer back and forth until the ink is in a thin layer.

Place natural items under a thin piece of paper such as newsprint or copy paper. Roll the brayer into the ink, then over the paper. Be sure to place the leaves vein side up. The image will show up as the brayer presses over the leaves and the branches.

Try several arrangements and different kinds of paper. If blackprinting supplies are not available, use the broad side of unwrapped crayons. Rub the crayon over paper-covered objects for an interesting print or crayon "rubbing."

### **Oriental Branch with Blossoms Scroll**

#### Materials

- Cardboard or paper strips
- Containers for paint, small
- Paper—long panels of newsprint, construction paper, or wallpaper
- Scissors
- Sponges
- Stapler
- Staples
- String or yarn
- Tempera paints—pastel colors, white, yellow, and black
- Toothpicks
- Trays
- Twigs

#### Method

Many Oriental cultures feature lovely paintings on panels or scrolls of silk. Nature is very often the theme for these paintings.

Spread the pastel and white paint over the sponges. Pour black and yellow colors into small containers. Dip the end of a twig into black paint, then paint the branch shape by pushing the twig from the bottom of the paper upwards. This method of painting produces broken lines with thick and thin places.



















