

# Easter

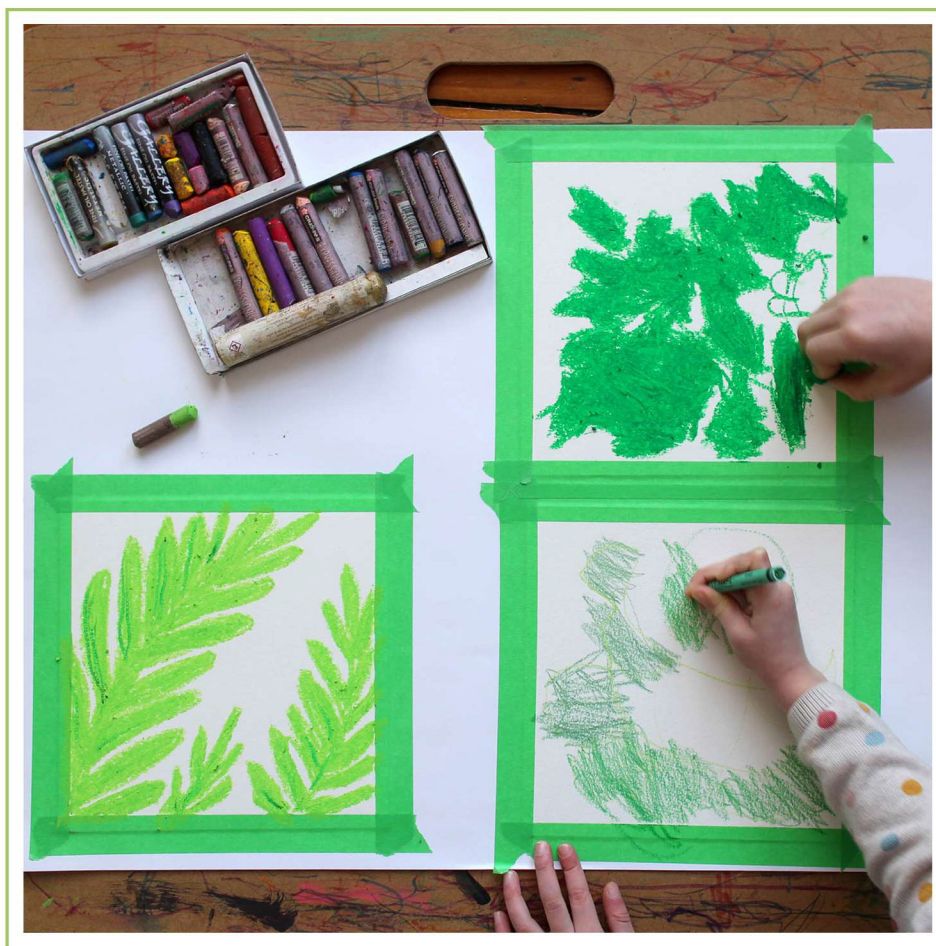
*a family worship guide*



Easter is a busy time! Multiple church services, family traditions and other seasonal celebrations can often crowd the time making it hard to reflect and talk, as a family, about the significance of the death and excitement of the resurrection of Jesus!

This three-part art activity is designed to help you create intentional space to read, discuss and enter the Easter narrative as a family. Use this art activity to intentionally prompt conversation, to create something meaningful and to engage with Easter in a visual, tactile and refreshing way!

***Three stories.  
One piece of art.  
A visual way to engage Easter.***





## Supplies

Oil Pastels

Paint brush

Black acrylic paint

Low tack masking/painter's tape

Wooden skewer (or toothpick - just something with a point)

Water color paper (any size - square is just a suggestion)

# Palm Sunday

(Part 1)

## Setup

(We suggest you prepare the supplies before reading so that once the reading is done you can go directly into creating and conversation.) Tape a thin line of tape around the edges of your paper. This will create a nice white border around the finished artwork and it will help keep the paper from warping once you add the paint.

- Watercolor paper.
- Tape.
- Oil pastels.

## Pray

In today's Bible passage you will hear the word "Hosanna". Hosanna is a word that expresses praise and joy! The people were so excited to see Jesus they shouted out with praise. Take turns as a family praying and offering up praises to God for being our King.

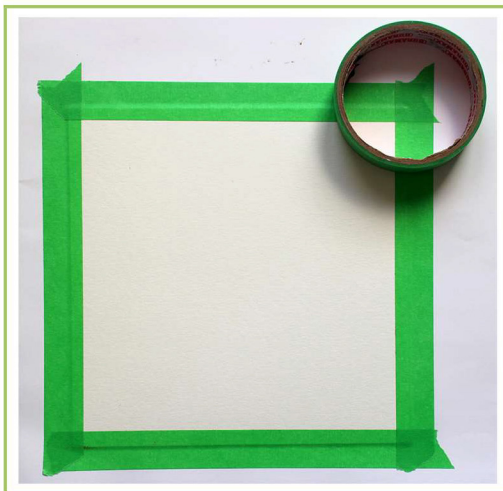
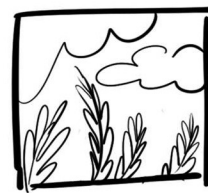
## Read

Mark 11:1-11. Jesus comes to Jerusalem as a king and the people are so excited! Today we are beginning an image that will let us explore, visually, the whole Easter story. We will work on this same image three different times - exploring a different part of the Easter story each time - and end with a single piece of art that holds the whole narrative. For the first part, we are going to draw something that reminds us of the excitement that happened when Jesus came to Jerusalem.

## Create

Using the oil pastels, fill your entire card with imagery from the reading (don't leave any white).

- What celebration image (or words) stuck out in the reading - and why?
  - Why were the crowds so excited at Jesus' arrival?
  - What is a color that represents celebration in your own lives? Make sure to include it in your art!
- See below for some suggested image ideas.



# Good Friday

(Part 2)

## Setup

- Artwork from Palm Sunday.
- Paint brush.
- Black paint.

## Pray

In today's story we are going to read about Jesus' death. We know He did this because of the love He has for us. We also know He died for us so that we did not have to pay the price for sin. Pray as a family asking that God helps you enter this difficult part of the story knowing the deep love He has for us.

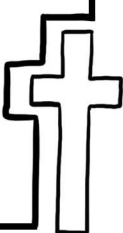
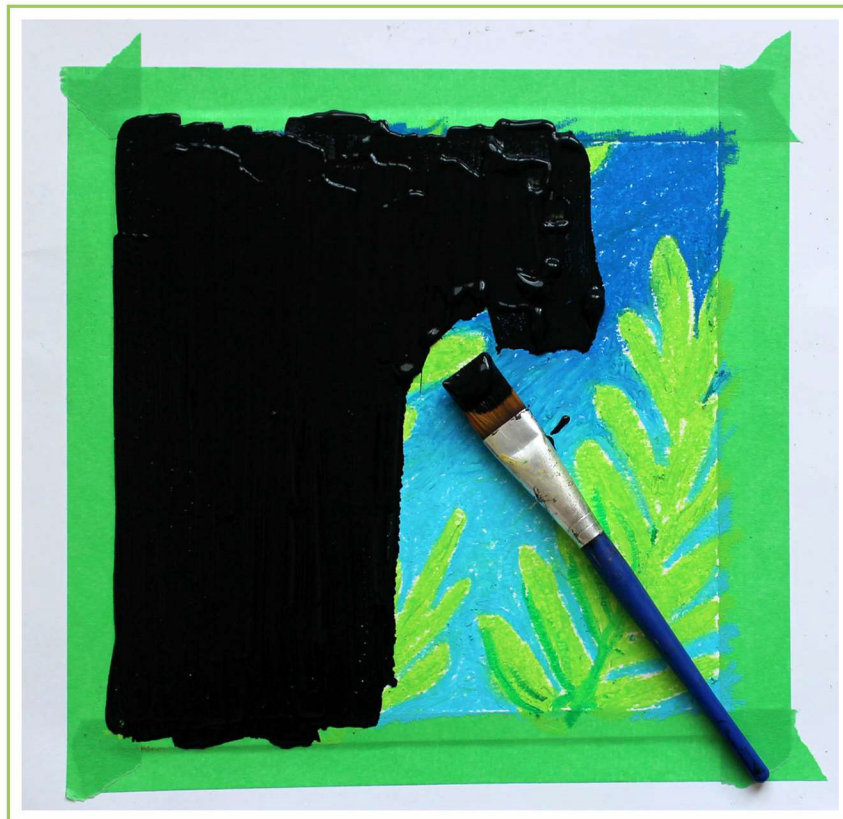
## Read

Matthew 26:17 - 27:66. The crucifixion of Jesus. *(If, at parent's discretion, children are unable to hear the length or detail of the story - read the equivalent story from their kid's Bible.)* To further experience today's reading we are going to cover our drawing from Palm Sunday in black paint. This is to remind us of the darkness Jesus endured for us.

## Create

Squeeze a small amount of black paint onto your oil pastel image. Using the paintbrush, gently smooth the paint until the entire drawing is covered in black. Perhaps, keep silence as you spread the paint. Watch attentively as the black paint covers the colors.

- Discuss what it feels like to cover your artwork in black.
- How does this feeling overlay the story that you just read?



# Easter

(Part 3)

## Setup

- Dried artwork from Good Friday.
- Wooden skewer.

## Pray

Spend time as a family thanking God for paying the price for our sins on the cross. Thank Him for rising from the dead, defeating death, and calling us to join Him in a new life - forgiven and freed from sin.

## Read

Matthew 28. Jesus has risen! Wow, it is so amazing that God had a plan for His Son to save us and defeat death. Today we are going to remove some of the darkness from our painting to show us the hope that we can now have in Christ!

## Create:

Using the pointed skewer, begin to scratch a resurrection image out of the black paint that you put down on Friday. Be alert to the sensation of the color appearing again as you scrape off the black.

-Talk about the shift in emotion of the characters in the story - from grief to joy.

-How do you see the first image - now just barely peeking through - differently?

As you scratch the new image, talk about what it means to be saved from sin and to be a part of God's family. Let this conversation, and any other questions that come with it, overlay the art actions you are taking. Let the visuals and the process be a tool to help you explain and explore the meaning of Easter and God's salvation.

Slowly peel the tape off of the image and view the finished piece. Share something you found meaningful during this process.

