fend

Fifty days of Easter

Did you know that the church season of Easter lasts 50 days? Here are three ways you can celebrate. Finish each picture.



Go on an egg hunt. *Hide eggs in the picture.*



Bring treats to your neighbors. *Draw treats on the empty plate.*

> Say "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" each morning when you wake up.

Write these Easter words in the balloon.



Jump for joy! Shout, "Hooray!" Jesus Christ is risen today! Amen

This week

Notice times when you "see Jesus" in your everyday experiences.



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is Easter! For Christians, Easter is the most joyful celebration of the year. This is the day Jesus rose from death to a new life. What changes do you see in your worship space? What color is the cloth on God's table (the altar)? What kinds of flowers do you see? During the 40 days of Lent we didn't sing or say "Alleluia." Today, listen for all of the times you say or sing "Alleluia!"



hear & celebrate

Jesus Christ is risen!

John 20:1-18

Early in the morning, Mary Magdalene came to Jesus' tomb. She saw that the big stone was rolled away from the door. Jesus' body was gone!

Mary cried as she looked in the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white. They said to her, "Why are

you weeping?" Mary said, "Jesus is gone." Then Mary turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said, "Mary!" When Mary heard her name, she recognized Jesus. Jesus told Mary the good news he had risen from the dead! Mary ran to the disciples. She said, "I have seen the Lord!"



When you hear someone say, "Christ is risen!" respond this way: "Christ is risen indeed!" Practice with a family member or a friend.

Easter eggs

Our celebration of Easter is filled with eggs. Jelly beans look like tiny, colorful eggs. We eat chocolate eggs and chew bubblegum eggs. We turn ordinary eggs into beautiful pieces of art. Eggs are a powerful symbol of Easter. The eggshell is like Jesus' tomb. It carries new life inside of it. When the chick hatches out of the egg, it reminds us of Jesus' new life at Easter.



Can you help these children find 10 eggs?

Call and Response

In many churches, the pastor sings or says something named a *call*. Then the congregation sings or says something back. This is called a *response*. Many churches use a unique call and response on Easter Day and during the Easter season.

The call of the pastor is written below. Listen closely during worship today for the response. Write it below.

Pastor: Christ is risen.

Congregation: _____ ____

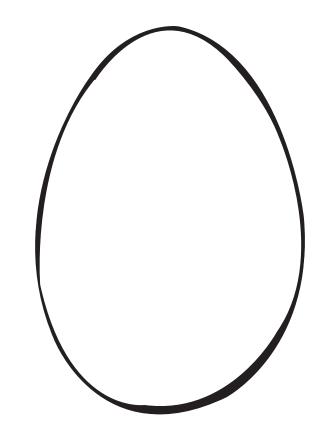


- Today is **Easter Day**.
- On Easter, we celebrate the **resurrection of Jesus**.
- Just as Jesus gets new life, Jesus gives us new life through him.

Design Your Own *Pysanka*

In the eastern European country of Ukraine, egg decorating is serious business. At Easter, the Ukrainians create beautifully decorated eggs called *pysanka*. Create your own detailed pysanka below and be sure to include the symbol of the empty cross to remember what we're really celebrating today.



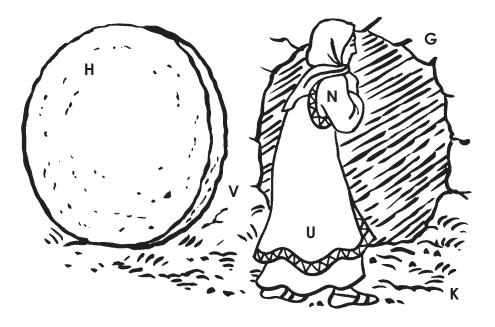


Today's memory verse is about looking for Jesus. Look for the missing letters in the tomb Memory Verse below to complete today's verse. You can use each letter more than once.



"W_Y DO YO_ LOO_ FOR T_E LI_ING AMO_____ T___E DEAD? ____E IS ___OT HERE,

B___T ___AS RISE___." -L___ E 24:5B



In Bible times, people were buried in a specific way. The body was washed and people put perfumes and spices on it. They wrapped the body in cloth. Then it was moved to a cave, not buried in the ground.



Christ Is Risen!

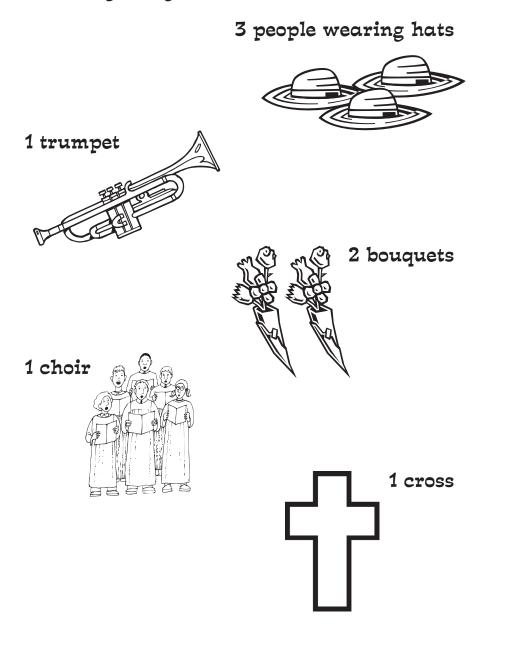
The miracle of Easter is that Jesus came back to life. Three days after he was crucified, Jesus rose from the dead. What are some other things you can think of that rise? Draw them below. (Some ideas to get you started: the sun, a hot air balloon, bread, or even your temperature!)



EASTER DAY

Let's play I-SPY! On Easter Day, there are many festive things in worship.

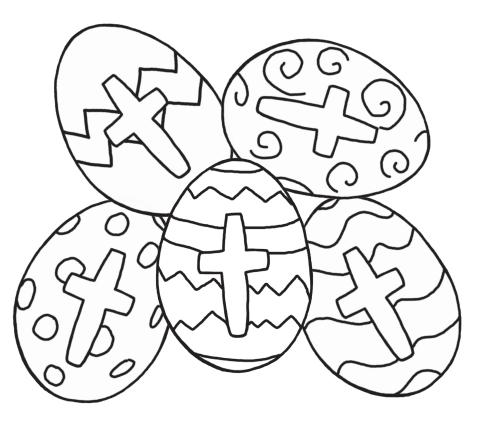
Look around and see if you can find the following things:

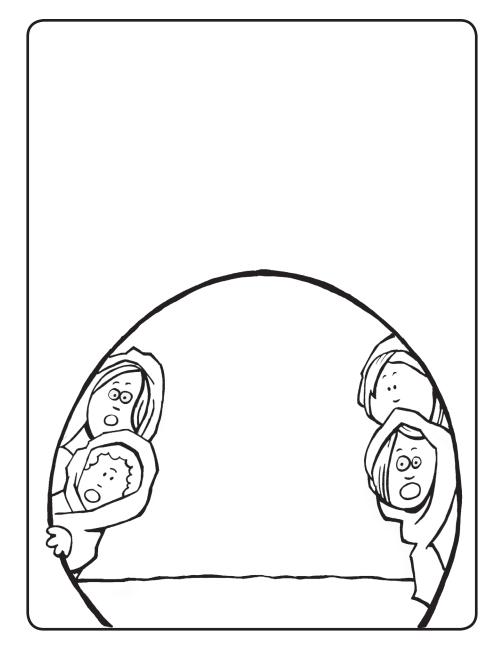




- Today is **Easter Day**.
- On Easter Day we celebrate **Jesus coming back to life**.
- Today we are reminded that Jesus gives us new life, too!

Did you decorate Easter eggs this year? Decorate the empty cross on these eggs to remember what Easter is all about.





Jesus isn't here. This is a place for the dead. Jesus is alive!

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When Jesus' friends went to look for him in the tomb, he was not there.

