



April 12, 2020

EASTER SUNDAY

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ALLELUIA!
Christ is Risen!

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ (302) 654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org

A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Might we dare approach the dark places in our lives and in our world? We have heard whispers that light has overcome the darkness. Might we dare let go of fear and despair? We have heard whispers of an empty tomb.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our virtual worship service. We invite you to participate in the liturgy by joining the worship leader on lines printed in **bold**.

Illustrated Ministry has provided the attached materials for worshipping with children. We hope you will print them out and use them for participation in this service or for family devotions throughout the week. Westminster's educational offerings have also moved online! You can find information about this week's offerings at the end of this Order of Worship.

We hope you will stay connected with our community of faith during this season of social distancing by subscribing to the Weekly Word through the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org), liking us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware>), or following us on Instagram (wpcdelaware).

Let us worship God!

CALL TO WORSHIP

The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness can never put it out.

Let all the earth rejoice!

The grave is empty,
Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed!

HYMN NO. 238

"Thine Is the Glory"

Vs. 1 & 3

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone
away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

EASTER PRAYER

**Creator of Life,
in breaking the tragic chains of his death
and raising Jesus from the cold stone tomb,
You opened the way for us to rejoice in abundant and eternal life.**

**May our Alleluias on this day
float high above the ceiling of what we think we know
and may the promise of Easter enrich our souls.**

**Raise us up!
Renew our lives!
Resurrect our dreams!
Through Jesus Christ our Living Savior, Amen.**

(adapted from a prayer by Karen Turner)

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10

SERMON

“Declaring Christ is Risen in a Covid-19 World”

Greg Jones

HYMN NO. 233

“The Day of Resurrection”
Vs. 1 & 3

**The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from sin’s dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful;
let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph
and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen,
our joy that has no end.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sudie Niesen Thompson

LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen**

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.**

BENEDICTION

GOING FORTH: OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES TO GOD

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ’s call is by giving our financial gifts to further God’s mission in the world. You may make an online offering to support the ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church by clicking “Donate Now” on the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org).

PASSING OF THE PEACE

According to John’s Gospel, the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples as they huddled behind locked doors and offered them the gift of peace (John 20:19). We invite you to share signs of Christ’s peace with those with whom you are gathered, or to pass the peace virtually by calling, emailing, or texting siblings in Christ.

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson
Sharon Babcock, Interim Director of Music
Song Leaders: Jason Berger, Olivia Forney, Brenton Mattox
Videographers: Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to Westminster John Knox Press for making available the complete list of public domain hymns included in the *Glory to God* hymnal and to Illustrated Ministry (<https://www.illustratedministry.com/>) for providing free resources for children of all ages to use during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Educational Offerings for the Week Ahead:

Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. OR Thursdays 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Bible Study

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361>

Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

While Westminster is closed, the "Eat and Exegete" Bible study will move to Westminster's Zoom classroom at the above link! Visit the link at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays OR 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer. This is a LIVE Bible study! Contact Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Online Evening Prayer

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361>

Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

Click the link above on Wednesday evenings for a short, informal LIVE prayer service. We will share a liturgy and some open time to pray for ourselves, our community, and the world. Use a laptop or smartphone for optimal experience with this technology.

Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

Women's Online Community Group

Coordinator: Jill Getty

For women of the church to provide connection and friendship, this group meets virtually using Zoom.com. If you are interested, please email Jill Getty at jgetty@wpc.org and she will add you to the weekly participant email list to receive the link and password.

180 Activities

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361>

High schoolers meet for small group on Thursdays at 5:30-6:30pm (text Molly or Tommy for the link). 6-12th grade meets at the link above Sundays at 11:30-12:15 for a quick chat, highs and lows, and prayer (not Easter Sunday).

Email Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

- Follow us for more on Instagram @180youth_wpc
- The Christian Education Zoom room has a new password. When prompted, enter wpc (case-sensitive).

Faith Formation Resources for Easter





Resources provided by Illustrated Ministry, LLC. illustratedministry.com

Contributors: Arianne Braithwaite Lehn, Erika Marksbury, Corby Ortmann

Concept & Editing: Rebekah Lowe

Founder: Adam Walker Cleaveland

Unless otherwise noted, scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

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RESOURCES FROM ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY

As the world struggles to adjust to life amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, necessary disruptions are affecting all aspects of our lives. Schools are closing, places of worship are canceling services, sports seasons are being suspended, and we are all adjusting to this new way of life. Illustrated Ministry hopes that these faith formation resources are meaningful and helpful to you.

We will be sending a weekly email during the COVID-19 pandemic which will include faith formation resources for all ages. We will be following the Revised Common Lectionary, and most of the resources will line up with the appropriate texts for each of the Sundays. If this resource was forwarded to you, and you would like to sign up to receive the weekly email in your inbox, you can sign up at: illustratedministry.com/flattenthecurve

The weekly resource consists of a variety of resources, including children's worship bulletins, devotionals, and coloring pages. There are a variety of different ways you could use these resources at home:

- As a family, put together an order of worship. You can use this as an interactive piece to the scripture reading and message/sermon.
- Use this as an individual or family devotional to reflect on throughout the week.
- Get a group of friends together, virtually, and color the coloring page and reflect on the scripture passage.
- While you watch your church's virtual worship service, your children can color the coloring page or do the activities in the children's worship bulletin.

We hope you enjoy this resource, and if you have any questions about it, you can always reach us at info@illustratedministry.com. If you want to connect with others and see how they are using our resources, you can also follow us on social media:

Facebook: fb.com/illustratedmin
Instagram: instagram.com/illustratedmin
Twitter: twitter.com/illustratedmin
Pinterest: pinterest.com/illustratedmin

Our Facebook Group is a growing community. If you're looking for ideas and suggestions for using this resource, you can request to join here:
fb.com/groups/illustratedmin

Peace,

The Illustrated Ministry Team

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EASTER - APRIL 12

Describe a time when you were surprised because you thought you knew something - and what you knew turned out not to be the case after all.

Note: If you are with a group, have each person take a turn sharing.

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Reflection

Mary Magdalene thought at least she knew how to mourn. For all that she might not understand about Jesus' last days or why his life came to such a brutal end, at least she knew how to mourn.

That's why she came to the tomb: there were prescribed rituals for burial. These rituals were most often women's work. Mary knew them. Performing them was an act of caregiving. It would be one last way she could honor Jesus, one final chance to show her love. After all that had been taken from her, she thought she could at least give that.

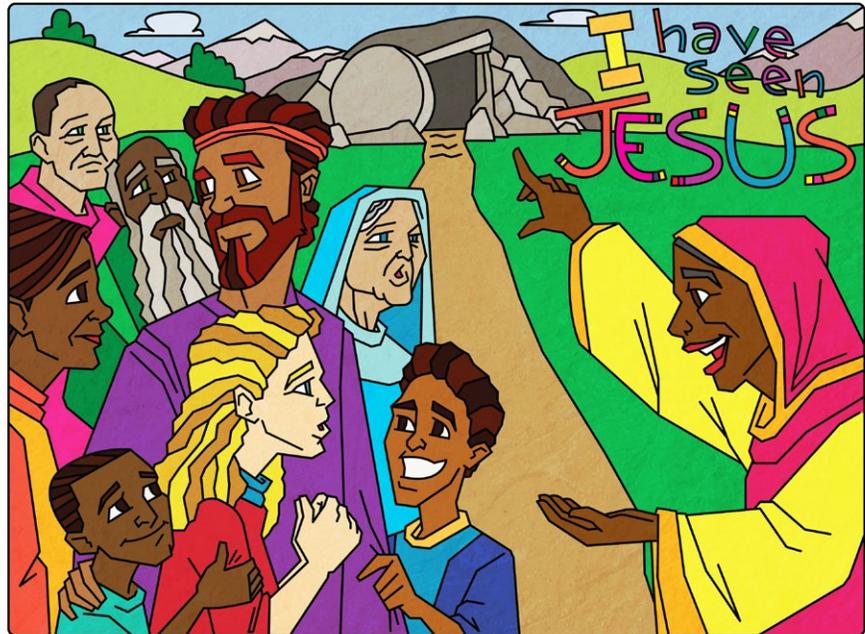
But when she arrived at the tomb, she discovered even that possibility had been taken from her. And she wept for all her losses: the loss of her friend, companion, and teacher; the disappearance of his body; and the stolen chance for her to provide care.

Maybe you're experiencing compounding losses now, too. The COVID-19 pandemic is changing our lives profoundly, and there is much to mourn. Schools being canceled for a month, or the remainder of the academic year, might create real sadness. Maybe you're missing birthday parties, or soccer games, or music festivals. Maybe your favorite restaurant is closed, your local park has "no entry" signs posted, your big plans – or your small ones – are erased from the calendar. Maybe you just long to see a friend's face in person, not behind a mask, not on a screen. Maybe you're missing out on the special ways your church and family typically celebrate Easter. Maybe even though the sun is shining and the flowers are blooming, you feel tired, and sad, and uncertain.

In some ways, we are like Mary at the tomb on that first Easter. We thought we at least knew how to mourn, how to help each other through: gather in community, offer a gentle hand, a warm hug, some sign of presence and care. Even that is different now.

When Jesus appears to Mary, she doesn't recognize him at first. Her tears blur her vision. Her knowledge of reality – the fact that the dead stay dead – keeps her from imagining that the one standing before her might be the friend she mourns.

When Jesus speaks her name – "Mary!" – everything she thought she knew is both undone and reaffirmed. The powers that killed Jesus had not won, after all. The violence that seemed triumphant turned out not to be the stronger force. Her hopelessness in the wake of this loss began to disappear. She



John 20:1-18 - illustratedministry.com

is recognized. She is known. She is commissioned to share the Good News that life and love have the last word.

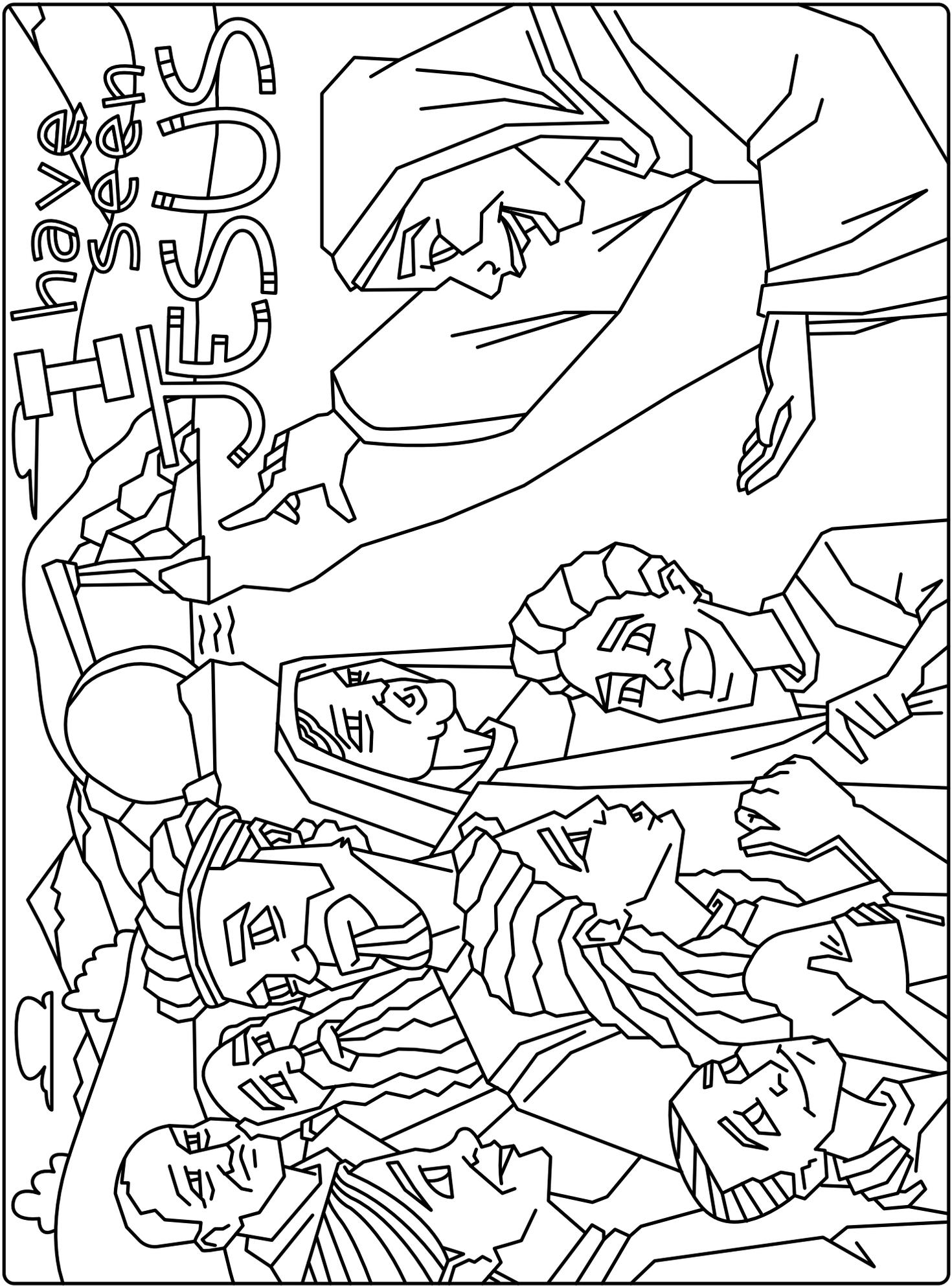
Maybe the good news this Easter is that even though parts of the world as we knew it are being undone, these eternal truths are reaffirmed. Like Mary, we are recognized and known, by the One whose life and love renews each of us and all the world. **ALLELUIA!**

Discussion Questions

1. What is different about your life within the last month or two? What has remained the same?
2. What are some losses you are mourning?
3. What does it mean to you to hear your name?
4. Where do you see new life and love around you?

Prayer

Dear God, we give thanks that you know us, and all the world, and that you love us, and all the world. When we are sad and uncertain, remind us that there is no power greater than your love. **Amen.**

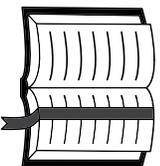


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DRAW IT

John 20 describes Mary visiting the tomb three days after Jesus' death. Imagine you are with Mary Magdalene, going to the tomb on that first Easter morning and encountering Jesus. What does he look like? What do you see?

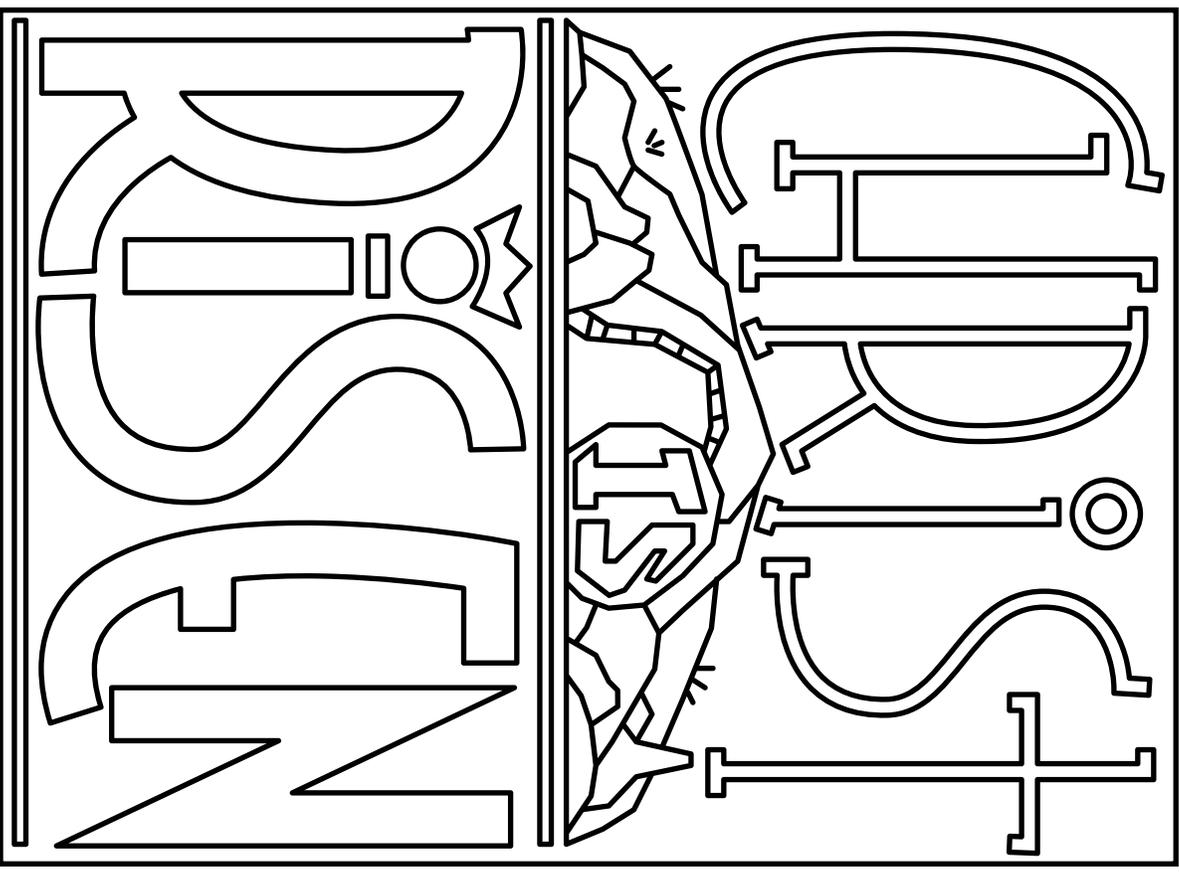


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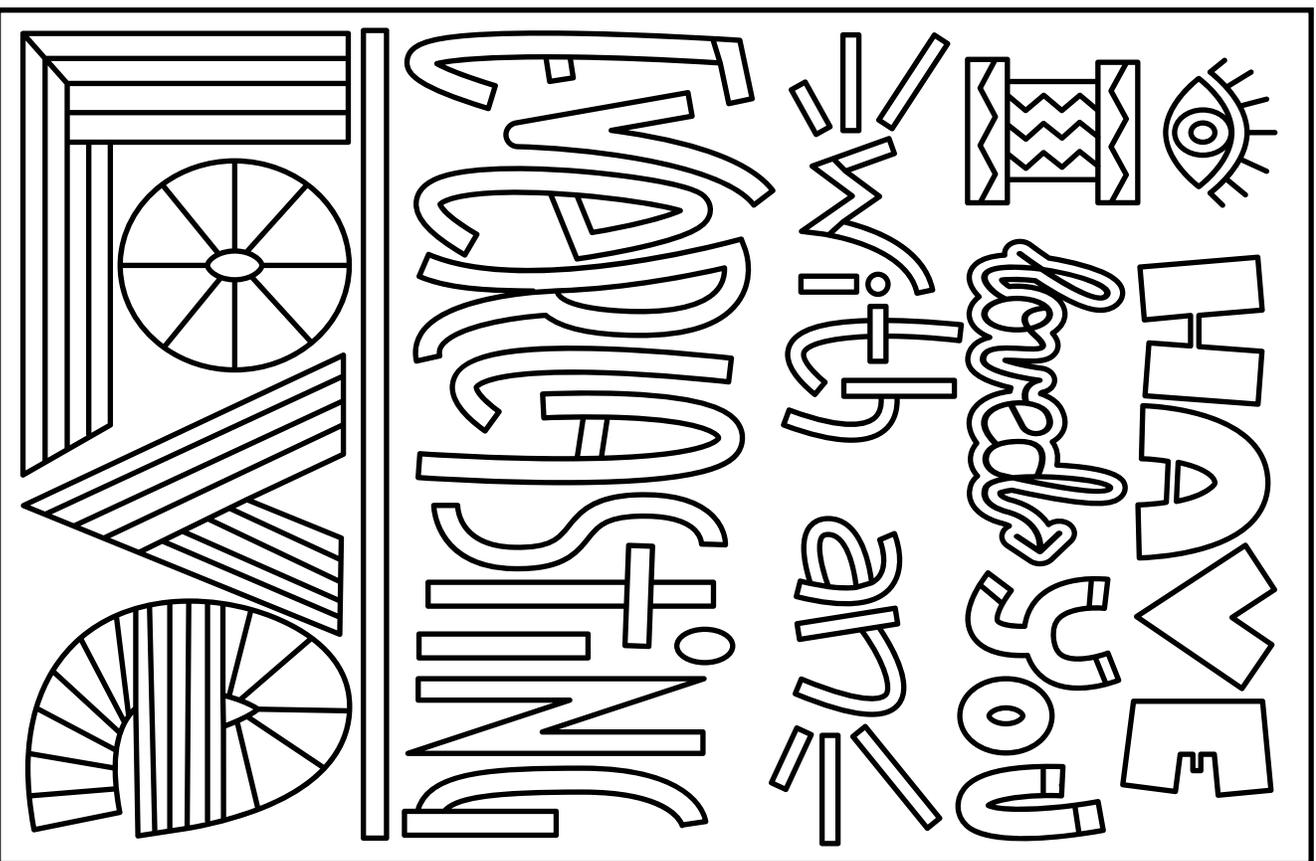
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Jeremiah 3:1-6, Colossians 3:14, John 20:1-18.



COLOR THE WORDS



UNSCRAMBLE IT

As we celebrate Jesus' resurrection today, what does the letter to the Colossians encourage us to do? Unscramble the words to find out!

OS FI UYO EHVA ENBE DAISER

IWHT RSTCHI, EKSE HET SGT HIN

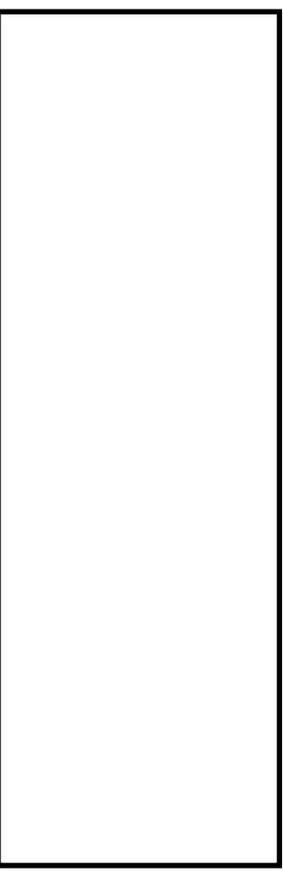
AHTT EAR BEOAV, REWEH

ISHCTR SI, TEEDAS TA EHT

DNHA FO DOG

DOODLE AREA

Draw a picture of something you are thankful for.



ALLELUIA POSTER ACTIVITY

Typically, on Easter Sunday, we shout, sing, and even raise up our Alleluias together – giving praise for the life-changing good news of Jesus’ resurrection. The literal meaning of Alleluia is ***Praise the Lord***.

During this pandemic, there have been so many beautiful displays of love and hope painted on windows of homes and chalked messages of inspiration and hope on sidewalks and driveways around neighborhoods.

As a way to celebrate God’s powerful gift of new life, we created an Alleluia Poster for you to decorate and share your own Alleluia. We hope our Alleluia Poster will be one more way you can celebrate Easter and add some color and beauty to your home and your community.

This poster is designed in our new Mosaic Poster Tiles format and comes formatted for both US Letter (8.5x11) and A4 paper.

US Letter (8.5x11): This version requires four sheets of paper, and measures 20.39” x 14.67” when assembled and taped together.

A4: This version requires six sheets of paper, and measures 57cm x 41cm when assembled and taped together.

We hope you’ll share photos of these Alleluia Posters, and if you post them on social media, make sure to either use the hashtag #illustratedministry or tag us (we’re @illustratedmin on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest). We’d love to see them!

To download the Alleluia Posters, enter the link below or click on the image to download the version of the Alleluia Poster that you want to print out. Instructions are provided with the downloaded PDFs. Have fun!



<https://illstrtdm.in/AlleluiaPosterUSLetter>



<https://illstrtdm.in/AlleluiaPosterA4>



ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

ARIANNE BRAITHWAITE LEHN is a mother, one half of a clergy couple, writer, and ordained minister with the Presbyterian Church (USA). As a South Dakota native, Arianne originally planned on Law School until God called her to Taiwan where everything changed. She later graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary (Chicago). She and her family live in Wilmette, Illinois. Arianne is the author of *Ash and Starlight: Prayers for the Chaos and Grace of Daily Life*. You can connect with Arianne and her writing at her website ariannebraithwaiteleh.com.

CORBY ORTMANN is a digital illustrator and animator, whose work includes caricatures, graphic design, children's books, and animated commercials/music videos. He currently lives in Fargo, North Dakota with his wife and daughter, who help him to step away from the art table every so often. You can find more of his work at www.corbyortmann.com.

ERIKA MARKSBURY is Senior Pastor of the creative and welcoming First Baptist Church of McMinnville, Oregon, and mom to two exhausting, inspiring boys.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

REBEKAH LOWE, a local of Kansas City, Southern California, and Austin, Texas, earned a B.A. in Biblical Studies with a minor in Leadership Studies and a minor in Hebrew at Azusa Pacific University and served as the Director of Children's Ministry at Brentwood Presbyterian Church (USA) in Los Angeles, California, for over five years. She resides in Austin, Texas with her husband and their two daughters.

ABOUT ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY'S FOUNDER + CEO

ADAM WALKER CLEVELAND is an artist, pastor, pastor's spouse, and father of four (two living). Adam is an ordained Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and after doing youth ministry for over 15 years, he founded Illustrated Ministry, LLC. He resides in Racine, Wisconsin with his wife and children.