

Colors of the Church Year

Purple: Suffering and Sorrow

Black: Sin and its Cure

White: Purity and Life

Red: Fire and Zeal

Green: Growth in God's Grace



Level 3

1. The Color Purple - The Color for Suffering and Sorrow

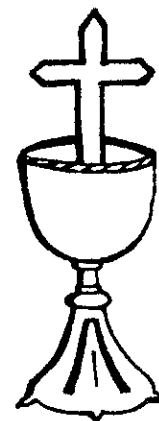
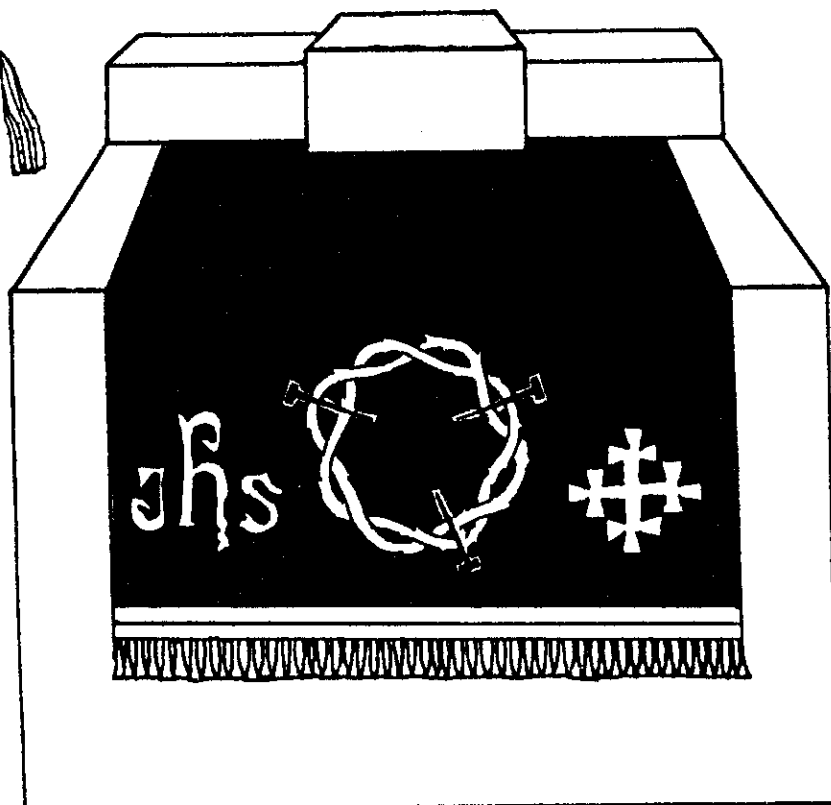
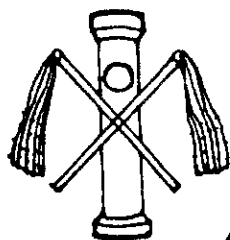
Level III and IV

The Soldiers Mock Jesus — Mark 15:6-20

Now at the feast he was accustomed to releasing one prisoner to them, whomever they requested. And there was one named Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels; they had committed murder in the rebellion. Then the multitude, crying aloud, began to ask him to do just as he had always done for them.

But Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd, so that he should rather release Barabbas to them. Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?" So they cried out again, "Crucify Him!" Then Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, "Crucify Him!" So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged Him, to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together the whole garrison. And they clothed Him with purple; and they twisted a crown of thorns, put it on His head, and began to salute Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they struck Him on the head with a reed and spat on Him; and bowing the knee, they worshiped Him. And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him.



I. **Purple** - the color for suffering and sorrow



Level III
Lesson 1 Purple Worksheet

Purple, the color for _____ and _____.

A. Multiple choice: Circle the correct letters.

1. The Jewish leaders wanted Jesus to be killed because:
 - a. They did not believe He was the Son of God and the Promised Savior.
 - b. They wanted a Roman ruler and not a Jewish king.
 - c. They feared Pilate and wanted to please him.
2. Pilate released Barabbas, the murderer and riot leader because:
 - a. Barabbas had served his time in prison.
 - b. The Jewish mob chose him over the innocent Jesus.
 - c. Barabbas was actually innocent.
3. Pilate sentenced Jesus to death because:
 - a. He found out that Jesus was guilty.
 - b. He feared the Jewish mob.
 - c. He was ordered by Caesar to do so.
4. When Pilate turned Jesus over to the soldiers, they:
 - a. beat Jesus up and let Him go free.
 - b. listened to the sermons of Jesus and prayed for Him.
 - c. made fun of Jesus and led Him to Golgotha.
5. Jesus responded to the mistreatment of the soldiers by:
 - a. quietly suffering through it.
 - b. cursing them for their wicked actions.
 - c. threatening to get even with them.

B. Colors of the Church Year in the church:

1. Explain why a crown of thorns is a good symbol for an altar cloth.
2. Remember what the color purple stands for? Why do we use this color for Lent?
3. What symbols are used on the purple altar cloths in your church?
What do they picture to you?

C. For some serious thinking

1. List some of the things Jesus suffered and put a star by the one you think was the absolute worst.
2. Why did Jesus go through such suffering? (LH 143:2-3)
3. By making fun of Jesus the King, the soldiers actually did make Jesus the King. How? Of what kingdom?

D. Further study in the Bible:

1. Summarize Isaiah 53:2-3
2. Read and discuss Mark 10:32-34
3. Memory Passage: Isaiah 53:5 Circle the pronouns for Jesus and underline the ones referring to us.

“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement for our peace was upon Him; and by His stripes we are healed.”

2. The Color Black - The Color for Sin and Its Curse

Level III and IV

Jesus' Crucifixion — Gospel Harmony

Matthew 27:45-47; John 19:28-30a; Luke 23:46: Matthew 27:51-54; Luke 23:48

Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, "This Man is calling for Elijah!"

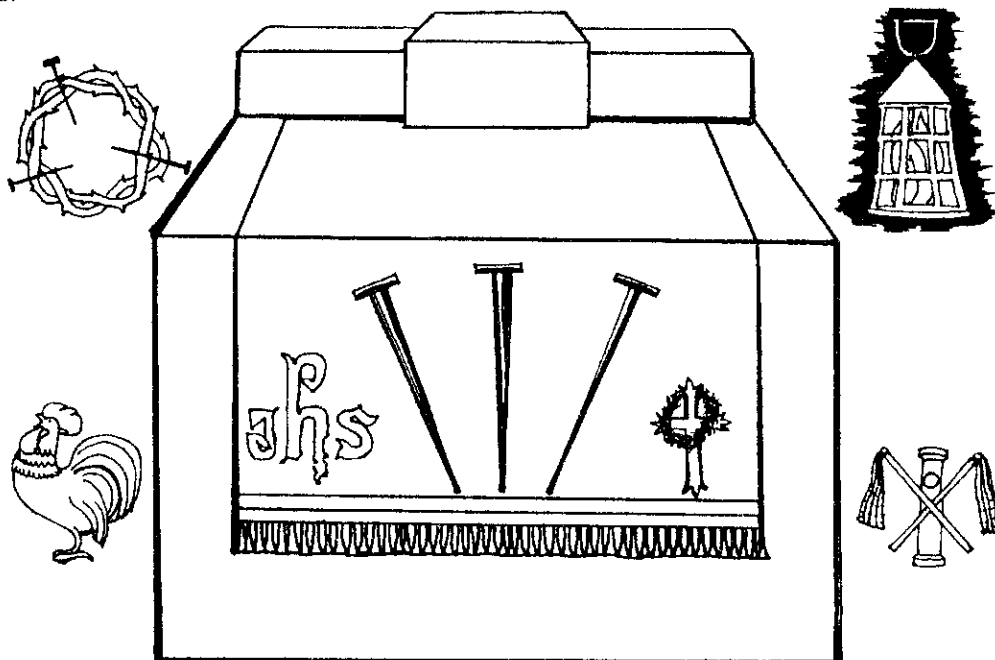
After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!"

And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'"

Having said this, He breathed His last.

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God!" And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned.



II. **Black** - the color for sin and its curse



Level III
Lesson 2 Black Worksheet

Black, the color for _____ and its _____.

A. Use numbers in the blanks to put these events in their proper time sequence.

- ___ a. The soldiers made fun of Jesus.
- ___ b. The veil of the temple was torn in two.
- ___ c. Pilate sentenced Jesus to death.
- ___ d. Jesus died.
- ___ e. Jesus was given a sponge soaked in vinegar.
- ___ f. Darkness covered the whole earth.
- ___ g. Jesus said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit."
- ___ h. The centurion confessed, "Surely, this was the Son of God."
- ___ i. There was an earthquake.
- ___ j. Jesus cried out "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
- ___ k. Jesus was nailed to the cross.
- ___ l. Jesus said, "It is finished."

B. Colors of the Church Year in the church.

1. We often think of death when we use the color black. How does that fit in with the thought of sin and its curse?
2. Sometimes no symbols are put on the black altar cloth. What would be the reason for that?
3. What symbols are used on the black altar cloth in your church? What do they picture?

C. For some serious thinking

1. Why is Friday when Jesus died called "Good Friday" and not "Bad Friday?"
2. Black is the altar cloth color for _____ only. Why do we not use black for Christian funerals?
3. What did Jesus mean when He said, "It is finished" and what does that mean for you?

D. Further Study in the Bible

1. Use Galatians 3:1-13 to answer the following:
 - a. The curse is _____.
 - b. The curse is of the _____.
 - c. The curse is on _____.
 - d. _____ saves us from the curse.
 - e. He did so by _____.
2. Explore the teachings of God found in Hebrews 2:14-18.
3. Memory Passage: Isaiah 64:6a Look it up and write it out below.

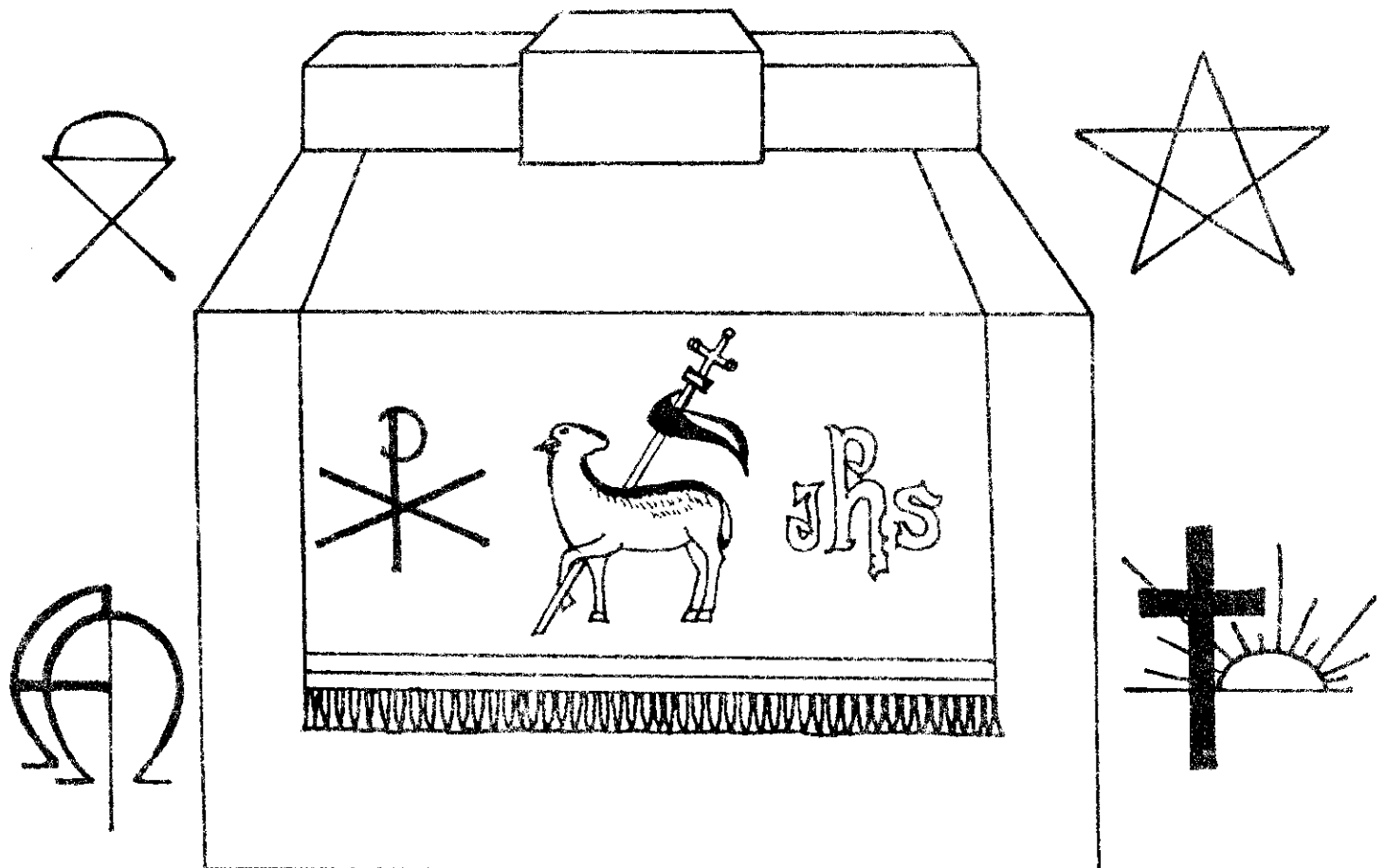
3. The Color White - The Color for Purity and Life

Level III and IV

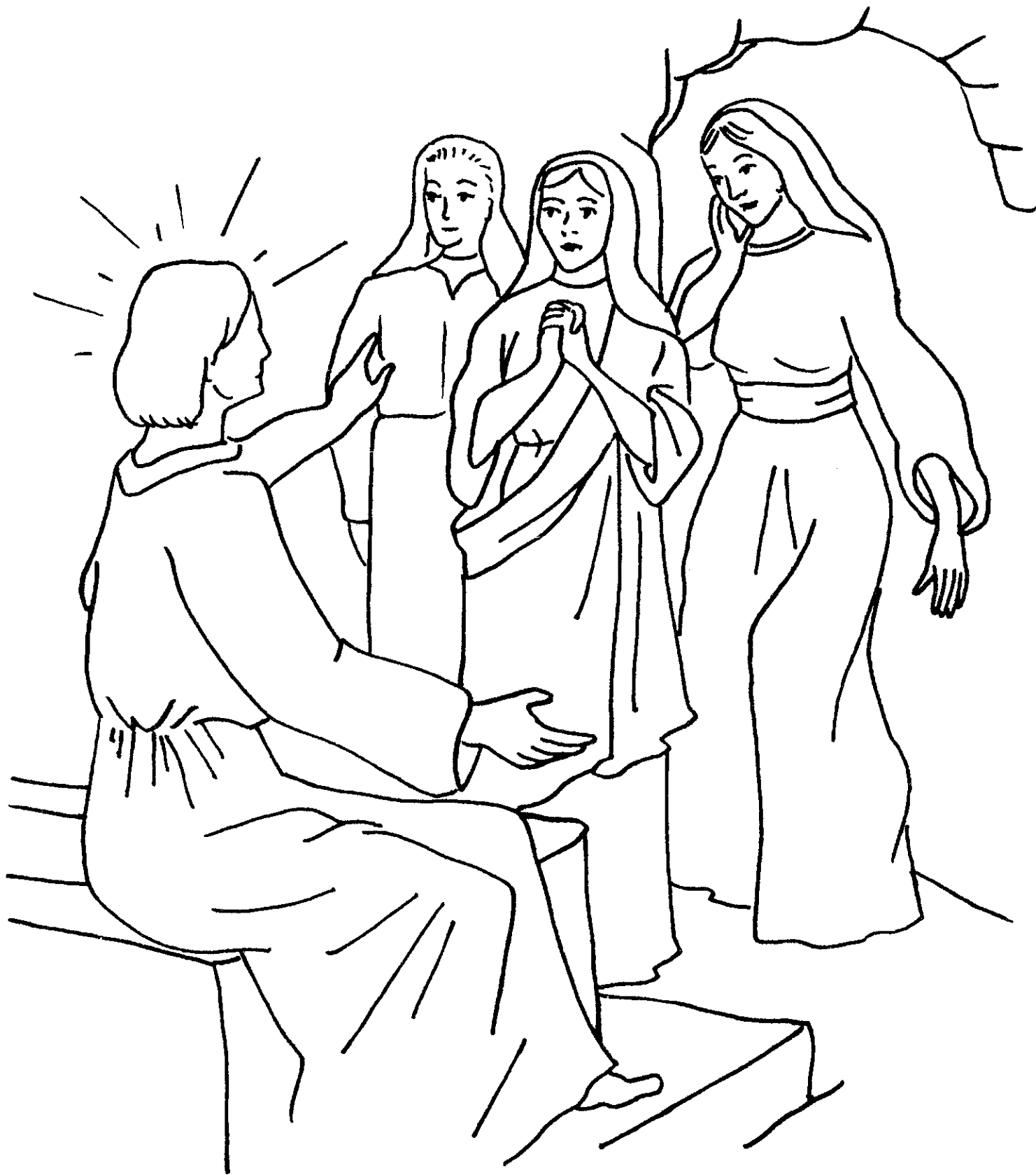
The Resurrection of Jesus — Matthew 28:1-10

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. "And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you." So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."



III. **White** - the color for purity and life



Level III
Lesson 3 White Worksheet

White the color for _____ and _____

A. True or False

- ___ 1. Jesus suffered greatly in order to save us from sin.
- ___ 2. Jesus lost His power on the cross and death defeated Him.
- ___ 3. Jesus knew that He would suffer and die before it happened
- ___ 4. Jesus also knew that He would rise from the dead on the third day.
- ___ 5. Jesus rose early in the morning on the Sabbath Day.
- ___ 6. The angel rolled away the stone to let Jesus out of the tomb.
- ___ 7. The angel told the soldiers not to be afraid.
- ___ 8. The brave soldiers fainted at the sight of the angel.
- ___ 9. The angel told the women that the crucified Jesus had risen
- ___ 10. The risen Jesus appeared to many people during the next 40 days.

B. Colors of the Church Year in the church.

- 1. We can well see why white is used at Christmas as a reminder of Jesus' birth without _____
White at Easter is a picture of _____. (If black is the color for _____ and _____,
white is the color for _____ and _____.)

- 2. One symbol that is often used on the Easter altar cloth is the picture of a lamb standing up and holding a banner. How does that fit in with the story of Easter?

- 3. What symbols are used on the white altar cloth in your church?

What do they picture to you?

C. For Some Serious Thinking

- 1. Look up the following passages which use the word white. Fill in the blanks and briefly tell what the word white means in the passage.
 - a. Revelation 1:14: Jesus' _____ and _____ were _____ like _____, as _____ as _____."

 - b. Matthew 17:1-2: Jesus' _____ became as _____ as the _____."

 - c. John 20:12 "Two _____ in white. Symbol of _____."

 - d. Psalm 51:7 " _____ me and I shall be _____ than _____."

- 2. White is the color for the Christian. Read John 11:25-26.
How do you answer the question Jesus asks in verse 26?

3. A Riddle: When does red change black into white? (see Is. 64:6 and Revelation 7:13-14)

D. Further Study in the Bible

1. Read I Corinthians 15:14-20 and list the terrible situation that would exist, if Jesus had not risen from the dead.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.

2. From I Peter 3:18-22, fill in four of the steps of Christ's Exaltation.

- a. verse 18,21
- b. verse 19
- c. verse 22a
- d. verse 22b

3. Memory Passage: Isaiah 1:18

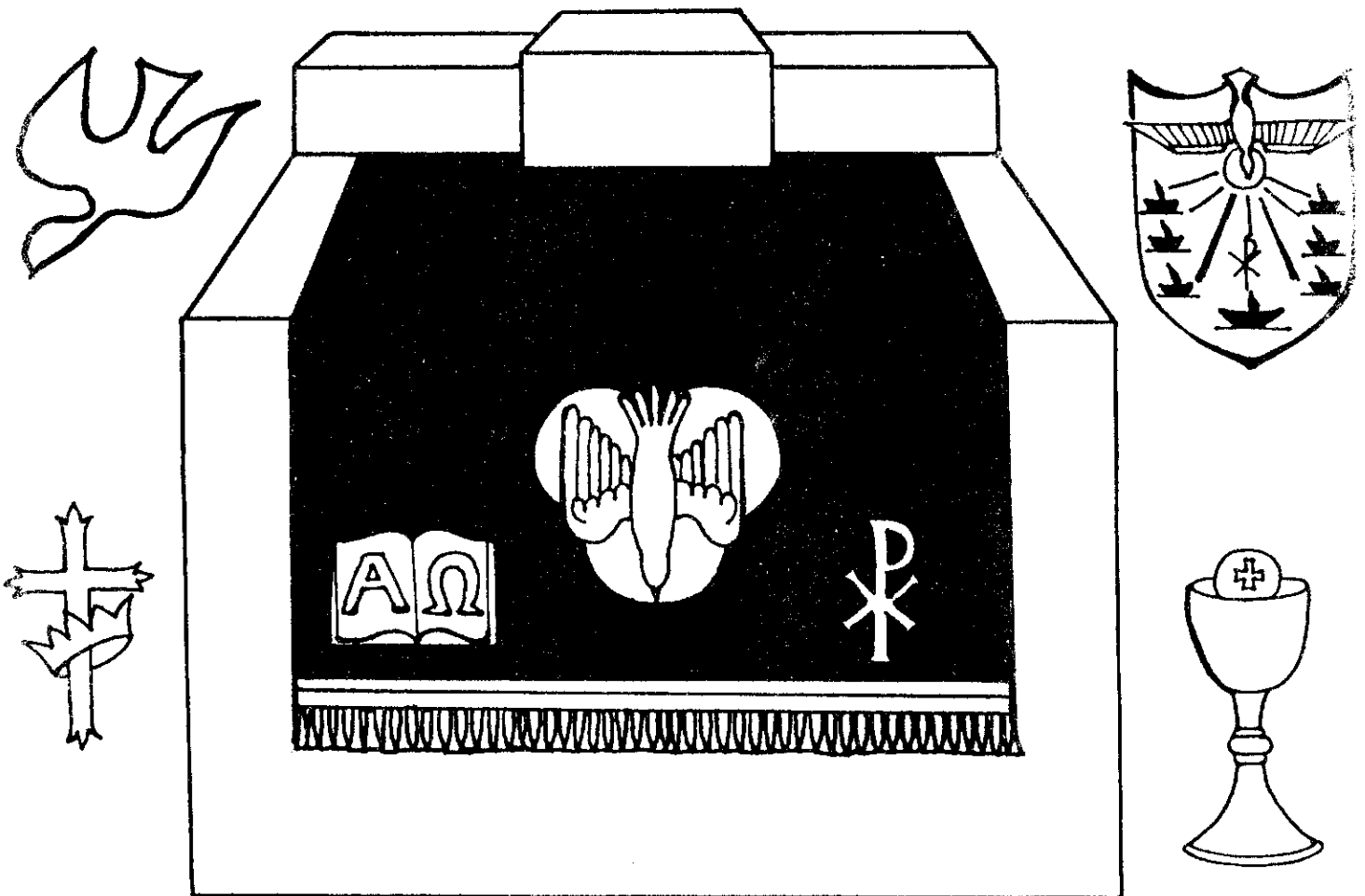
"Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

4. The Color Red - The Color for Fire and Zeal

Level III and IV

Pentecost — Acts 2:1-13

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs; we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?" Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."



IV. **Red** - the color for fire and zeal



Level III
Lesson 4 Red Worksheet

Red, the color for _____ and _____

A. Fill in the blanks:

Jesus suffered greatly under _____. He was _____. The soldiers made fun of Jesus by putting a _____ of _____ on His head and a _____ robe on His body. They also _____ on Him and _____ Him on the head. They led Him to _____ to _____ Him. While Jesus was dying, _____ covered the earth. God the _____ left His Son. Jesus was under the _____ of _____ sins. After Jesus cried, "It is _____," He _____. On the _____ day He _____ from the _____ and _____ to many. When Jesus ascended into heaven _____ days later, He told the disciples to wait in _____ for the _____ days later that Comforter did come on the day of _____. The Spirit gave the disciples the ability to _____ in _____ languages. People from all around the _____ heard in their own _____ about the _____ works of _____.

B. Colors of the Church Year in the church:

1. One symbol that is used with the red altar cloth is the picture of a dove. Why is that fitting?
2. Why would the color red be used for Reformation?
3. What symbols are used on the red altar cloth in your church?

What do they picture to you?

C. For some serious thinking

1 List the three miracles that accompanied the arrival of the Holy Spirit?

a. verse 2

b. verse 3

c. verse 4

2 In Acts 2, verse _____, _____, and _____ each tell us that the tongue-speaking was a definite foreign language. Why did God confuse the languages at the Tower of Babel?

Why did the Holy Spirit "unconfuse" them on Pentecost?

3. Why do you think that Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the New Testament Church? (The memory passage for this day gives you a hint!)

D Further Study in the Bible

1 Read Isaiah 6:1-8 What was Isaiah's problem?

How did the color red solve it?

What change did it make in him?

2 What wonderful works of God would you tell to a person? (Acts 2:22-24, 32-39 lists some which the Spirit told Peter to preach about on that Pentecost long ago.)

3 Memory Passage: John 16:13a

"However, when _____, the _____ of _____ has come. He will _____ into _____."

5. The Color Green - The Color for Growth in God's Grace

Level III and IV

The Throne in Heaven — Revelation 4:1-11; 5:11-14

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!"

Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

"You are worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist and were created."

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
To receive power and riches and wisdom,
And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power
Be to Him who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

Level III
Lesson 5 Green Worksheet

Green, the color for _____ in God's _____.

A. Pick one from each box to make up the right description to answer numbers 1-3. One wrong answer has been added to each box.

24	10
7	4

lamps
elders
living creatures
flying eagles

full of eyes
sitting down
burning
white garments

1. The Holy Christian Church of the Old and New Testament is pictured by the _____ in _____.
2. The Holy Spirit is pictured by _____.
3. All the regions of the earth are pictured by _____.

B. Colors of the Church Year in the church.

1. A triangle is often used on the green altar cloth. Find a verse in this story which would explain its use and meaning.
2. What symbols are used on the green altar cloth in your church?
What do they picture to you?

C. For some serious thinking

1. Review the three colors of the week which are found in this lesson. Explain their meaning.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

Which two colors are missing from the scene, and why? See Revelation 21:4

- a.
- b.

2. Do you understand all of the Throne Vision given in Revelation 4 and 5?

What about the whole Book of Revelation and its references to plagues, seals, trumpets, a sea and an earth beast, and even a dragon?

Like most Christians you probably will have to say that you need to study all of this book a lot more. And that is perhaps one reason why God put this book as the last one in the Bible—to show us that we don't know it all, that we need to study His Word all the days of our life. And that is why green is such a good color for the biggest season of the Church Year. Just as our evergreen tree needs sun and rain to keep living, so we need God's Word to keep our faith alive. Think about it. Don't stop today.

D. Further Study in the Word

1. Compare the songs of chapters 4 & 5 by completing the chart.

	Revelation 4:10-11	Revelation 5:11-12	Revelation 5:13-14
Addressed to			
Reason for song			
Sung by			
Worthy to Receive (phrases)	(3)	(7)	(4)

2. Memory Passage: Revelation 5:12 Why do you think the Lamb is worthy?

What can you give to Him?

A Review of the Week

Story

Color

Meaning

Memory Passage

1. The Soldiers mock Jesus
2. Jesus' Crucifixion
3. The Resurrection of Jesus
4. Pentecost
5. The Throne in Heaven

THE CHURCH YEAR

<p style="text-align: center;">ADVENT</p> <p>Usually begins the end of November</p>	<p>The dominant thought of Advent is of the Lord's Coming --</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1. His Coming in Flesh 2. His Coming in Grace 3. His Coming in Glory</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTMAS</p> <p>Dec. 25 to first week in January</p>	<p>Our thoughts are drawn to the Father's gift to mankind-His Son in human flesh. We celebrate the Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ, the One conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ETIPHANY</p> <p>Begins January 6th and follows to Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>Epiphany is the "manifestation" of Christ as the Son of God. The sinless life He lived and the miracles He performed give concrete evidence of His Divine Nature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">70 60 50 Septuagesima Sexagesima Quinquagesima</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LENT</p> <p>Begins Ash Wednesday and follows to Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>The Lenten Season is a time for self-examination in light of the perfect obedience our Savior exhibited as the cross loomed before Him. Our Lord's suffering and death suggest the question: "What made His Crucifixion and Death necessary?" Answer: our sins.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>The Death of our Savior on Calvary</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">EASTER</p> <p>From Easter Sunday to Pentecost</p>	<p>This is the Climax of the Church Year -- Easter Sunday. It's a time of Victory for those in Christ-He is risen from the dead. It's a time to rebuild our lives on the grace of Easter by faith which comes by the Holy Spirit thru the Word.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ASCENSION</p>	<p>Christ's Ascension to the throne and His crowning as the King of heaven and earth.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PENTECOST</p>	<p>A reminder of the powerful work of the 3rd person of Trinity-Holy Ghost.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TRINITY</p>	<p>This marks the end of the Church Year's first half. The festivals of the first half commemorate past historic events. This festival is much different in that it expresses a great doctrine--the Church's adoring worship of the Trinity--</p> <p style="text-align: center;">God the Father God the Son (1 God in 3 Persons) God the Holy Ghost</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PENTECOST/TRINITY SEASON</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit instructs us in the way of life, the life in Christ, and the God-pleasing fruits of faith.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">REFORMATION</p>	<p>Our thoughts are directed to the wonderful grace of God in preserving His truth among us--Luther, Defenders of the Faith.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>Our minds are drawn to the great blessings which our gracious Lord has bestowed upon us: physical as well as spiritual. For all those bountiful blessings we praise and thank our God.</p>

A Study of the Church Year

Level II & III

A. Match the color to the church season. Some colors will be used more than once.

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------|
| _____ | 1. Easter | green |
| _____ | 2. Epiphany | purple |
| _____ | 3. Advent | white |
| _____ | 4. Lent | black |
| _____ | 5. Good Friday | red |
| _____ | 6. Christmas | |
| _____ | 7. Sundays after
Trinity | |
| _____ | 8. Pentecost | |

B. Put the church seasons in their proper order.

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| Lent | 1. _____ |
| Trinity | 2. _____ |
| Easter | 3. _____ |
| Good Friday | 4. _____ |
| Christmas | 5. _____ |
| Epiphany | 6. _____ |
| Pentecost | 7. _____ |
| Ascension | 8. _____ |
| Advent | 9. _____ |

C. Match the day or date to the season.

- | | |
|-------|-----------|
| _____ | Pentecost |
| _____ | Ascension |
| _____ | Christmas |
| _____ | Easter |
| _____ | Advent |
| _____ | Epiphany |

1. December 25
2. The Sunday after Good Friday
3. 40 days after Easter
4. January 6
5. 50 days after Easter
6. End of November, 1st of December

D. Use letters to match the thought to each season.

- | | |
|-------|----------------|
| _____ | 1. Trinity |
| _____ | 2. Pentecost |
| _____ | 3. Ascension |
| _____ | 4. Good Friday |
| _____ | 5. Epiphany |
| _____ | 6. Advent |
| _____ | 7. Lent |
| _____ | 8. Easter |
| _____ | 9. Christmas |

- a. We prepare for Jesus' coming into the world
- b. The 40 day period of preparation for Good Friday
- c. The day Jesus rose from the dead.
- d. The day we celebrate our Savior's birth.
- e. The day Jesus died on the cross.
- f. We celebrate Jesus' appearance to the Gentile Wise Men.
- g. The birthday of the New Testament Church, The Holy Spirit was sent to the disciples in a special way.
- h. Jesus went up into heaven 40 days after Easter
- i. We celebrate all that our Triune God has done and still does for us.

— MEMORY VERSES —

Level I and II

1. I Peter 3:18a "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust."
2. Romans 6:23a "For the wages of sin is death."
3. John 14:19b "Because I live, you will live also."
4. I Cor. 12:3b "No one can say that Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit."
5. Psalm 23:2 "He makes me to lie down in green pastures: He leads me beside the still waters."

Level III and IV

1. Isaiah 53:5 "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and by His stripes we are healed."
2. Isaiah 64:6a "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags."
3. Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool."
4. John 16:13a "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth."
5. Revelation 5:12 "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing."

— HYMNS FOR OPENING DEVOTIONS —

Monday—143:2&3 Tuesday—379:4 Wednesday—366:6 Thursday—225 Friday—246:2&3

— FOR MEMORY —

Hymn 344 — *Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs* — The Lutheran Hymnal

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Come, let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne.
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one. | 3. Jesus is worthy to receive
Honor and power divine;
And blessings more than we can give
Be, Lord, forever Thine. |
| 2. "Worthy the Lamb that died, they cry,
To be exalted thus."
"Worthy the Lamb," our lips reply,
For He was slain for us. | 4. Let all creation join in one
To bless the sacred name
Of Him that sits upon the throne
And to adore the Lamb. Amen. |

— SUGGESTED PRAYER —

O, Lamb of God, Who was slain, but now is alive and on the right hand of God the Father, truly You are worthy to receive our honor and praise and thanks. As we look at the colors of the church year we are reminded of Your great work in saving us, The color purple reminds us of Your bitter sufferings which You endured quietly and patiently. Teach us to see the cause of this suffering - our sins, and to repent of them.

The color black reminds us of Your painful death, yet we rejoice that Your death has removed the curse of sin from us and has rescued us from the blackness of eternal death in hell.

The color white reminds us of the life and holiness Your Resurrection has brought to us.

The color red reminds us of Pentecost and the precious gift of the Holy Ghost who brings us to faith, sanctifies us, and fills our heart with the love of God.

The color green reminds us that our life here on earth is rooted for growth in the Word of God. Grant that we may there remain until You come to take us to the eternal life of heaven.

O, precious Savior Jesus Christ, make the salvation purchased for us on the cross secure in our hearts and lead us to appreciate Your life, death, and resurrection that with all creation we may join in the praise of Your most glorious name, by which we also dare to pray...

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

