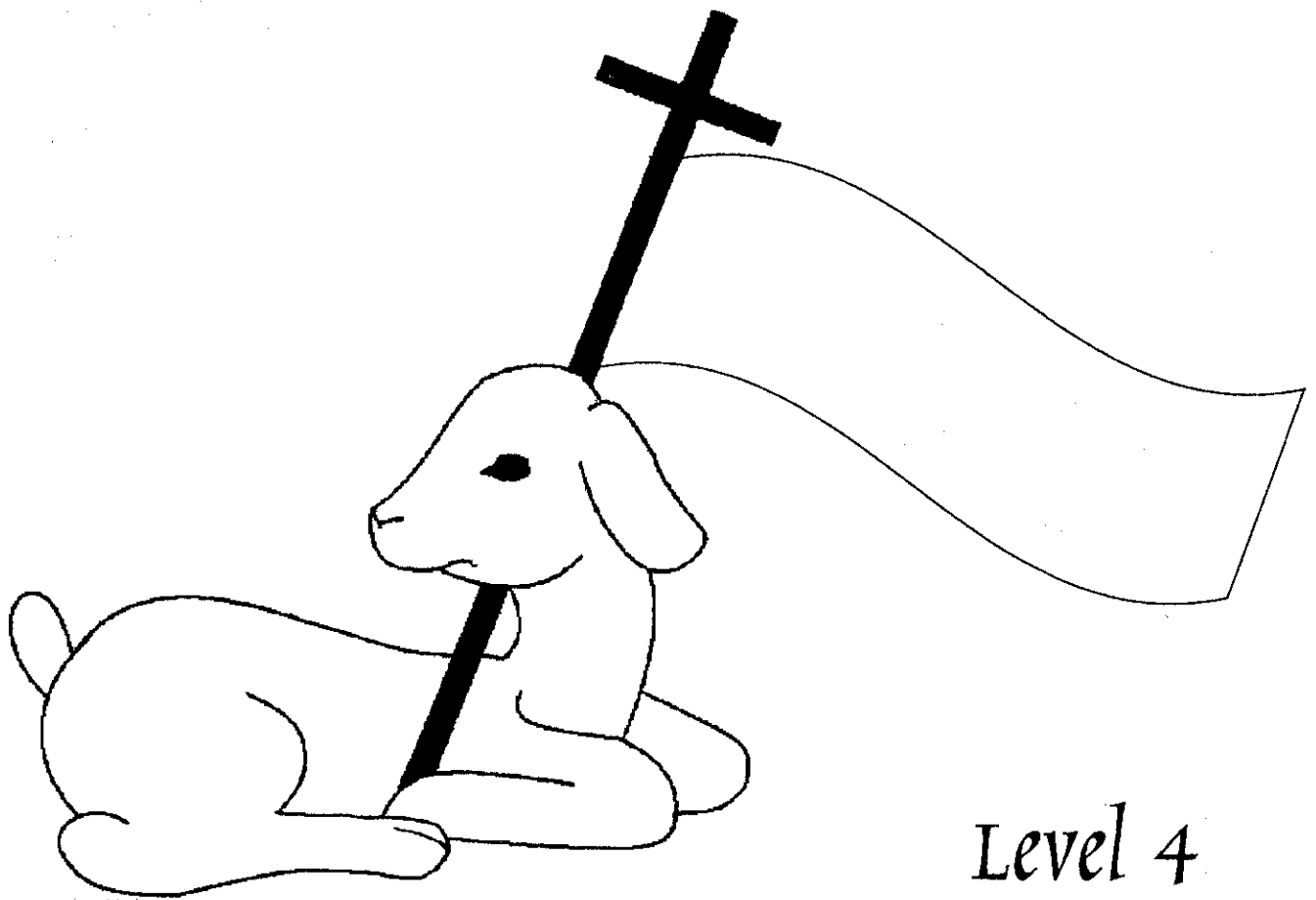


Colors of the Church Year



Level 4

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

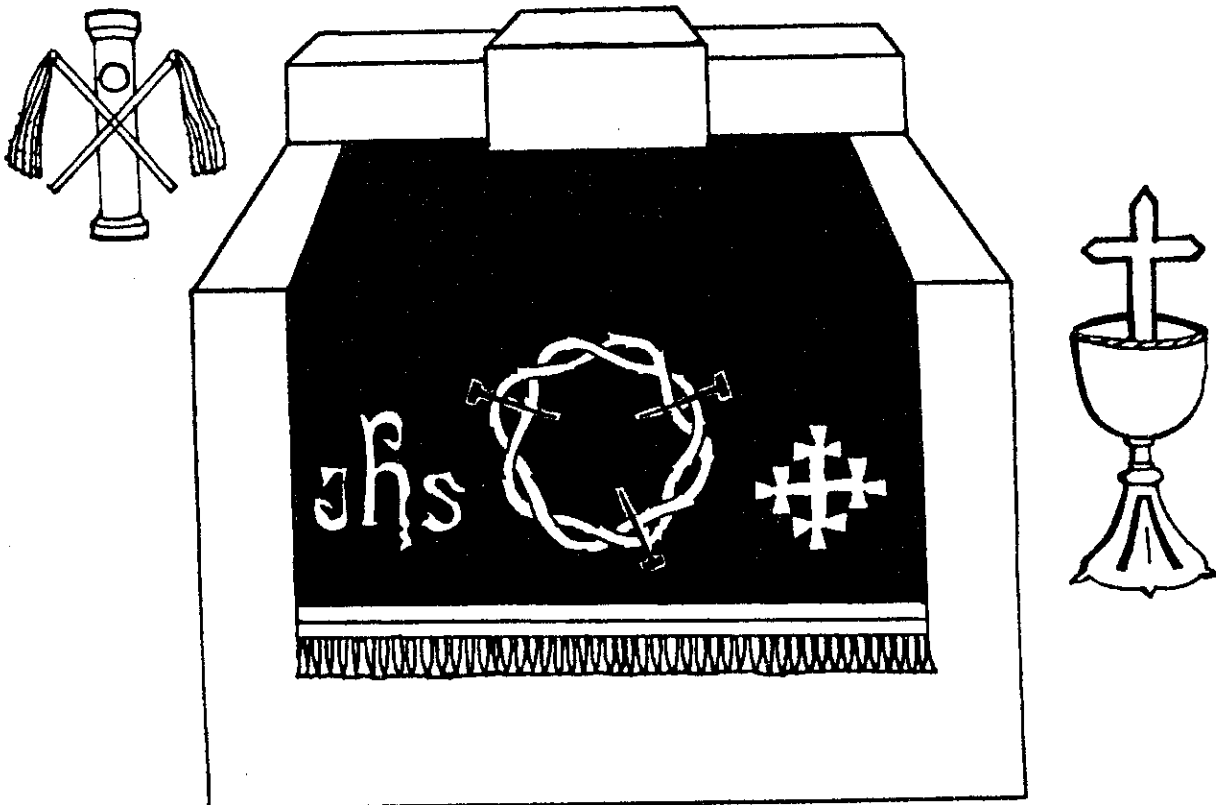
Level III and IV

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 IV
Lesson 1 Purple Worksheet

CHOOSE WORDS FROM THE STORY WHICH BEGIN WITH THE LETTERS OF THE WORD "PURPLE." BE READY TO EXPLAIN HOW EACH WORD FITS THE STORY.

P U R P L E

1. Why did Pilate release Barabbas?
2. Why did Pilate have Jesus flogged?
3. What 3 things were mockingly done to Jesus to make him look like a king?
4. By making fun of Jesus as a king, what truth about Jesus were the soldiers unwittingly pointing out?
5. What was wrong with the soldiers' words of worship, "Hail, King of the Jews?"

PUT A CHECK AFTER EACH STATEMENT BELOW THAT COMPLETES THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE: "PURPLE FITS THIS STORY BECAUSE..."

- _____ it stands for Jesus's Kingdom in Heaven.
- _____ it stands for Jesus's Earthly Kingdom.
- _____ it stands for the high office of Pontius Pilate.
- _____ it stands for repentance
- _____ it stands for Jesus's suffering on the cross.

HYMN STUDY—THE LUTHERAN HYMNAL

- 140 verse 1** Use words from the hymn verse that tell us why we should want to stay away from every evil pleasure in this world.
- 144** The world with its sinful pleasures constantly tempt us to do evil. Find the phrase in the indicated verses which tells us what will help in the following circumstances:
- When temptations prove too strong. (verse 2)
- When the road to Hell entices me with evil. (verse 3)
- When we're faint from troubles and temptations. (verse 4)
- 151 verse 2** What did Jesus bear for us?
- verse 3** Find 3 reasons Jesus suffered for us.
- verse 4** Find 2 more reasons that Jesus suffered for us.
- 73** Find 10 names for God in this hymn.

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!"

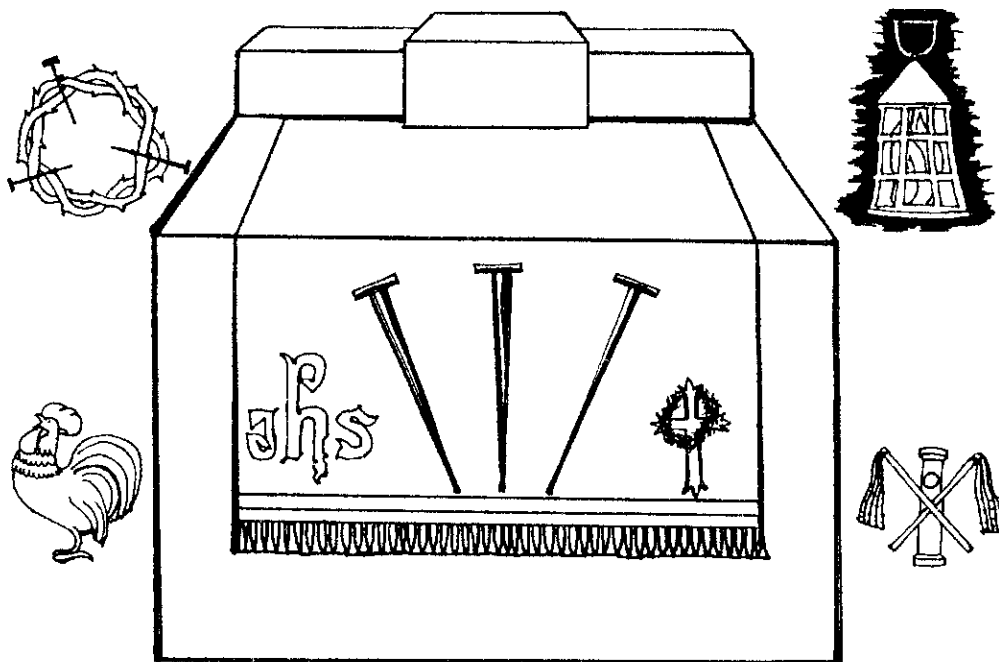
After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He 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 IV
Lesson 2 Black Worksheet

CHOOSE WORDS FROM THE STORY WHICH BEGIN WITH THE LETTERS OF THE WORD "BLACK." BE READY TO EXPLAIN HOW EACH WORD FITS THE STORY.

B L A C K

1. When Jesus was crucified, how long was the entire earth dark?
2. On whom did many people think Jesus was calling for help?
3. What was Jesus given to drink?
4. Tell 3 miraculous things that happened immediately after Jesus's death.
5. Give 4 reasons why black is a good color to represent this story of Jesus's death.

WHO MADE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS AND WHAT DOES EACH STATEMENT SHOW?

"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

"He saved others, but He can't save Himself."

"Surely, He was the Son of God."

"It is finished."

"Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit."

HYMN STUDY—THE LUTHERAN HYMNAL

- 154** Which verse in particular fits our story and the color black?
- 159** Which verse here describes the actual crucifixion and death of Jesus?
- 166** Which verse in this hymn describes the crucifixion of our Savior?
- 171** Which verses show that we are just as guilty of crucifying Jesus as the soldiers?
- 176** Write the number for the verse (1,2, or 3) which tells about the events in our story?
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ earthquake | _____ crucifixion |
| _____ Jesus gives up His life | _____ veil of the temple torn |

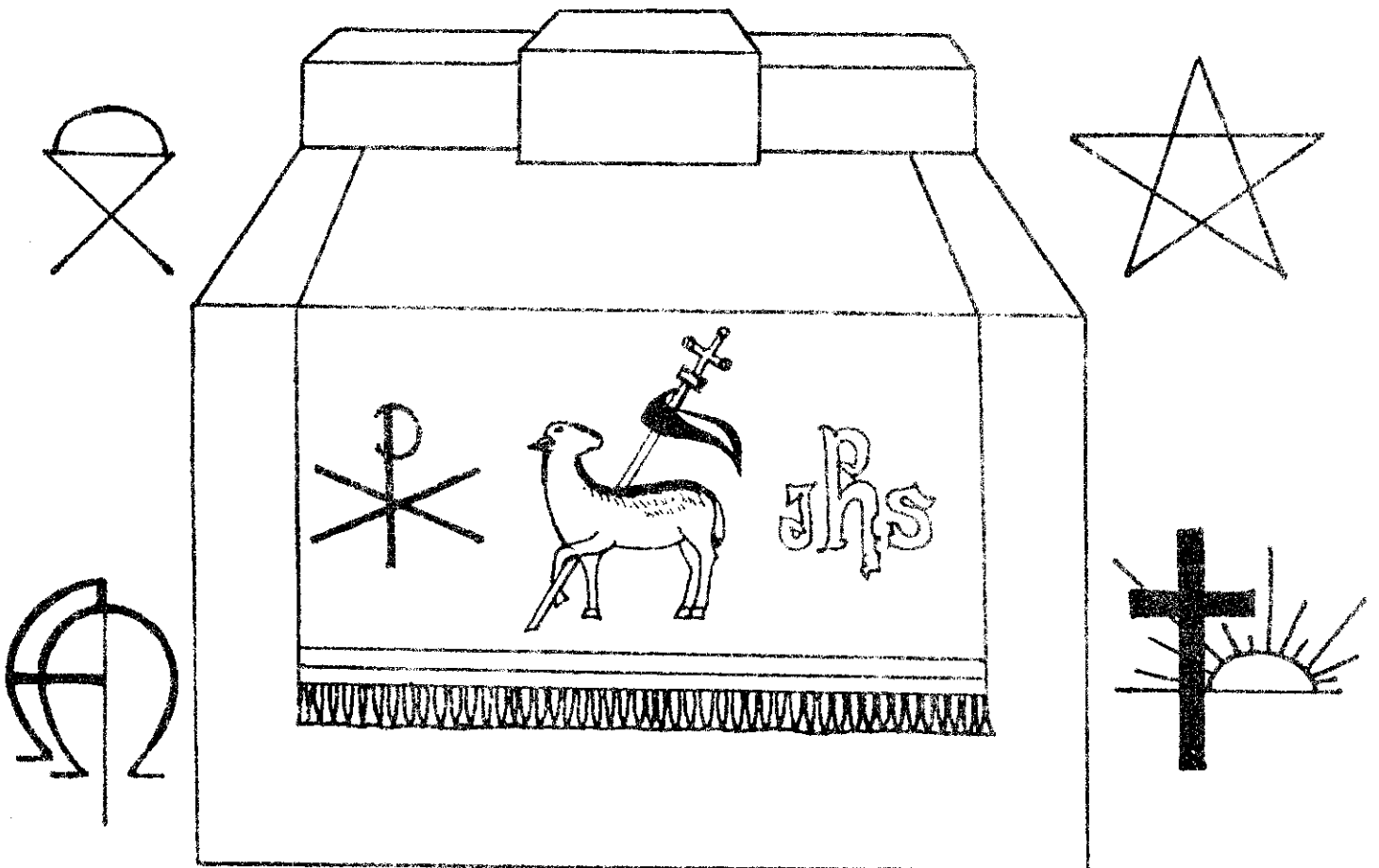
3. The Color White - The Color for Purity and Life

Level III and IV

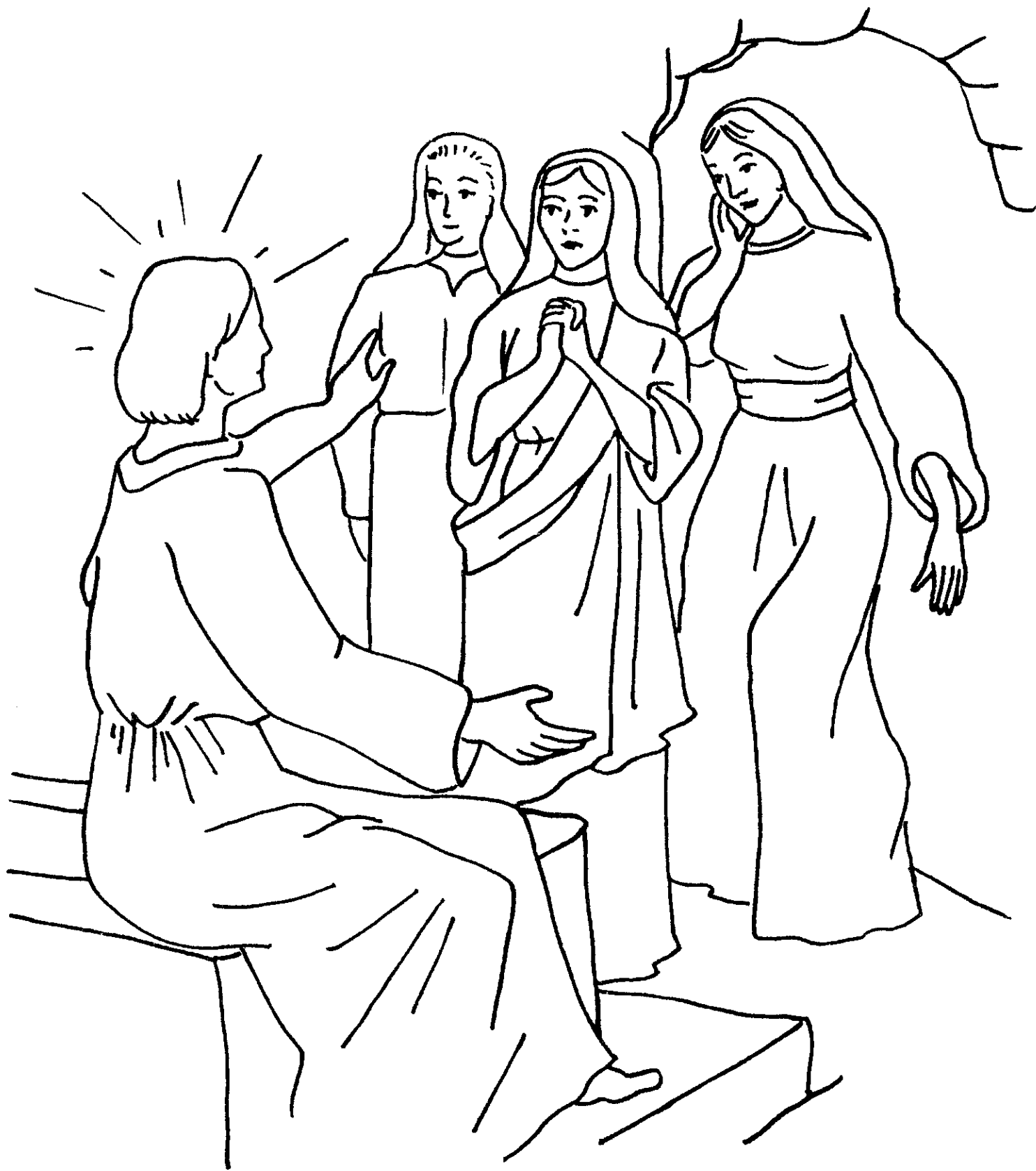
The Resurrection of Jesus — Matthew 28:1-10

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

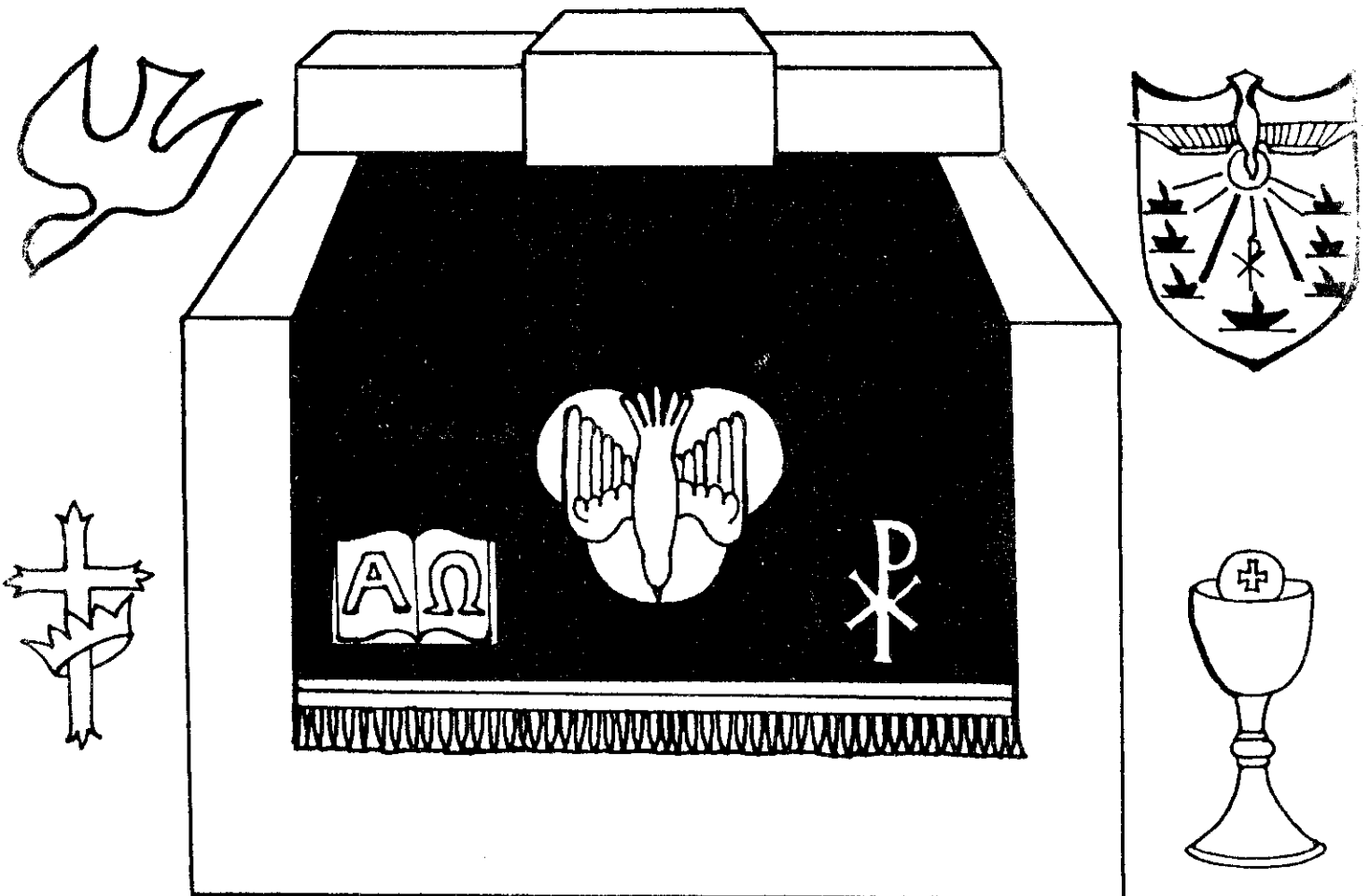


4. The Color Red - The Color for Fire and Zeal

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 IV
Lesson 4 Red Worksheet

CHOOSE WORDS FROM THE STORY WHICH BEGIN WITH THE LETTERS OF THE WORD "RED." BE READY TO TELL HOW EACH WORD FITS THE STORY.

R E D

PUT THESE EVENTS IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY OCCURRED. USE THE NUMBERS 1-8.

- ___ The disciples spoke in many foreign languages
- ___ Sound of a strong blowing wind
- ___ Some accused the disciples of being drunk
- ___ Tongues of fire rested on each of the disciples
- ___ The disciples were gathered in one place hiding
- ___ The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit
- ___ All the foreign-speaking people in Jerusalem heard their own language spoken by the disciples
- ___ The crowd heard the noise and gathered around the disciples' house

FOLLOWING ARE LISTED SOME EVERYDAY ITEMS THAT ARE RED. TRY TO TELL HOW 3 OF THESE RED ITEMS COULD REMIND US OF THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON PENTECOST AND IN OUR LIVES.

- blood -
- red sky at dawn -
- fire alarm -
- red Valentine heart -
- red-hot glow of a sword being made -
- fireplace -
- red brick wall -

HYMN STUDY—THE LUTHERAN HYMNAL

224 verse 1 What foreign mission theme is mentioned in this verse?

verse 2 What are we asking the Holy Spirit to do as our "Light, (our) Guide Divine?"

verse 3 When we call the Spirit a "holy Fire," what are we asking Him to do in us?

In the following hymn verses, find and write out the phrase which fits the theme of our lesson, **"The Fire and Zeal the Holy Spirit Creates in Us."**

225 verse 2

232 verse 4

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 IV
Lesson 5 Green Worksheet

CHOOSE WORDS FROM THE STORY WHICH BEGIN WITH LETTERS OF THE WORD "GREEN." BE READY TO TELL HOW EACH WORD FITS THE STORY.

G R E E N

MATCH THE SYMBOLS WITH THE ITEM THEY REPRESENT

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ___ throne (4:2) | A. future, which is clear to God |
| ___ the One who sat there (4:3) | B. God the Father |
| ___ jasper (4:3) | C. Church of all believers |
| ___ 24 elders (4:4) | D. a stone meaning judgment |
| ___ carnelian (4:3) | E. God's authority and power |
| ___ 7 lamps, 7 spirits (4:5) | F. living beings |
| ___ living creatures (4:6) | G. a stone meaning majesty |
| ___ the Lamb (5:12) | H. Jesus Christ |
| ___ the 3-fold "Holy" (4:8) | I. Holy Spirit |
| ___ sea of glass (4:6) | J. the Trinity |

1. What do you think of when you hear: "God is King of all?"
2. How does it help us to think about God's rule when we are worried or afraid?
3. How does this truth affect our attitudes toward the future, a nuclear holocaust, our own personal responsibilities? (I Corinthians 15:58, Ephesians 6:6-7)
4. How can we answer people who say: "If God is ruling, how can this or that (evil) be allowed to happen?"
5. How important is singing to worship?
6. Why is it important to praise and worship God?
7. How can we praise God?

HYMN STUDY—THE LUTHERAN HYMNAL

123 verse 1 What 4 names of comfort are given to God in this verse?

239 Why can this hymn be called a Trinitarian hymn?
About Whom does verse 1 speak? Summarize what is said about Him.
About Whom does verse 2 speak? Summarize what is said about Him.
About Whom does verse 3 speak? Summarize what is said about Him.

244 verse 1 To whom should we sing glory?

verse 2 List 4 reasons why we should sing glory to our Savior God.

A Study of the Church Year

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.

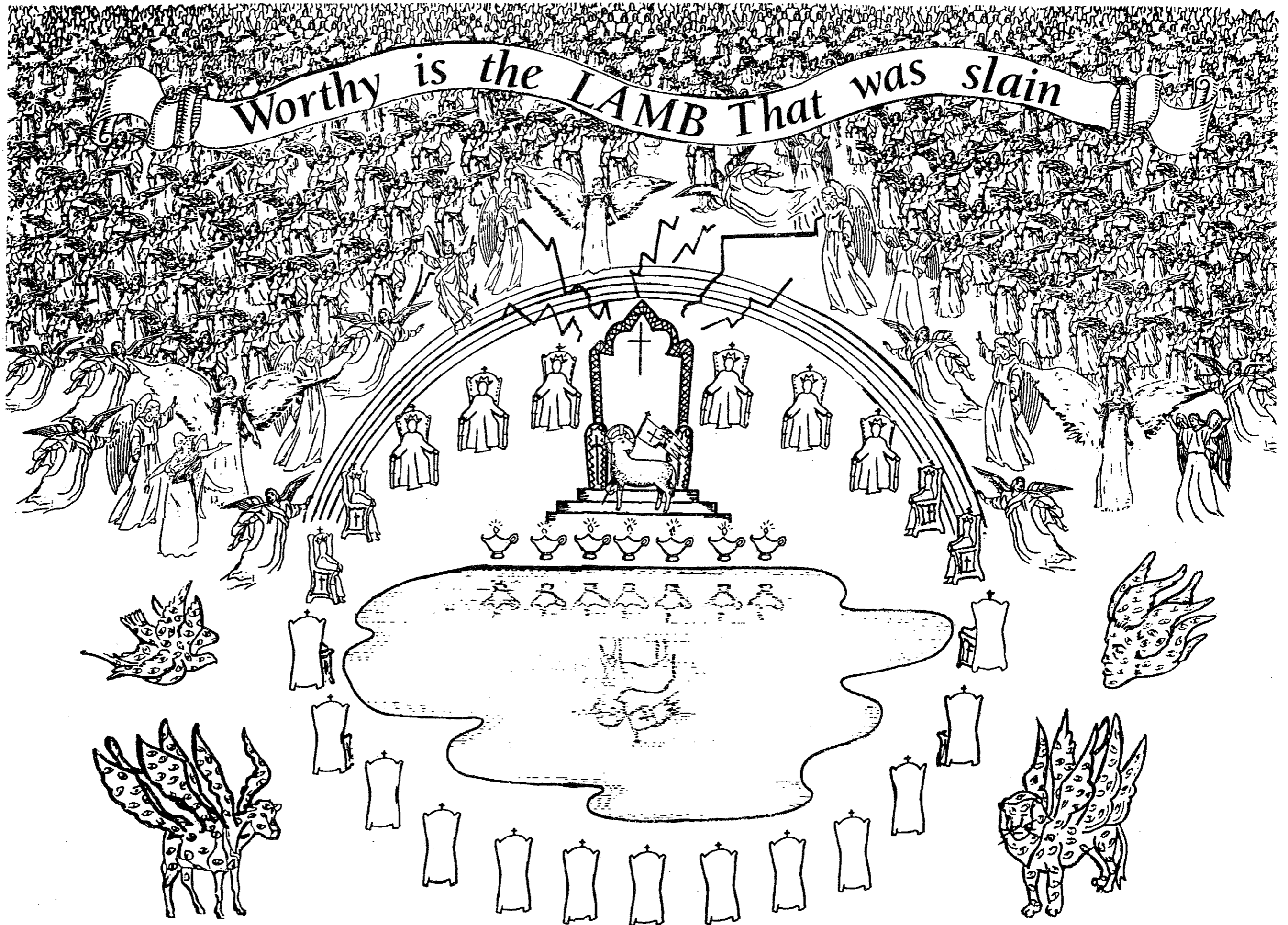
The color white reminds us of the life and holiness Your Resurrection has brought to us.

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...



Worthy is the LAMB That was slain

