Fun Family Activities to reinforce the story of Easter. Matthew 28:1-10

Pre-K through 2nd grade:

Read the Easter Story from either the Easter Story for Preschoolers or the Empty Tomb story from the Spark Story Bible, both attached separately.

Grades 3-4 and older:

Open your Bible to the book of Matthew Chapter 28, verses 1-10. Read it out loud, taking turns.

Adult: (Make a heart with your hands.)



"Okay, do you know what this is? *(Pause.)* Yes! This is a heart!

Can you make a heart with your hands? (*Pause while the children try.*) Good job! I made a heart because the true story of Easter begins with God's love for us. Give yourself a big hug . . . because God loves you SO much! God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus to be our friend forever. That's right! God sent his Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. But first something sad had to happen. People were not nice to Jesus and hurt him. They hurt him so badly that he died. He was buried in a tomb and a guard was posted there.

On the third day, when some of Jesus' friends went to the tomb, they saw the stone was rolled away and Jesus was not inside!

Jesus came back, just like He said He would!

Jesus is alive!

Who is alive?"

CHILDREN and Adults together: "Jesus is alive!"

Adult: "Louder! Who is alive?"

CHILDREN and Adults together: "Jesus is alive!"

Adult: "And that is why we are celebrating. Easter is when we celebrate that **Jesus is alive** and He wants to be our friend forever. Isn't that wonderful news? Who can we tell this news to? Let's call up (name a friend or grandparent, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc—the people you would usually gather together with to celebrate Easter and tell them this good news!)

Some Easter Cross activities for you:

1. Craft Stick Cross:

You need: craft sticks, glue, assorted craft items like buttons, beads, stickers, sequins, etc.

- Glue two craft sticks together in a cross shape.

- add any craft items you like to decorate your cross!

2. Stained Glass Cross:

You need: wax paper, small pieces of colored tissue paper, glue, popsicle stick or Q tip, Cross template, scissors and a piece of colored construction paper or cardstock.

-Roll out a piece of wax paper that is twice the size of the cross you want to make.

-spread glue on half of the wax paper using a popsicle stick or Q tip.

-put pieces of tissue paper on the glued half of wax paper, then spread glue on the other half of wax paper and fold over on top of the tissue.

-Smooth the paper and let dry, putting something heavy on top so it dries nice and flat.

-Print out the cross template (attached) and cut out the cross.

-Run a thin line of glue around the perimeter of the cross on the back of the paper and turn the paper over and glue it to the wax paper. Let dry.

-Cut out around the cross and tape it to a well-lit window- Enjoy!!





3. Painters Tape Cross:

Take a piece of white copy paper, or cardstock and make a cross shape using painters tape. Have the kids color a design over and around the tape, using markers, watercolors, crayons or colored pencils. The designs can be as elaborate as they want. When done, remove the tape and reveal a white cross!



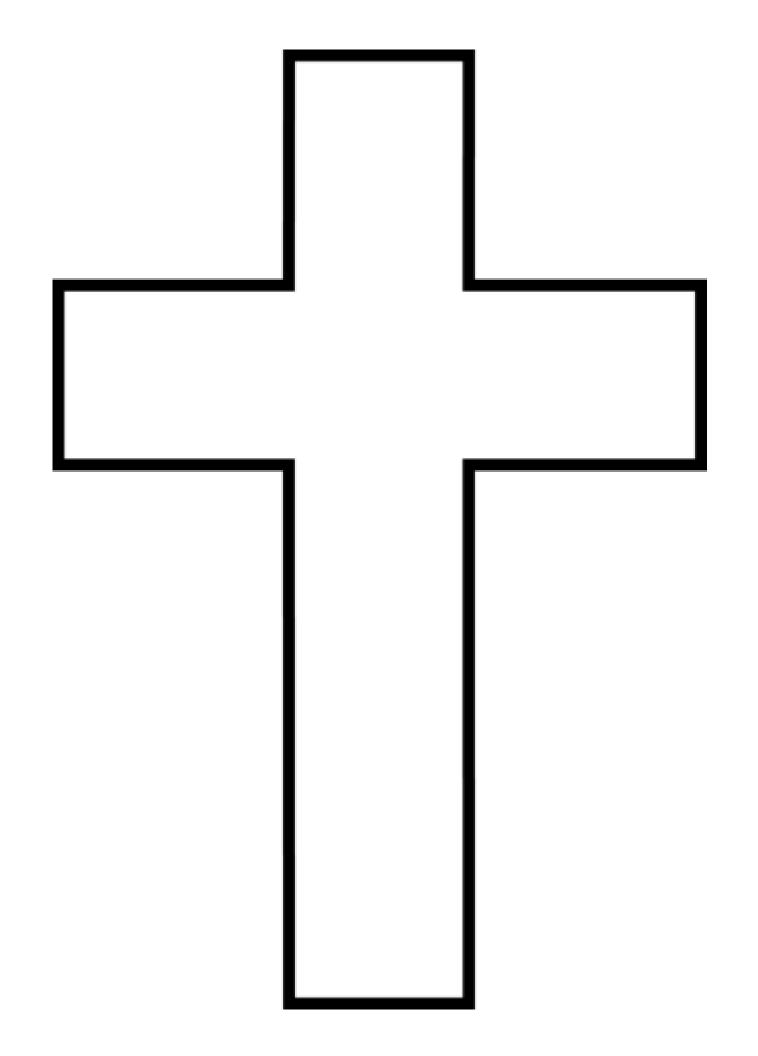
Recipe for Easter Story Snack Mix

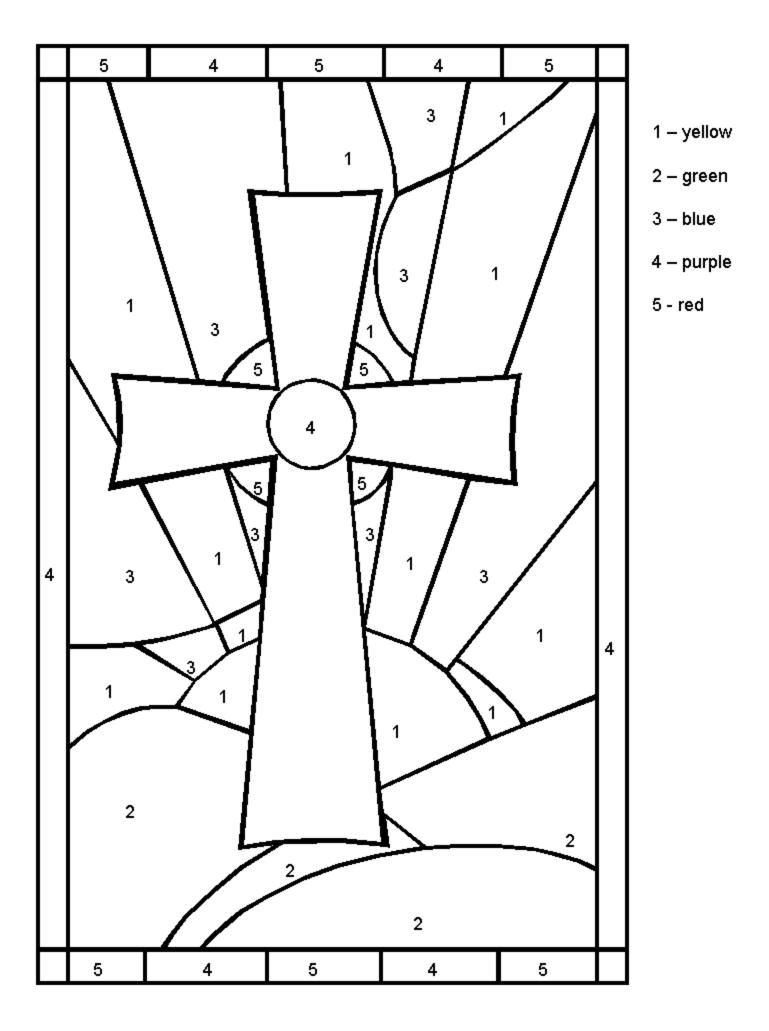
Use a palm leaf or something green to remind you of the parade for Jesus on Palm Sunday– Hosanna to the King! (Luke 19:28-38)

- Pretzel sticks– (Colossians 2:14)
- Craisins– Jesus' blood (Ephesians 1:7)
- Round Cracker
 – the stone rolled away. (Luke 24:2)
- * Goldfish—Jesus calls us to be fishers of people. (Matthew 4:19)
- * Sweet treat—He is Risen! Taste and see that the Lord is good. (Psalm 34:8)
- White or clear jelly bean or Marshmallow—Because of Jesus, our sins are washed away.
 (1 John 1:9)

Blessed Easter to you from your friends at Roseville Lutheran Church!







Jesus is Alive!

