



Resurrection Eggs

An Easter Family Tradition



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN

Church and School

Learn, Live, Share...Christ



Resurrection Eggs

A strip of leather, three coins, and a die... What do all these have in common? You can use them to help kids understand and **remember the true meaning of Easter - The death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus!**

Hands-on illustrations can be very useful in sharing the truths of Scripture with kids. Resurrection Eggs can help your kids learn the wonderful Resurrection story.

Use Resurrection eggs for the 12 days leading up to Easter, or just throughout Holy Week. Using **Resurrection Eggs can even become a family tradition** that you can enjoy for years to come. Happy Resurrection Day!

How to use Resurrection Eggs

Option 1: Open 1 a day in the 12 days leading up to Easter

Option 2: Open them as they Correspond with Holy Week:

Egg #1 - Palm Sunday

Eggs 2-4 Maundy Thursday

Eggs 5-9 Good Friday

Eggs 10-11 Holy Saturday

Egg 12 Easter Sunday

The sequence for telling the story is simple:

- Have a child open the eggs in order and tell you what's inside them.
- Take each egg in order, starting with the palm branch.
- Read the Bible verse that goes with each egg (or have a child read it)
- Talk about what the verse means.

The next few pages of this booklet will assist you in telling the Easter story.



Egg #1 - Palm Branch

Read Matthew 21:1-11

Palm Sunday

Imagine you spent years hoping that your team could do it. You watched, listened, and waited for the day that your team triumphed. In 2004 an estimated 3 million people paraded in Boston after the Red Sox won their first World Series in 86 years. For them it was only 86 years of waiting. I can only imagine the hopeful waiting that people did as the Red Sox played each year. At the end of that long wait they celebrated with a massive parade and shouts of joy in triumph.

Now imagine something different. You and your family have spent thousands of years waiting. Generation after generation you hear that someone is coming to save you. That they will become your king and rule the world forever. That is the promise that the nation of Israel hoped for. The promise finally appeared in front of them in the form of Jesus Christ. They made His entry into the city a triumphant parade like they had never seen before.

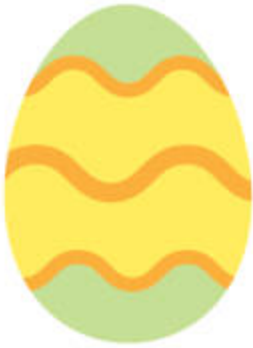
The patience that it took to wait for this is something we can all learn from. We are waiting for the day that Jesus comes again. We do not know when it will be so we should constantly be preparing and watching for that moment. When Jesus comes again we will be a part of the most joyous parade that anyone has ever seen as we all go to be with our Lord and Savior.

Lord, we pray that we can all wait patiently for your return. Help us to live the lives that you have called us to live and to treat each day as the day that you will return.

We are your humble servants.

Amen.

Written by Zane Simon (CUAA student)



Egg #2 - Coins

Read Matthew 26:14-16

Of all the questions we might have about the New Testament, somewhere near the top of the list has to be, “What was up with Judas? Why would Jesus let someone into His inner circle who He knew would betray Him? How could Judas walk with Jesus for three years and then sell Him out?”

The answer to “what we know about Judas” is pretty simple: not much.

The Bible gives no information about his life before he became a disciple other than identifying him as “the son of Simon Iscariot” (John 13:26). We don’t know how he met Jesus or what he was doing when Jesus called him to be a disciple. We do know, however, that Jesus did call Judas, and that Jesus knew exactly what He was doing.

God had known from the beginning of time what Judas would do, and He used it as part of His rescue plan to save the world from sin.

<https://ministryspark.com/how-to-teach-kids-judas-life/>



Egg #3 - Cup

Read Matthew 26:17-29

Maundy Thursday

The moment had finally arrived. In a few short hours, Jesus knew that he would be presented before Pilate, sentenced to death, flogged, and eventually crucified for the sins of the entire world. In the hours leading up to these events, what did Jesus do? He had a meal with his disciples. They had what is called Last Supper. Jesus and his disciples were celebrating the Passover when Jesus got up and said some new things about this meal. When Jesus came to die for sinners like you and me, the meaning of the Passover was changed. Jesus helped His disciples understand the new meaning of the Passover meal when they ate together the night He was arrested.

Have you seen people in our church take communion? They eat bread and drink wine, don't they? Christians do this to remember that Jesus blood was poured out for us so that we can have eternal life with God. Jesus even tells us to do this for the forgiveness of our sins! Thank you Jesus for giving us the Lord's Supper!



Egg #4 - Praying Hands

Read Matthew 26:36-46

Jesus gives us a wonderful example of the importance of prayer. He often went off by himself to pray to God the Father. During this difficult time in His life before He was captured, Jesus asked His disciples to come with Him. He wanted them to pray and to keep Him company.

Jesus was troubled. He knew He was going to die. By dying on the cross, Jesus knew He would have to experience God forsaking Him. Jesus was willing to die on the cross because He knew this was His Father's plan to save sinners. Do you think it would be hard to die and have God turn away from you? Would you pray? Jesus was God, but even He believed prayer to His Heavenly Father was needed.



Egg #5 - Leather Whip

Read John 19:1

At more than any time, these dark and evil days were scary and sad for the followers of Jesus. The Jewish leaders had brought Jesus before the Roman governor in Judea, Pontius Pilate, to defend Himself for claiming to be God. Because Jesus claimed to be God, they said He was an enemy of the Roman Empire and of Caesar, its king. They wanted Him sentenced to death!

Can you believe Pilate put Jesus to death? But before he did, he told his soldiers to scourge (or whip) Him. At any time, Jesus, the Son of God, could have stopped this trial, the flogging, and even His death. But He wanted to do the will of His Father. And so He did nothing and said nothing to defend Himself.

In the Bible, a long time ago, it was foretold that Jesus would be whipped and beaten. Read **Isaiah 50:6** and **Isaiah 53:5** for more about that. God allowed His Son to be flogged in our place for our sins. Jesus didn't deserve to die because he had never sinned. But we *have* sinned. Jesus died in our place for our sin even though we are the ones who deserve to be punished.



Egg #6 - Crown of Thorns

Read Matthew 27:27-31

Can you believe that some of the same people who were praising Jesus as God a few days before when He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey were now treating Him like a wicked person? They decided if Jesus really was God, He would save Himself from having to die. But Jesus had made it clear to the people that the Father's plan was not what they expected or wanted. God's amazing plan was to save sinners by allowing His Son Jesus to die for them. Yet people chose not to believe Jesus and reject Him.



Egg #7 - Cross

Read John 19:16-30

It is Finished

Just imagine for a second with me what it would mean to hear these words: “Coronavirus is FINISHED!!” After a year of life being abnormal because of the virus, the thought of it being finished seems hard to understand. The isolation, fear of getting sick, and worldwide panic have become the norm and the thought of the pandemic ending seems hard to believe, and yet exciting to think about.

When Jesus died on the cross, He cried out “It is Finished!” In those three words, Jesus was declaring much more. He was declaring victory. Victory over sin, death, and the devil.

COVID-19 has created many challenges and has negatively affected many. In Christ though, we can be confident that we have victory. That in Jesus’ death and resurrection we have life. In Christ, our sins are washed away. They are finished. In Christ, death has been defeated. It is finished. In Christ, darkness is made light. It is finished. Whatever is weighing you down, know that in Christ you have victory.

Jesus, we thank you for dying on the cross for our sins. As we live in this hard time, would you help us to remember the victory we have in you? Would you give us opportunities to tell others of this victory? We praise you God, for you are always good. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Written by Rachel Olson (CUAA student)



Egg #8 - Dice for Gambling

Read Matthew 27:35

Did you know that Jesus hardly owned anything in this world? So when the soldiers gambled for Jesus' clothes at the cross, it was sad that they were so selfish and cared so little for Him. **Psalm 22:18** foretells, hundreds of years before this event, how the Roman soldiers would gamble for Jesus' clothes.

Jesus shows us what we are to do when others wrong us. He actually asked for forgiveness from His Father for the soldiers who were about to crucify Him. Luke 23:34 tells us what He prayed: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Isn't this a great example of how we should treat those who are mean to us or hate us? We know from God's Word, the Bible, that we should pray for our enemies. We are also told we should forgive them just as Jesus showed us.



Egg #9 - Soldier's Spear

Read John 19:31-37

Here is an amazing fact about Jesus' death: When people were put to death on a cross, it was common for Roman soldiers to break their legs. With broken legs, people could not hold themselves up to keep from suffocating, and would die more quickly.

Two robbers were crucified with Jesus, one on each side of Him. The soldiers broke the legs of the first robber. Then they broke the legs of the other robber. But when they got to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead. So they decided there was no reason to break His legs. This is amazing! Did you know that God foretold hundreds of years before in **Psalms 34:20** that this would happen? Jesus gave up His life and died before the soldiers could even get to Him.

Because the soldiers had to make absolutely sure He was dead, they pierced Him in the side with a spear. When they did, out came water and blood. This was the proof they needed to show that Jesus had died. Jesus must have loved us so much that He died in our place!



Egg #10 - Linen Wrapping

Read Matthew 27:57-59

Some Jewish leaders secretly believed Jesus was the Messiah (their Savior) but didn't want anyone to know of their belief. The Bible tells us that Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, both members of the Jewish leadership group called the Sanhedrin, believed Jesus was the Son of God and trusted Him for their salvation. But they were afraid that if anyone knew they believed, they might be killed, too.

However, it seems that after Jesus died on the cross, they couldn't hide their faith any longer. Isn't it exciting to know that Joseph of Arimathea loved Jesus so much he was willing to put his own life in danger? Joseph was a very rich man and wanted His Lord Jesus to be buried in a proper manner.

Did you know the Bible said what Joseph would do before Joseph or Jesus was born? Check out **Isaiah 53:9**! God's Word is always true, and God is always in control of what happens in the world and in your life!



Egg #11 - Stone at the Tomb

Read Matthew 27:60-61

A large stone - bigger than a door and as heavy as a car was placed over the opening of a tomb to prevent grave robbers from stealing the body of a dead person or valuables in the tomb that had belonged to the dead.

In the case of Jesus, the Pharisees were worried Jesus' disciples or other followers would take the body, and then say Jesus had risen from the dead. In order to prevent this, Pilate had soldiers guard the tomb.

Pilate even had the soldiers close the tomb with an official roman seal (or stamp) on the edge of the huge stone. Pilate and the soldiers were sure this would keep the disciples from stealing Jesus' body because the penalty for breaking this seal was death. The Roman soldiers also knew the penalty for them was death if anyone broke the seal during their watch over the tomb.



Egg #12 - Empty Tomb

Read Matthew 28:1-10

This was a very special time! At the tomb, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary saw an angel, who told them not to be afraid. He said that no one had taken Jesus' body, but instead He had risen from the dead! The angel told them to go tell the disciples what they had seen, that Jesus was risen. Can you imagine how excited they were? They ran all the way home to tell the disciples the good news!

Now after this, Jesus appeared in person to the disciples and then to more than 500 people. Because Jesus appeared on different occasions to so many people - people who saw Him with their own eyes and even touched Him - we have proof that Jesus rose from the dead (see 1 Corinthians 15:3-7 and John 20:27-28)

As He rose from the dead, Jesus did what no one had ever done before or since. Being both God and man, He overcame sin, death, and the devil. So, sin, death, and the devil no longer have any real power over those who believe in Jesus and have His Spirit leading them. Instead of being slaves to sin and death, Christians by the power of the Holy Spirit, are free to obey God and love one another. The Bible says in John 8:36 "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."



HAPPY EASTER! CHRIST IS RISEN!!!