

Ideas for Holy Week and Easter Resources

Summary:

Making/crafting crosses

Daily devotionals

Love Feast

DIY Easter Services

Other – WhatsApp broadcast technology, sending Easter cards

Making Crosses

Good Friday/Easter Sunday crosses and flowers – Naomi Sharp, Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit

For Good Friday - make a cross out of anything you can find (twigs, wool, newspaper... cutting, tearing, folding, tying...) Put it in your front window. For Easter Sunday - make a flower out of anything you can find (a real one from the garden, cut out of a magazine, knitting, toilet paper (!)... add it to the cross in your window

Easter Crosses – Anna Flindell, South Petherton and Crewkerne Circuit

Under normal circumstances, many of our churches decorate the empty cross with flowers for Easter Day. It would be lovely to encourage people to make their own small cross, decorated with flowers and display it in their window at home for Easter Day.

Easter Crosses – Christine Crabtree, Bradford North Circuit

Now we can't have an Easter cross covered in flowers at church, to encourage people to make crosses and decorate them with what they have at home - making flower shapes out of wrapping paper, magazines etc., and display these in our windows/at our front doors from Easter Sunday to show that, though the churches are closed, God is active and there is hope of new life.

[Later] I had another thought: then take photos and send these to someone who can make a slideshow of them and put them to a soundtrack of an Easter song, this to be accessed from the Methodist Website by the end of Easter week, so we can see what everyone else has got up to.

Daily Devotionals

Written Daily Devotionals – Beverly Ramsden, St John's and St David's Methodist Churches, Llandudno, Conwy & Prestatyn Circuit, Wales

I will be doing daily devotionals from Palm Sunday through to Easter Day (and maybe Easter week too) via my "holding together during the pandemic" blog at revbev.org.uk (this has been underway for over a week now following the local churches' usual weekly pattern of prayer, worship and learning). The devotionals will be based on some material from various sources including old Roots magazines and, as well as a reflection for the quiet types, there will be all age activities and things to engage the senses. We will be following the passion narrative from John's gospel.

Love Feast

Online Love Feast – Paul Critchley, Poulton le Fylde Methodist

I have suggested to my congregation via a letter and Facebook that they might want to bake a plain sponge cake for Maundy Thursday and share in a live 'love feast' together. Love feast liturgies available online.

Love Feast with Testimony – Kim Shorley, Nene Valley Methodist

Love Feast, with testimonies written on luggage labels to be displayed at Pentecost tied to fan (and then turned on) to show how the spirit was moving during the time.

DIY Easter Services

DIY HW & Easter at Home – Jacqui Horton, Superintendent of the Central Norfolk Circuit

I have produced a DIY Holy Week & Easter at home sheet for use in our own circuit. It covers 10 days, is simple and straightforward and suggests that people display normal household objects in ways that represent key points of the Easter story. See supplementary document.

Easter without Communion – Rev Rebecca Ingrouille, Isle of Man District

I have thought of a non-communion service that still celebrates the risen Christ (see supplementary document for an order of service).

Other

WhatsApp Broadcast – Rev Alan Combes, Vale of Stour, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury

We have discovered and have been using throughout Lent the free but hidden option called WhatsApp BROADCAST as a GDPR compliant, powerful communication method to a large number of people who do not have computers but do have modern phones. Case Study and Set up Details are in supplementary document. Every blessing and thanks for what you are doing.

Easter Cards – Steve Charman, Lancaster Methodist Church, North Lancashire Circuit

We are inviting our children to make an Easter Card to send to our older folk.