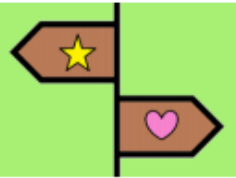


# The Easter Story



Read along with the Easter story as you find each of the eggs on the trail.



## Poster 1: Why Easter?

Have you ever wondered why we celebrate Easter? We hope you will enjoy this trail, finding posters, looking for clues and answering questions. Along the way we hope that you will also begin to understand a little more about the meaning of Easter. You will need to use the What 3 Words app. to find the posters and write down answers to the quiz.



## Poster 2: Palm Sunday - the Sunday before Easter

The Bible tells us that Jesus and his friends travelled to Jerusalem to celebrate the festival of Passover. A big crowd gathered. People put their coats on the ground and waved palm leaves. Jesus was riding on a donkey. The Bible tells us that this happened just as the prophet Zechariah said it would 400 years before:

*"Shout for joy people of Jerusalem! Your king is coming to you. He does what is right and he saves. He is gentle and riding on a donkey"*  
Zechariah chapter 9 verse 9



## Poster 3: The Last Supper

The Bible tells us that Jesus and his friends had a special meal together. Jesus washed his friend's dusty feet to show them that he had come to serve people. He told his friends that he was going to die and he shared bread and wine with them, saying:

*"Do this to remember me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show others about the Lord's death until he comes."*  
1 Corinthians chapter 11 verse 26



## Poster 4: The Garden of Gethsemane

After their special meal, Jesus and his friends went to a garden. Jesus wanted to pray - he asked God to help him. While he was praying his friends went to sleep. One of his friends betrayed him and brought soldiers to arrest him.



### Poster 5: Peter's denial

When Jesus and his friends were having their special meal Jesus warned his friends that one of them would betray him. Peter was worried it would be him. Jesus explained that Peter wouldn't betray him but he would deny knowing Jesus. He said: *"I tell you the truth, tonight before the cockerel crows you will say three times that you don't know me."* Matthew chapter 26 verse 34

After Jesus was arrested Peter followed him to see what would happen. Somebody recognised Peter as one of Jesus' friends. Peter was scared that he too would be arrested and so he said that he didn't know Jesus. Then somebody else asked him and then another person. Each time Peter denied knowing Jesus. Then a cockerel crowed and Peter remembered what Jesus had said. He was very sad that he hadn't been a good friend.



### Poster 6: The trial of Jesus

Jesus was brought to Pontius Pilate to be judged. Pilate asked him if he was the King of the Jews. The soldiers made fun of Jesus. They put a purple robe on him and a crown made of thorns. Pilate knew that Jesus hadn't done anything wrong but the crowd wanted him to kill Jesus on a cross. Pilate washed his hands to say that he wasn't guilty of causing Jesus' death.



### Poster 7: Jesus is beaten

Jesus was treated very badly. The soldiers whipped him and nailed him to a wooden cross, then a soldier pierced his side with a spear. The Bible tells us that the prophet Isaiah, who lived about 700 years before Jesus, predicted these things. He wrote:

*'But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.'*  
Isaiah chapter 53 verse 5



### Poster 8: Jesus dies

When Jesus died there was an earthquake, the sky went dark and the curtain in the temple, that separated people from the most holy place, tore in half from top to bottom. Jesus had made a way for people to get close to God. His body was put in a tomb, closed with a big stone.



### Poster 9: Three days later

On the Sunday morning after Jesus died, his friend Mary went to the tomb. The stone had been moved and the tomb was empty. An angel was there and he told Mary that Jesus wasn't dead anymore. Then Mary saw Jesus - at first she didn't recognise him but then she was amazed and excited and ran to tell everyone. Jesus is alive!



### Poster 10: A visit from Jesus

After Jesus had risen from the dead he visited lots of people, including his special friends. He showed them the wounds in his hands and feet and told them he loved them. The Bible tells us he gave them this instruction:

*"Go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptise them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have told you. You can be sure that I will always be with you. Matthew chapter 28 verse 19 - 20*



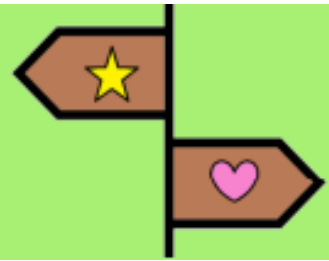
### Poster 11 - The final poster: The story continues ....

Christians believe that the Easter story shows how much God loves us - he was willing to let his son Jesus die to take the punishment that was meant for us. No mistake is too big to keep us from God - we are all invited to be his friend.

**If you would like to be a friend of God, here is a simple prayer that you could say:**

**Dear God,  
Thank you for the story of Easter. I am sorry for the times in my life where I have sinned and behaved in a way that did not please you. Thank you that you sent your son Jesus to die on the cross and take the punishment for my mistakes. Today I choose to live for you and to be your friend.  
Amen**

# Easter Trail Quiz



Fill in your three-word answers here:

As you follow the trail you need to find a letter on each of the 11 posters and then write them, in order, at the bottom of this page. This will give you the answer to question 11.

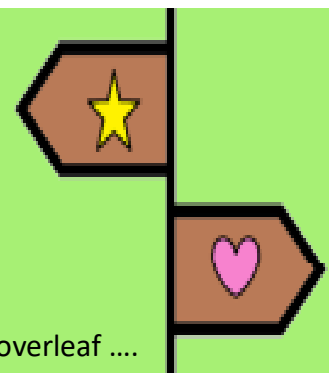
You should be able to find the answers to these questions on the posters or the story sheet. Each answer is three words. We've given you some letters to help you.

1. What is the name of the app. you need to use to find the posters?  
\_ \_ \_ \_ / 3 / \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
2. Jesus rode into Jerusalem \_ \_ / \_ / d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
3. At the special supper Jesus shared b \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ / w \_ \_ \_ with his friends.
4. Jesus and his friends went to pray in the G \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ / G \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
5. How did Peter feel when Jesus was arrested? \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ / s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
6. What two things did the soldiers put on Jesus to make him look like a king?  
C \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ / r \_ \_ \_ \_.
7. Who predicted that Jesus would die a horrible death?  
\_ \_ \_ / p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ / I \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
8. Which way was the curtain torn in two? \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ / b \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
9. What was Mary excited to tell her friends? J \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ !
10. Jesus showed his friends the wounds in his \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ / f \_ \_ \_ \_.

11. What three words can you make from the letters that you have collected?

This is the true message of Easter.

\_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



More overleaf ....

Thank you for taking part in this Easter trail. We hope you have enjoyed it and have learnt some new things about the meaning of Easter. We would love to deliver a goody bag to you as a thank-you for taking part. If you agree to us doing this, please complete your details and post this form in the letter box at Staplehurst Free Church or email a copy to [freebees@staplehurstfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:freebees@staplehurstfreechurch.org.uk)

Family name: .....

Address: .....

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Name and ages of children taking part: .....

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