

Easter Devotional Ideas

Good Friday Worship

A bare wooden cross stands in the centre of the worship area.

Processional Hymn:

O Sacred Head sore wounded: Crown of thorns, mallet and robe are brought in and held or placed on communion table until the appropriate time in the service.

Music: Use cello and saxophone or clarinet as suitably sombre sounding instruments.

Reading: John 18: 28-38
(Trial before Pilate)

Song: ATN 6: O father, dear father (remain seated)

Reading: John 19: 1-6
(Scourging, crown of thorns)

Silence

Crown of thorns is hung on cross.

Song: The Servant King
(Children can distribute small twigs of boxthorn to the congregation.)

Reading: John 19: 16b-20
(Crucifixion – read from foot of cross)

Silence

Sound of slow, loud hammering (out of sight); Mallet is hung on the cross.

Hymn: When I survey the wondrous cross

Reading: John 19: 23-25
(the robe)

Silence

Purple robe is hung on cross

Song: ATA 130: I am covered over with the robe

Reading: John 19: 28-30
(It is finished)

Long Silence

Worship leaders leave in silence.

Music: Cello and saxophone/clarinet repeat O Sacred Head, When I survey or The Servant King.

Some of the songs may be omitted if you want to make a stark impact or emphasise the silence.

Thankyou to Rev Christine Ostle for these worship ideas

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Easter Sunday: Cross covered with flowers



This idea has been done in several churches over the past few years. I am not sure where it originated.

- Construct a free-standing cross out of rough wood approximately two metres high. You may wish to have it standing bare in the front of your worship area on Good Friday.
- On Easter Sunday have it covered with chicken wire.
- You will need several baskets of individual flowers with stems approx 10-15 cm long.
- At an appropriate part of the service, e.g. during a celebratory Easter song or hymn, invite the people to come out and thread flowers through the chicken wire until the whole cross is covered with flowers. It presents a magnificent symbol of new life.

In Wagga, we then hung the flower-covered cross on the outside of the church for the community to see for a few days after Easter (until the flowers died). (Ed)