

Hi there, everyone!

Time for another JAM-at-Home email!

Last time we were thinking about Easter when Jesus died... but then 3 days later came alive again (was resurrected). For about 6 weeks after Easter, he appeared lots of times to his friends. In this JAM-at-Home, we are going to be thinking about what happened next....



Watch this film to see what happened when Jesus went back to heaven.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcFw8pLBSIo>

Wow... so although we can't actually see Him, Jesus has promised to be with us forever! We call this day 'Ascension Day', as Jesus 'ascended' or 'went up' in some way – not 'up' into outer space but 'up' towards God the Father.

Here are some ideas of things you might like to do which remind us of this story – you will need an adult's help for the first one!

DIY cloud (adult help needed!)

You will need: a glass jar with a lid; four to five ice cubes; hot water (& food colouring if possible); hairspray/deodorant or similar aerosol spray

Make a mini cloud! Pour very hot water into a glass jar (about half full). **Helpful Tip:** Use food colouring to dye the water blue or green before pouring it into the jar. This is not essential, but does help distinguish the cloud from the water. Plus, it makes the water look like the sky/grass! Then squirt a quick blast of hairspray or deodorant into the jar and immediately put the lid back on. Put the ice cubes on top of the lid of the jar. Watch the top part of the jar carefully as the cloud forms and swirls around! You can then take the lid off and let your cloud go!



Talk about the science: you need three things to make a cloud – warm, moist air, something to cool it down and something to form the nucleus of a droplet. Usually in a raincloud, the nuclei would be provided by specks of dust – here it's the hairspray. There are lots of stories in the Bible where God's glory is shown in a cloud – perhaps the most famous one is when God guides the people through the desert by having them follow the pillar of cloud by day (Exodus 13). In today's story, a cloud takes Jesus away from the disciples.

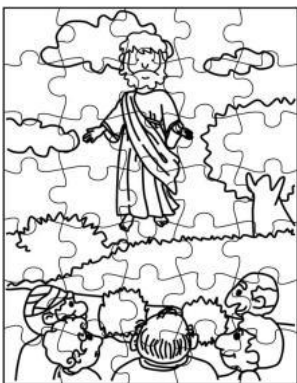
Bubble prayers

You will need: bubble mixture; blowers

Ideally do this outside. Take it in turns to blow bubbles and invite everyone to 'spot' or watch one particular bubble until it disappears from view. At that moment, invite them to say a silent prayer. If you take it in turns to blow bubbles, you could theme the prayers with one theme per person. They might think of their own theme, or you could use some of these: people in hospital, healthcare workers, friends, family, government, countries without such good healthcare, anyone sad, each of you by name, teachers ... What or who else do you want to pray for? Talk about watching the bubbles carefully and seeing them disappear. Jesus' first disciples were watching him carefully when he disappeared from sight in the story today.

We know you like to make things to eat – we heard that some of you enjoyed making the Rocky Road in our last JAM! Perhaps this time you might like to try **making something to eat that has to rise**? Perhaps a cake in the microwave, some homemade bread or, if you feel really adventurous, a soufflé... (there are lots of recipes on the internet!)

Ascension Jigsaw



<https://craftingthewordofgod.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/jesus-ascension-puzzle1.pdf> This is a picture which you could print out onto cardboard (or print on paper then stick onto cardboard), colour in and then very, very carefully cut round the lines and make a 35, 42 or 48 piece jigsaw!

We would love to see photos of the things that you have made. You could send them to Rev Sian by email and then maybe she could put some of them on the church website or Facebook pages! Try not to include yourself in the photo; otherwise it is more difficult for us to share it! revsianlawton@gmail.com

And now, let's finish with an Ascension-tide prayer and our special JAM prayer

Thank you, God, that you love us so much that
Jesus died for us

and that He came alive again at Easter

and later went back to be with you.

Thank you that He promised that He would be
with us for ever!

May God bless ME (point to yourself),

God bless YOU (point to other people),

God bless EVERYONE (open your arms out wide),

All over the world (draw a big world shape circle with your
hands).

Love from all the JAM Team