

This Week's Worship: Simeon and Anna

Opening

Wherever we come together,

God is with us.

God is here.

We come together to say sorry

We come together to say Thank you

We come together to ask for God's help

We come together to hear God's story

We come together to celebrate God's love.

Wherever we come together,

God is with us.

God is here.

Saying Sorry

Hold onto a stone and think about things that you have done this week you would like to say sorry for.

God loves us and forgives us when we are sorry for wrong things we have done.

For times this week when we have made others sad.

We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not helped others

We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not looked after your creation,

We are sorry

For times this week when we have been selfish

We are sorry

Put the stone in a bowl of water

As we leave these things behind, may God forgive us and give us a new, clean start today.

Amen

Saying thank you

To join in you will need: some slips of paper, some pens and an empty jam jar (you can join in without this for the first few weeks but can then join in when you have had the time to put some things in the jar!)

Ask each person to draw or write down on one of the slips something they would like to say thank you for and put it in the jar. As we pray, pull a slip out of the jar and say thank you for what is written on it.

Continue to fill the jar during the week.

God, you are amazing and you have given us good things. We thank you for all your gifts to us.

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...
Amen

Continue until everyone has had a chance to say something.

Story and response

Listen to this week's story or read a story from the Bible. This week's story is from Mark 1: 14-20

I wonder which part of this story you liked the most?

I wonder what surprised you about this story?

I wonder what this story makes you feel?

I wonder where you are in this story?

Do you wonder anything about this story?

Prayers

Simeon and Anna could see that Jesus was very special. They knew that he had been sent by God to rescue people from pain and sadness and hardship, just like light shining in the darkness. Light in darkness helps to make us feel safe and helps us to see the way to go. Simeon and Anna know that Jesus is going to shine like a light to show people the way God wants them to go and that he will give people hope when things seem dark and scary.

You will need: Light cover print out, felt tips or coloured pencils, scissors, blue tack, laminator and laminating pouches (optional)

Colour in a light switch cover, cut it out and stick it over the space where there is a light switch on a wall in your house. Every time you switch the light on, remind yourself that Jesus is always with you when things seem dark and sad and scary.

Jesus, thank you that, even when the world around us seems dark and worrying and scary, you are always with us, shining like a light in the darkness. When we are sad or scared or worried, give us hope, help us to feel safe and show us the way to go as we live our lives. Amen

Close

Wherever we come together,

God is with us.

God is here.

May God bless us.

May we know that we are loved

May we know that we are cared for.

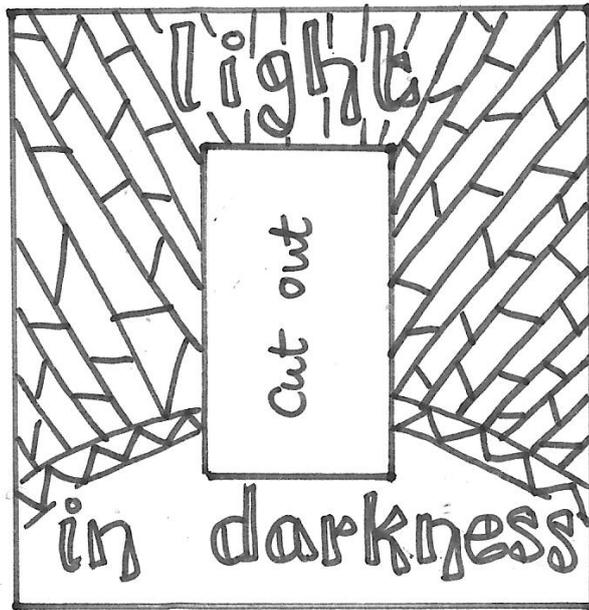
May we know God's hope.

God is with us

God is here

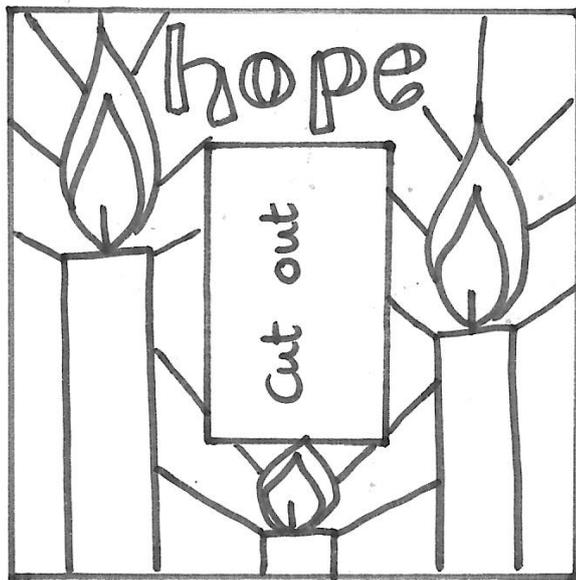
Amen.

Extinguish the candle.



1. Colour in the light switch covers.
2. Cut them out.
3. Cut out the middle section of each cover.

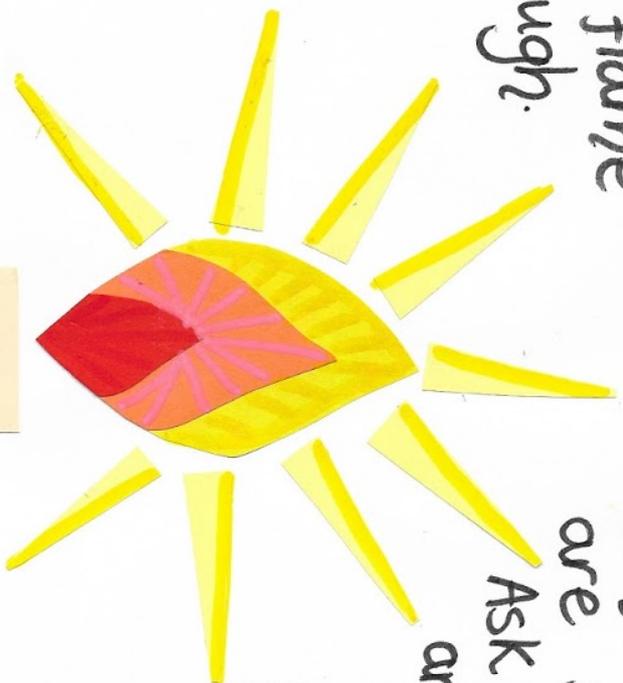
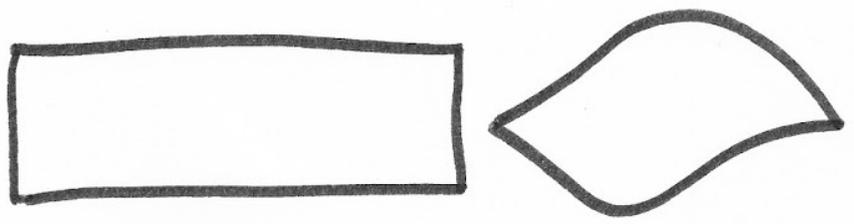
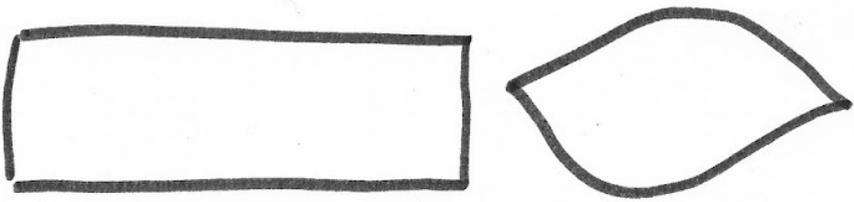
4. Fix the cover over a light switch so that the switch appears in the empty middle section.



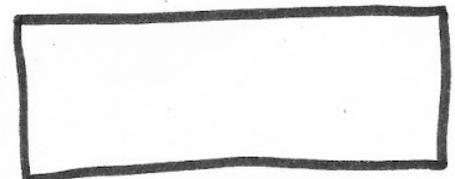
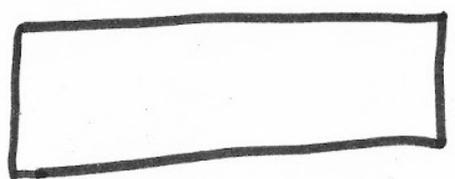
light in darkness
light switch
covers

Light of the World

Fill the candle and flame shapes with play dough.



Think about people who are sad, lonely and ill. Ask Jesus to bring light and hope to them.



Prayer Light Tubes

You will need: battery operated tea lights, A6 size paper, felt tip pens, glue

Put the A6 Paper in landscape orientation and ask children to draw pictures and write the names of people and places who are going through dark, hard times and need to see some light and hope.



Wrap the paper around the tea light and glue down the edge to make a tube.



Ask Jesus to bring his light and hope to these people and situations. Switch off the lights and switch the tea lights on. Look at the light shining through the situations as a sign that they have been handed to Jesus.



