

The "Lenten" song is "Walk in God's Ways" it is found in LifeSongs.

I have found a couple of options work well:

a) Do the welcoming songs:

In God's House
BIBLE
Jesus Loves Me

Set up the prayer table and pray.

Pick up the prayer table.

Sing: Walk in God's Ways

or

b) Welcome songs:

In God's House
BIBLE
jesus Loves Me
Walk in God's Ways

Prayer Table

At the start of Lent I like to go through the prayer table before doing the song so that the song reinforces the learning.

On the prayer table:

Purple Cloth: color for Lent. Purple is the color for royalty. It honors Jesus and him dying on the cross for us.

White Cloth: we are washed clean on the inside when we ask for forgiveness BECAUSE

Cross: Jesus died for us on the cross.

Crown of Thorns: This was put on Jesus head to make fun of him as the King of the Jews. It would hurt to have this on your head.

(Children may touch the thorns if they wish to. It might be helpful to have another adult walk the crown around to give children the opportunity.)

Three nails: These are what held Jesus on the cross. He died for us (for you and you and you and you and you – point and don't leave anyone out if you go that route) because he loves us/you so much! Because he died for us we are washed clean on the inside and forgiven.

This is a good time to teach/reteach the sign language for "Jesus" (touching palms indicating where nail holes were formed).

Bible: This is God's word, how we learn about Jesus and his love for us. (Ask a child to find a good spot in the Bible. When they place it on the table, comment about that being a good spot and name the book and whether it's in the Old or New Testament.)

Welcome Water: We are all welcome and loved children of God.

Light of Christ: The light goes with us where ever we go. We can see it when we are kind and helpful to others and it makes us feel good. We can feel it too when we've done something wrong or when we are sad or not feeling well. It's there warming us from the inside to do what is right, to cheer up, and to let us know God is always with us.

That's what Lent is about! God is always with us, even in sad times, and it's a time for us to grow even closer to God!

Shoe: Walking with Jesus through Lent - growing closer to Jesus - Jesus is with us everywhere we go.

Glasses: Take time to look at our relationship with Jesus and become even better friends with Jesus.

The following can be added as appropriate for your age group level and as time allows:

Three nails: Jesus hands and feet

The crown of thorns: We have the one big one for each prayer basket and several smaller ones made out of barberry.

Green Grass: Lent is a time for growing closer to God - grass grows fast.

Shoe: Lent is a time to focus on our walk with God, and being mindful that God is with us where ever we go.

Ashes: Ash Wednesday begins Lent. We are reminded that we are human. That God made us and God makes good things, therefore we are good. When our life on Earth is done our bodies will return to ashes.

Crocus bulbs or other blooming blubs: A sign of the promise to come, the promise of Easter. Jesus is alive and we have been saved. (The bulbs should not be in bloom yet.)

Mirror: Time for reflection.

Offering Basket: Our offering money goes to help others.

Sunglass that have a reflective finish: Like the mirror, represents time for reflecting on our walk with God.

Kitchen Timer: Set it ticking. Another reminder about spending time with God.

For this time COVID-19:

Wooden people, or I might dig in my toy box and find some action figures and Lego people - things kids might have on hand at home as they work to copy the prayer table at home. - Represents all of the people caring for people and God working through all of us for good in the world.

A Rock, or several rocks, to build a cross with and tie back in with 3/16/2020 devotion. - Jesus is always with us. God is our strong foundation.

A house - and make the sign of the cross over the house, to represent all of us at home - a time of blessing each of us in our space.

Godly Play Songs:

"Walk, Walk, Walk, Walk in God's Ways" - LifeSongs - Walk, jump, fly, swim, read, write, drive etc. all around the room. Take suggestions from kids. The last verses should be ones that get us seated and ready for prayer: "write" and "read" or "play" - fake drive a car while seated or a train or fake play with a dolly etc - these will get you back seated in a circle for the prayer table/ lesson etc.

"Jesus Loves Me" - LifeSongs

"Oh Be Careful Little Eyes What You See" - LifeSongs

"In God's House" - Really focus on verse two - "Growing Up in God's House" Lent is a Growing time....

"The B-I-B-L-E"

"Jesus Loves the Little Children" All the Children of the world. Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in His hand. Jesus Loves the Little Children of the world. v. 2 Jesus died for all the

children..... (make your body in the shape of the cross) v. 3
Jesus rose for all the children.... (squat and then stand)