

A Light in the Darkness

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

John 1:5

Creating Bag or Glass Luminaries for Christmas Eve Service

We would like to light up the outside of Advent with luminaries for Christmas Eve service. Included are two options – bag and glass. The bag option should be easy and accessible for any level of craftiness. The glass luminary is more complex but would result in a keepsake or gift. Bring your luminary to the Christmas Eve service of your choice.

Bag Option



Directions:

1. Using paper punches or scissors, cut designs in the paper lunch bags.

2. Pour some kitty litter, sand or bird seed into the bottom of each bag.

3. Turn on the light on your LED candle (white light only) and then nestle the candle into the litter/sand. IMPORTANT: NO REAL CANDLES DUE TO FIRE HAZZARD!

Bottle Luminaries

These are more complicated but will make a permanent light that you can gift or have at home after the Christmas Eve service.

Supply List

Bottles or Jars



Magic Markers, black ones work best. Go for a medium size, the large ones create too big of a line and the small ones are cranky and don't last.

Stencils and/or outline art. Coloring books are a good source of images for jars. For bottles, you can make your own stencils if you like.

Lights if you choose optional, Lights on Amazon:

1 - Wine Bottle Cork Lights, 15 Pack 10 LED/ 40 Inches Battery Operated Cork Shape Copper Wire Colorful Fairy Mini String Lights for Outdoor Indoor Decoration (Cool White)

2 - You can also use tea lights, the artificial variety to be safe, they are also inexpensive and easy to find.

Paint Brushes

Glass Paint From Amazon such as iMustech Glass Paint Set 12 Colors Non-Toxic Craft Porcelain Paint with Palette, Transparent Stained Glass Ceramic Window Paint Kit for Wine Glass Bottle Light

90% Alcohol to act as an eraser for your magic marker fun. It erases any mistakes.

Paint Sealers: From Amazon



Krylon K01303007 Acrylic Spray Paint Crystal Clear in 11-Ounce Aerosol \$9.00 And Krylon Kamar Varnish Spray

Outliner paint – You can get this for as little as \$4.50 (Jerry's Artarama) and it adds a nice finished touch. very optional



Dimensional Paint For Outlines And Unique Relief Effects!

Pébéo Cerne Relief colors are ideal for adding patterns and for creating outlines and designs for liquid paints such as Vitrail, Ceramic, or Fantasy Colors. They are available in 2 transparent colors and 9 opaque colors, including metallic outliner colors. After each use, quickly replace the cap to avoid the paint drying in the nozzle. Allow at least 30 minutes to dry before applying Vitrail colors.

Cloth for lids of Jars and Glue (Elmers, E6000) Cut Cloth into a size large enough to fit with overlap for the jar. Put the glue on the top of the lid and if you like tie a string or ribbon to it. Glue the string or ribbon so it doesn't slip down or get lost.

Steps in the Process:

Note the larger your image is, the easier it is to paint. Smaller children should get the bigger bottles or jars. If you find an image, you can resize it on your computer to the correct size for your particular need using image manipulation software.

! - **Bottles:** If you choose bottles as a media, you can apply your image by using a stencil. Tape the stencil to the outside of the bottle and using a magic marker outline your image. Black works best because it is unlikely you will be using black paint and it looks ok if it is left over, unpainted. **Jars:** Mason jars or old marinara jars work just fine. In the case of jars, scotch tape your image to the inside of the jar and magic marker your outline to the jar.

2 - After taping your image or stencil to your bottle/jar using the magic marker, create the outline. If you make a mistake you can erase it easily with a Qtip dipped in the alcohol. Step 2 A: If you want to create an image that is closer to stain glass, use the Pebeo Cerne relief (you can get a tube for as little as \$4.40) that comes in a tube on your outline. Let it dry before you apply your paint. This is an activity that is better suited to an older child or adult.

3 - Apply your glass paint, a thinner coat gives a clearer but thinner color. Colors can be blended a little bit like watercolor but not so much.

4 - Let dry

5 - When it is dry, spray with Kamar's Varnish. Let dry, usually only minutes. Do 2 coats of the image only. Then finish with the Krylon Acrylic Spray, only the image and do two coats.

6 - Add the lights you choose, either the wine bottle lights or the tea lights.

You're done! Its magic now!