

Visual Worship Suggestions Lent 2006 – Write on Our Hearts

Entrance to sanctuary:

As a weekly reminder of the theme, "Write on Our Hearts," place a Bleeding Heart plant at the sanctuary entrance. With its tiny, very delicate, heart-shaped flowers, this plant is best viewed up close to examine the details. If you cannot find a Bleeding Heart plant at a local nursery or garden center, you could substitute a silk plant.

Drape the plant stand with a purple cloth, such as satin, taffeta, or a sheer fabric, to carry out the Lenten color theme and draw attention to this visual "call to worship."

Visuals for the sanctuary:

For each Sunday of Lent, you may choose to display different items on a table. These visuals use elements that relate to and emphasize the focus statements for each Sunday.

Lent 1 - COVENANT/BAPTISM: Drape fabrics in the colors of the rainbow over the table and place a large pitcher or bowl of water on the table.

Lent 2 - BARRENNESS TO FRUITFULNES: Large bowl of fruit.

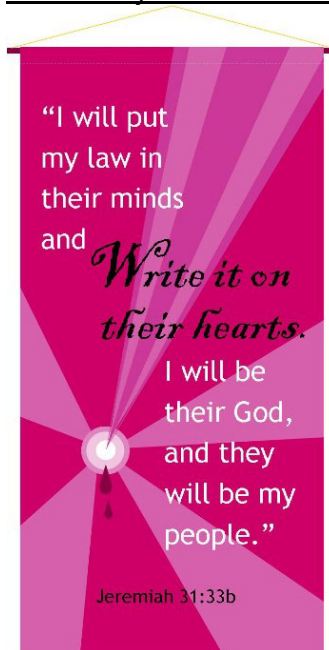
Lent 3 - LAW/STORY OF THE CROSS: Large open Bible.

Lent 4 - HEALING/RESTORATION: A cross (table top or floor model) with bronze fabric wound around the vertical post.

Lent 5 - WRITING A NEW COVENANT ON OUR HEART: Feather pen and writing paper - propped up, perhaps on a writing desk.

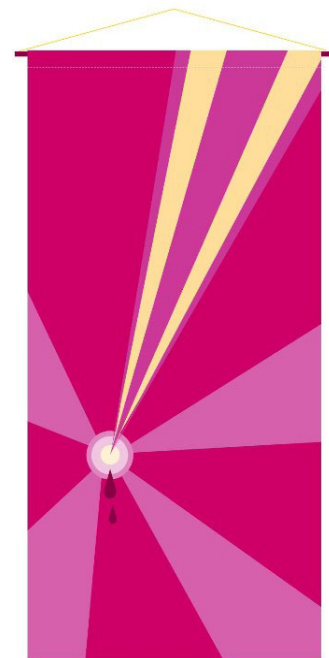
Lent 6 - WORSHIP/REJOICING/ADORATION: Palm branch bouquet.

Sanctuary banner/artwork:



Banner 1

*"The prick of God's pen
writing on our hearts is
a powerful metaphor for
the Holy Spirit's intimate
touch on our souls.
With this prick, we
remember all that God
has done and God's
enduring love for us."
– Michelle L Hofer*



Banner 2

Two banner designs are offered, both presenting a graphic depiction of a pen tip pricking the heart. The first design features a segment of the theme verse, while the other portrays a more colorful version of the simple image. The banner technique described in the instructions is quite versatile, especially in terms of fabrics selected. You can choose simple solid cottons, printed quilt fabrics, even elegant bridal fabrics. For simplicity and cost considerations, the designs could also be constructed in flannel fabrics or made from paper and cardboard.

Banner 1 Instructions

These instructions will help worship planners create a banner from fabrics and other materials available at fabric stores.

To make a 44" x 88" banner, you will need:

- Copy of pattern on an overhead transparency
- Overhead projector
- Tape measure
- Large sheets of paper/newsprint for patterns
- Fabrics (all 44-45" wide):
 - 2 ½ yards red/violet fabric
 - 4 shades of violet fabric (A being the darkest shade, D the lightest):
 - A – 2 yards (if you piece together: ½ yard)
 - B – 1 ¾ yards (if you piece together: 1 ¼ yards)
 - C – ¼ yard
 - D – ¼ yard
 - ¼ yard black fabric
 - 1/3 yard white fabric
 - 1/8 yard deep burgundy fabric
 - 2 ½ yards canvas fabric
- 14 yards 17" wide ultra-hold iron-on adhesive
- 7 yards ½" wide double fold bias tape – black
- Fabric glue
- Scissors and stick pins
- Fabric pen or pencil
- Sewing machine
- Red violet thread
- Electric drill and drill bits
- 48" long ¾" dowel rod, cut to 46"
- 2 yards gold decorative cording
- Iron and large ironing surface such as a table layered with blankets

1. Print out the banner pattern onto an overhead transparency, or make a copy of the pattern onto a transparency. Place the transparency on the overhead projector and project the image onto a flat wall surface. Using the tape measure, position the overhead so the size of the projected banner equals 44" x 88".
2. Now tape large pieces of paper to the wall to make patterns of the large background shapes using the projected image. (You may need to piece some sheets of paper together for the largest shapes.) Make patterns for:
 - One A shape (this appears as three pieces, but is one large piece)
 - Six B shapes
 - One C circle (not a ring)
 - One D circle (not a ring)
 - One white circle
 - Two burgundy droplets

(You do not need to make patterns for the shapes that are red-violet as this is the background fabric on which the other shapes will be placed.) Set the patterns aside.

3. Cut the canvas fabric into a rectangle 44" x 88". This will serve as a backing and will give the banner weight and body. Now cut enough iron-on adhesive to completely cover the canvas and iron it on according to the adhesive's instructions; remove the paper backing.
4. Cut the red-violet fabric into a rectangle 44" x 88" and lay it on top of the adhesive covered canvas. Iron it onto the canvas, again according to the adhesive's instructions.
5. Lay each pattern piece onto its respective fabric. Cut enough iron-on adhesive to cover each fabric's pattern or patterns and iron it onto the fabrics. Do not remove the paper backing. Now pin each pattern onto its fabric with adhesive and carefully cut out.
6. Remove the pins, pattern, and the paper backing from each piece and assemble them on the red-violet background. Using care not to move the pieces, iron them onto the background.
7. Using fabric glue, edge the sides and bottom of the banner with the bias tape. The bias tape should sandwich the banner's edge and give a clean finished look.
8. Fold the top edge of the banner over 2 ½" and sew a pocket for the dowel rod. This will not be easy stitching as you are going through many layers of fabric. Use a needle for denim or heavy-weight fabrics and take it slow, or do it by hand with a thimble.
9. Cut enough iron-on adhesive to cover the black fabric and the remaining white fabric and iron it on (do not remove the paper backing). Tape the fabrics up on the wall. Using the overhead projector and the fabric pen or pencil, trace each letter from the banner's design onto its respective fabric.
10. Cut out each letter and remove the paper backing. Carefully position the letters on the banner. Using a ruler or straight edge to align the bottom of the letters in each row is helpful. You can also take measurements from the image projected by the overhead to know how far apart or how far from an edge the letters should be positioned. Using care not to move the letters, iron them onto the banner.
11. With a drill bit large enough to accommodate the thickness of your gold cording, drill a hole through each end of the dowel rod a half-inch from the end. Thread the rod through the pocket at the top of the banner. Thread the cording through each hole and tie a knot.

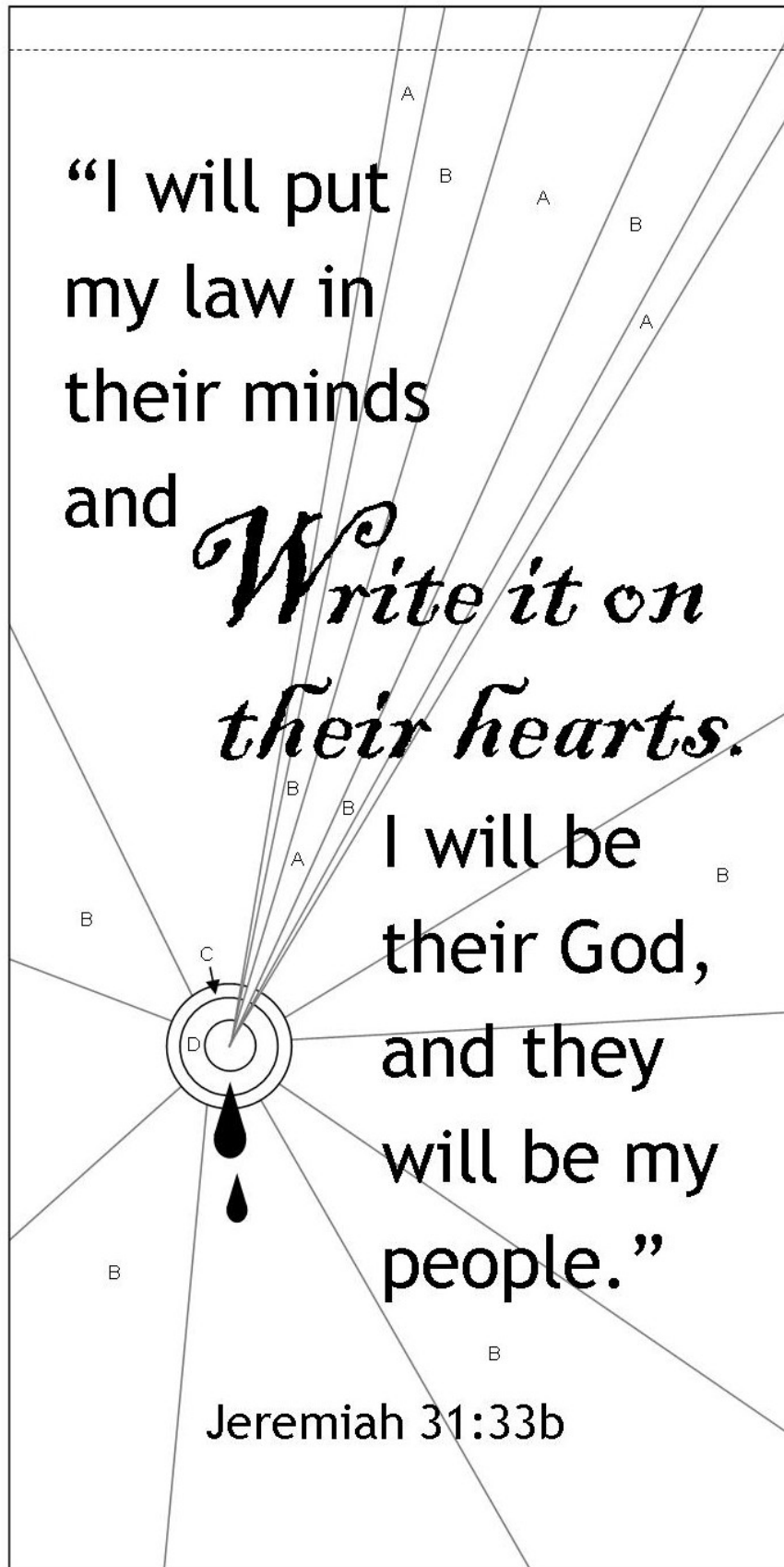
Notes: This banner technique is quite versatile, especially is in terms of fabrics selected. You can choose simple solid cottons, printed quilt fabrics, even elegant bridal fabrics. The design can be used for construction in flannel fabrics without the need for iron-on adhesive, canvas backing, and bias tape edging.

“I will put
my law in
their minds
and

*Write it on
their hearts.*

I will be
their God,
and they
will be my
people.”

Jeremiah 31:33b



Banner 2 Instructions

To make a 44" x 88" banner, you will need:

- Copy of pattern on an overhead transparency
- Overhead projector
- Tape measure
- Large sheets of paper/newsprint for patterns
- Fabrics (all 44-45" wide):
 - 2 ½ yards red/violet fabric
 - 4 shades of violet fabric (A being the darkest shade, D the lightest):
 - A – 2 yards
 - B – 1 yards
 - C – ¼ yard
 - D – ¼ yard
 - 2 yards pale gold fabric
 - 1/8 yard pale yellow fabric
 - 1/8 yard deep burgundy fabric
 - 2 ½ yards canvas fabric
- 14 yards 17" wide ultra-hold iron-on adhesive
- 7 yards ½" wide double fold bias tape – deep burgundy
- Fabric glue
- Scissors and stick pins
- Fabric pen or pencil
- Sewing machine
- Red violet thread
- Electric drill and drill bits
- 48" long ¾" dowel rod, cut to 46"
- 2 yards gold decorative cording
- Iron and large ironing surface such as a table layered with blankets

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 - a. One A shape (this appears as three pieces, but is one large piece)
 - b. Four B shapes
 - c. One C circle (not a ring)
 - d. One D circle (not a ring)
 - e. Two pale gold shapes
 - f. One pale yellow circle
 - g. Two burgundy droplets

(You do not need to make patterns for the shapes that are red-violet as this is the background fabric on which the other shapes will be placed.)

Set the patterns aside.

3. Cut the canvas fabric into a rectangle 44" x 88". This will serve as a backing and will give the banner weight and body. Now cut enough iron-on adhesive to completely cover the canvas and iron it on according to the adhesive's instructions; remove the paper backing.
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