

Maundy Thursday Family Seder April 18, 2019

On the night before he was given up to death, Jesus gathered with his friends to break bread for the feast of Passover, the holiest time of the Jewish year. Tonight, as Christians, we honor our spiritual heritage from Judaism by celebrating Passover as we remember the Last Supper.

I. Welcome and Lighting of the Passover Candles

A woman at each table will light the candle.

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has kept us alive and sustained us, and has brought us to this season.

II. The First Cup: The Cup of Holiness

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has made us holy and who sanctifies Israel.

Drink the first cup of wine, and pour a second cup.

III. The Washing of Hands

When directed to do so, dip your fingertips into the dish of water and wipe them on the napkin.

IV. The Green Vegetable (Karpas)

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe,

who creates the fruit of the earth.

Dip a parsley sprig into the salt water and eat it.

V. The Breaking of the Bread

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe,

for you have given us food to sustain us in the wilderness.

The woman who lit the candle will break off a piece of matzah and put it back into the basket.

VI. The Story of the Passover

You are invited to assist the clergy in acting out the story of the Passover from Exodus.

Go Down, Moses (African-American Spiritual)

When Israel was in Egypt's land, let my people go; Oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go.

Chorus (sung after every verse)

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land; Tell ol' Pharaoh to let my people go.

The Lord told Moses what to do, let my people go; To lead the children of Israel through, let my people go.

They journeyed on at his command, let my people go; And came at length to Canaan's land, let my people go.

Oh, let us all from bondage flee, let my people go; And let us all in Christ be free, let my people go.

Dayenu (Had God only brought us out of Egypt, it would have been enough)

Da, dayenu; da, dayenu; da, dayenu; dayenu, dayenu (2x). Ilu hotsi, hotsi anu, hotsi anu, mi Mitzrayim, mi Mitzrayim hotsi anu, dayenu. Da, dayenu; da, dayenu; da, dayenu; dayenu, dayenu (2x).

Avadim Hayinu (We were slaves; now we are free)

Avadim hayinu, hayinu; atah b'nai chorin, b'nai chorin. Avadim hayinu; atah, atah, b'nai chorin. Avadim hayinu; atah, atah, b'nai chorin, b'nai chorin.

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has liberated us from our sins and shown us the ways of freedom and peace.

Raise the second cup in your right hand.

VII. The Second Cup: The Cup of Deliverance

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has redeemed us and brought us to this night.

Drink the second cup and pour a third cup.

VIII. The Unleavened Bread (Matzah)

Pass around the matzah basket and break off a piece.

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has made us holy with your word, and has commanded to eat unleavened bread.

Eat a piece of matzah.

IX. The Bitter Herbs (Maror)

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has made us holy with your word, and has commanded to eat bitter herbs.

Eat a bit of the bitter herbs, spread on matzah.

X. The Charoset and Egg (Charoset and Beitzah)

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed are you O Lord our God, ruler of the universe,

who in kindness, goodness, and grace gives food to the world.

Your love for us endures forever. We praise you, O Lord,

who provides food for all life.

Eat the charoset, either alone or spread on the matzah, and the egg.

XI. The Third Cup: The Cup of Redemption

Leader Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

People Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Drink the third cup and pour a fourth cup.

X. The Fourth Cup: The Cup of Thanksgiving

Leader Let us bless the Lord who has given us these gifts.

People Next year in the New Jerusalem!

Raise your glass and drink the fourth cup.



Thank you for joining us at tonight's family Seder.

Assistance with cleanup is much appreciated!

We hope to see you at tomorrow's Good Friday Children's Service at 2pm.

