



**SEDER MEAL:
PASSOVER CELEBRATION**

WELCOME

PLEASE STAND.

LEADER:

Jews from Jerusalem to Minneapolis, from Bethany to Morris celebrate the Passover in one and the same way; by sharing a family meal called the Seder. The menu hasn't changed in over 3,000 years. You will find it in the book of Exodus, Chapter 12.

Christians, too, celebrate the Passover meal that Jesus broke bread and lifted the cup. This was the Last Supper. Today we remember this at every Eucharist.

The Jews remembered the Passover as the deliverance from the slavery of Egypt. We, too, are delivered from the bonds of sin and given new life with Jesus. Let us all join in this celebration.

LIGHTING OF THE FESTIVAL LIGHTS

(Each table leader lights candle)

TEACHERS:

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the festival lights. Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us alive and brought us here to celebrate this holy meal. May our family be made holy by Your lights shining upon us in blessing and bringing us peace

ALL: Amen

HYMN: "Glory and Praise to Our God"

(sing twice)

Glory and Praise to Our God
Who alone gives light to our days.
Many are the blessings He bears,
To those who trust in His ways.

PLEASE BE SEATED

FATHER:

Praise to You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who redeemed us and our fathers, who gave us this special day when we eat unleavened bread. We are glad and we praise You. We thank You for this celebration. Praise to You O Lord who saves your people.

ALL:

Praise to You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who created the fruit of the vine.

(ALL FINISH THE WINE)

HYMN: "Our God is a God of Love"

Lead—Grades 4-6

Echo—Grades K-3

Our God is a God of Love,
Our God is a God of Peace,
Our God is a God of Mercy,
Come, let us praise Him.

Joy, His joy is all around us,
Joy, His joy is everywhere,
Joy, His joy is all around us,
Joy, His joy is everywhere.

Jesus is the Son of God,
Jesus is the Prince of Peace,
Jesus is the Lord of Lords,
Come, let us praise Him.

Acknowledgements (Alphabetically):

- 1) Chairperson
- 2) Cooks
- 3) Custodial staff
- 4) Parents
- 5) Secretary
- 6) Students
- 7) Teachers
- 8) The people present to help create a faith-filled atmosphere.

HYMN:

“Peace is Flowing Like a River”

Peace is flowing like a river,
Flowing out of you and me,
Flowing out into the desert,
Setting all the Captives free.

His love is flowing

His healing’s flowing.....

LEADER:

During the meal the second cup of wine is drank even though there is no ritual blessing for it. You are reminded to save some wine for the third ritual cup at the end of the meal.

SPEAKER 7: Just as Jesus shared His thoughts with His disciples during the meal, we will share out thoughts with each other.

ENJOY THE MEAL!!

AFTER THE MEAL

LEADER:

Let us say the traditional Jewish grace at the end of the meal.

FATHER:

Let us praise God to whom belongs everything of which we have partaken.

ALL: Praise be God for the good which we have eaten.

LEADER:

Before drinking our third ritual cup, let us raise our glass as we join Father in thanking Yahweh for this special day.

LEADER:

We will begin by having Father ask Yahweh’s blessing on the feast day, just as Jesus asked it at the Last Supper.

FATHER:

Praise to You, O Lord our God, for choosing us as your people. Because You love us, You have given us feasts for our happiness, holidays for our joy and holiness. You gave us this special feast of Passover to remind us of our freedom from slavery and our freedom from sin You gave us Jesus.

ALL: Amen

LEADER:

During the meal there is the drinking of three ritual cups of wine. (the juice symbolizes the wine). Let us raise our glass of “wine” as Father asks God’s blessing upon it, and then drink the first ritual cup.

FATHER:

Praise to You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who created the fruit of the vine.

LEADER:

In Jewish Seder, herbs and Maroseth sauce are now blessed (the salt water represents the sauce). This sauce was intended to Remind the Jews of the clay or mortar used by their ancestors in Eygpt when they were slaves. After the blessing we will pass the celery-our equivalent of the herbs- and the sauce. We will now join Father in the Blessing.

FATHER:

Praise to You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who gave us the fruits of the earth.

(HERBS ARE NOW PASSED, DIPPED IN THE SAUCE, AND EATEN.)

LEADER:

After these preliminaries, the Paschal ritual began. The Paschal lamb was placed on the table before the head of the family.

(THE LAMB FOR THE HEAD TABLE IS NOW BROUGHT IN)

LEADER:

This is also the time when the unleavened bread was passed. Let us pass the matzah now. Break off a piece and hold it up during the following prayer.

(THE UNLEAVENED BREAD IS NOW PASSED)

FATHER:

This is the bread of suffering that our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt. Let anyone who is hungry come and eat. Let anyone in need celebrate the Passover with us. Once we were slaves, now we are free, redeemed by God who loves us. Praise to You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who by Your commandments made us holy, who commanded us to eat this bread.

(THE UNLEAVENED BREAD IS NOW EATEN)

THE STORY OF THE DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT

SPEAKER 1: Why is this night different from all other nights?

FATHER:

This is the night of the Passover of the Lord. When the Israelites were slaves in Egypt, God our Father saw their suffering. He led them out of slavery for He passed over the houses of all the Israelites in Egypt. When He struck down the Egyptians He spared our houses. They passed from slavery to freedom, into the land of promise.

SPEAKER 2: How did Jesus celebrate the Passover?

FATHER:

This is the night of the Last Supper. This is the night Jesus began His Passion and passed over from the death of Good Friday to the new life of Easter.

SPEAKER 3: Why do we eat unleavened bread this night?

FATHER:

The Israelites had to leave Egypt in such haste that they did not have time to allow their bread to rise before baking it. The unleavened bread is a reminder of their haste.

This is the night Jesus first called bread and wine His body and blood. This is the night Jesus first said, "This is my body which is given for you." Once we were slaves. Now Jesus had delivered us from slavery and fear of sin and death.

SPEAKER 4: Why do we drink from the fruit of the vine tonight?

FATHER:

This is the night we are reminded of the promises of salvation. Israel was promised to be brought out of bondage and slavery and was chosen by God to bring the good news of His deliverance to all people. This is the night Jesus said, "I will not drink of the fruit of the vine with you again until I drink it in the kingdom of the Father."

SPEAKER 5: What is the meaning of the bitter herb?

FATHER:

The bitter herbs remind us of the bitterness of Christ's suffering and death. It reminds the Jews of the suffering of slavery and its bitterness.

SPEAKER 6: What is the meaning of the Lamb?

FATHER:

This is the Passover sacrifice of the Lord. The Lord commanded all the Israelites to get a year old lamb. Some of the blood of the lamb was used to mark the doorpost of each Israelite house. The Lord struck down the oldest in each of the Egyptian houses but of all those marked by the blood of the lamb he spared.

Jesus, the Passover lamb, was slain for all of us, to free us from sin and bring us to victory.