



NEW CITY CHURCH

- MAUNDY THURSDAY -

THE LAST SUPPER

Traditionally, there are four cups of wine for the Passover. These cups guide the meal and the remembrance of what God has done for His people.

FIRST CUP: CUP OF SANCTIFICATION

Pastor: “Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who has created the fruit of the vine. . . . And you, O Lord our God, have given us festival days for joy, this feast of the unleavened bread, the time of our deliverance in remembrance of the departure from Egypt. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to enjoy this season.”

The first cup of ritual wine is poured.

Pastor: “I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.”

The first cup is now drunk.

SECOND CUP: CUP OF PROCLAMATION

The second cup of ritual wine is poured.

Pastor explains the significance of the lamb, bitter herbs, and unleavened bread through these questions.

(a) *Why is this night different from all other nights?*

*You shall tell your son on that day, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’⁹And it shall be to you as a sign on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth. For with a strong hand the Lord has brought you out of Egypt.¹⁰You shall therefore keep this statute at its appointed time from year to year. - **Exodus 13:8-10***

*“Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the Lord says: Israel is my firstborn son,²³and I told you, ‘Let my son go, so he may worship me.’” - **Exodus 4:22-23***

(b) *On all other nights we eat leavened or unleavened bread, but this night only unleavened bread?*

*“Because the dough of our ancestors had not yet leavened when the King of Kings, the Holy One Blessed be He revealed Himself to them and redeemed them. As it is said, “And they baked unleavened cakes.”. - **Exodus 12:39***

(c) *On all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs, but this night only bitter herbs?*

*...the Egyptians were in dread of the people of Israel. ¹³So they ruthlessly made the people of Israel work as slaves ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and brick, and in all kinds of work in the field. In all their work they ruthlessly made them work as slaves. **Exodus 1:12b-14***

They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. - Exodus 12:8

(d) On all other nights we eat meat roasted, stewed, or boiled, but on this night why only roasted meat?

Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. - Exodus 12:9-11

Recite Together: *"Praise the Lord. Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. ²Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore. ³From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. ⁴The Lord is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens. ⁵Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, ⁶who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth? ⁷He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; ⁸he seats them with princes, with the princes of their people. ⁹He settles the barren woman in her home as a happy mother of children. Praise the Lord." - Psalm 113*

Recite Together: *"When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of foreign tongue, ²Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion. ³The sea looked and fled, the Jordan turned back; ⁴the mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs. ⁵Why was it, O sea, that you fled, O Jordan, that you turned back, ⁶you mountains, that you skipped like rams, you hills, like lambs? ⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob, ⁸who turned the rock into a pool, the hard rock into springs of water." - Psalm 114*

Pastor: *"Blessed are you, O LORD our God, king of the universe, who has created the fruit of the vine." Exodus 6:6b: "I will deliver you from their bondage."*

The second cup of ritual wine is now drunk.

THIRD CUP: CUP OF BLESSING

The third cup of ritual wine is poured.

Breaking of the bread.

Pastor: *"Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with your commandments, and commanded us to eat unleavened bread."*

All: *"The name of the Lord be blessed from now until eternity. Let us bless him of whose gifts we have partaken: Blessed be our God of whose gifts we have partaken, and by whose goodness we exist."*

Taking of the bitter herbs and then the meal is served.

Pastor: *"I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments."*

The third cup is now drunk.

FOURTH CUP: CUP OF PRAISE

The fourth cup of wine is poured and blessed by all.

All: “Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has created the fruit of the vine.”

Pastor: “Then I will take you as my people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.”

Recite Together: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. ²Let Israel say: “His love endures forever.” ³Let the house of Aaron say: “His love endures forever.” ⁴Let those who fear the Lord say: “His love endures forever.” ⁵In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and he answered by setting me free. ⁶The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? ⁷The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies. ⁸It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. ⁹It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. ¹⁰All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I cut them off.

¹¹They surrounded me on every side, but in the name of the Lord I cut them off. ¹²They swarmed around me like bees, but they died out as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the Lord I cut them off. ¹³I was pushed back and about to fall, but the Lord helped me. ¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. ¹⁵Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: “The Lord’s right hand has done mighty things! ¹⁶The Lord’s right hand is lifted high; the Lord’s right hand has done mighty things!” ¹⁷I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done. ¹⁸The Lord has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death. ¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter.

²¹I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. ²²The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; ²³the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵O Lord, save us; O Lord, grant us success. ²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has made his light shine upon us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. ²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. -

Psalm 118