



2021 Passover Supper Background & Instructions

"And thou shalt tell thy son in that day, saying: It is because of that which the LORD did for me when I came forth out of Egypt." (Exodus 13:8)

Passover commemorates the Exodus of God's people from Egypt, where they were enslaved, and their passage "through the water to freedom." In Children's Worship, this is the phrase we use to tell the story of the Exodus. It is also the phrase we use to tell the story of Baptism and what Baptism means for the Church and for God's people today: *through the water to freedom.*

Haggadah is a Hebrew word meaning "telling." In Exodus 13:8, God's people are commanded to *tell* their children about this Exodus, to be sure that they remember.

That is the purpose of this night: to *tell* so that we *remember*. As Christians, we know the Exodus from Egypt to be one small story in the Great Redemption Story, the great story of God loving His children and pursuing them. It is the story of God preparing to send us His Rescuer, His son. The small story of the Exodus is especially poignant. There are many foreshadowings of God's Rescue Plan.

Passover is remembering how God's people were rescued. It is about how the Angel of Death *passed over* the homes marked by the blood of the lamb. As we join together in remembering the Exodus, we also mark the events which are foreshadowed: the death of God's first-born son, the innocent Lamb whose blood is shed for us, and our rescue as Death passes over us because of His blood.

The heart of the Passover Supper is the liturgy. For 2021, we encourage you to share a Passover Supper with those with whom you live or are doing life with. Groups might choose to video-conference together during the meal, if that would be a helpful way to share this special meal together.

Historically, All Souls has provided certain items for the House Group Passover Suppers. **This year, those items will not be provided; you will need to obtain them yourselves, while doing a grocery run. Please know that substitutions are always fine!** Even if you serve chicken or a meat substitute for the lamb meat, you will still be able to enjoy this meaningful meal together.

We also recognize that this meal is best with a large group, but that may not happen in your home. **It is always acceptable for one person to ask all the questions, or read all the Scripture readings.**

People:

Host
Leader (*the Mother of the House*)
8 question askers (*especially appropriate for children*)
8 Scripture readers (*children or adults*)
1 Dismissal reader (*child or adult*)

Materials

2 candles
matches or a lighter
bulletins (print or work from phones)

Food:

lamb meat (or another meat?)
Matzoh (or another cracker?)
shank bone (*Wheaton Meat Market*)
pita bread (*1/person*)
hard-boiled eggs (*1/person*)
Charoset/apple sauce/apple slices
Horseradish (*1tsp/person*)
Parsley (*1 sprig/person*)
Salt (*1 pinch/person*)

red and/or white table wine
grape juice, as appropriate

Plan ahead! Please read through the entire bulletin ahead of time. Identify who will be the Leader and who will be the Host (the two primary players in the service). Assign the 9 questions & the 7 Scripture readings. Highlight the questions & readings so participants will know when to read. Place the 2 candles in reach of the Leader. If you would like, put all the items out on the table. You may set each plate, but that is not necessary. You are now ready to begin.

Follow the order of service. The instructions are clear in the bulletin.

Enjoy this time together! This is a family meal. This is what families do: human families and church families. We gather and we tell stories. This Story -- God's Rescue Story -- is the best of all stories. We are here today because one family told the children, who told their children, who told their children, and so on for thousands of years. Let us join together to tell the Story, once again, so that we can remember, and so the children will never forget.

If you have questions as you prepare, please call, text or email. Thanks!

jennifer.merck@allsouls.com

630.251.8749