



Table of the Lord is the class where you will learn about and prepare to take the next step on your faith journey ... receiving **Holy Communion**.

There are several names given to Holy Communion including:

Lord's Supper

Holy Eucharist

Sacrament of the Altar

The Table of the Lord

Which of these names are familiar to you? Circle them.

During this class we will look into God's Word in **the Bible**, and use **Martin Luther's Small Catechism**, to see what Holy Communion means for YOU!

Each class will have an opportunity for **parents and students** to learn together, including reading scripture and reviewing Martin Luther's Small Catechism.

The New Testament says Jesus gave us Holy Communion right before he was betrayed, arrested, and died on the cross for our sins. This week, we will learn from the Old Testament what special ceremony Jesus and his disciples were celebrating together when Jesus started Holy Communion.

Jesus and the disciples were celebrating a meal called **the Passover** together.

What is the Passover?

The Old Testament tells of the **first Passover Meal**. We can read the same story that Jesus and his Disciples did in the book of Exodus. It tells the story of the **Israelites**, also known as **Hebrews**, **Jews**, or **God's Chosen People**. Pharaoh had made the Israelites slaves in Egypt, and he did not let the Israelites worship their God. But God saved the Israelites and set them free from Pharaoh. God chose Moses to be his messenger to Pharaoh, and whenever Pharaoh did not listen to God's Message from Moses, then God sent plagues to Pharaoh and the Egyptians.

Moses went to Pharaoh and said, *“This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival in my honor in the wilderness.’”* Pharaoh said, **“NO!” Exodus 5:1&2 (NLT)**

God gave Pharaoh 10 chances to change his mind.
After each chance, God gave a consequence by sending a **plague**.

Group time

Read the plague assigned to you and report back to the group.

<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Plague</u>	<u>What Happened</u>
Exodus 7:14-24	_____	Fish die, the river smells, the people are without water.
Exodus 8:1-15	_____	These creatures come up from the water and completely cover the land.
Exodus 8:16-19	_____	All the dust of Egypt becomes a massive swarm of these tiny insects.
Exodus 8:20-32	_____	Swarms of these pesky insects cover the land.
Exodus 9:1-7	_____	All the Egyptians farm animals die, but none of the Israelite’s stock are even sick.
Exodus 9:8-12	_____	Horrible sores break out on everyone in Egypt.
Exodus 9:13-35	_____	This form of ice kills slaves, animals and plants left out or unprotected.
Exodus 10:1-20	_____	You hear these insects every fall. They covered Egypt and ate all plants remaining.
Exodus 10:21-29	_____	This blanketed Egypt for 3 days; no one could even move - except the Israelites who have light as usual

And now, the 10th Plague (video)

The **10th Plague** is the **Death of the Firstborn**

The firstborn of **all** the people and cattle of Egypt die, but the Israelites are spared! God tested the Israelites to see if they would follow his directions. He gave them instructions for **the first Passover Meal**.

Read **Exodus 12:1-13 (NLT)**.

What were they to sacrifice in order to be saved from the 10th plague?

Exodus 12:13 (NLT) says,

“But the _____ on your doorposts will serve as a sign, marking the _____ where you are staying. When I see the _____, I will _____ you. This plague of death will not touch you when I strike the land of Egypt.”

Read **Exodus 12:29-32 (NLT)**.

The _____ on the _____ protected God’s people, the Israelites, from the angel of death. They were “**passed over**” and rescued from slavery. This is where the term “**Passover**” comes from.

The Jewish people have celebrated the Passover ever since. The Passover Meal is sometimes called the **Seder Meal** or the **Day of Unleavened Bread**. This is a joyful celebration, and the festivities can last several hours. They read from the **Haggadah**, a book used to retell the story told in Exodus of the first Passover and the escape of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt at the time of Moses. They eat Unleavened Bread, made without yeast, called Matzah to remind them of when the Israelites ate unleavened bread because they had no time to let the yeast raise the dough before they fled from Pharaoh. They also eat roasted lamb, bitter herbs, wine, and other special foods to remind them of the very first Passover.

How would you describe the taste of unleavened bread? _____

Would you like to eat it often? _____

HOMEWORK:

Students: Look up the New Testament scriptures and fill in the blanks on the following page.

Parents: Discuss with your students these questions found in your Small Catechism:

1. What is the Sacrament of the Alter? (pg. 231) Why is Jesus called the Lamb of God?
2. What are some other names for the Sacrament of the Alter?

What scriptures describe the names? (pg. 232)

Name _____

Passover Parallels

Session 1 Homework - hand in completed next week.

Look up the passage and fill in the blanks. *New Living Translation version.

Old Testament Scripture	Jews and the Passover	New Testament Scripture*	Jesus as the Passover Lamb
Exodus 2:23b-24	Israelites were slaves	John 8:34	“ _____ who sins is a _____ to sin.”
Exodus 3:17	God promises to rescue Israelites from slavery	John 3:16	“... so that everyone who _____ in him will not perish but have _____.”
Exodus 12:1-14	Blood of Passover lamb on the doorpost saved them from death	1 Corinthians 5:7	“Christ, our _____ Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.”
Exodus 12:5	They chose a lamb without defect for sacrifice	1 Peter 1:19	“It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, _____ Lamb of God.”
Exodus 12:46	The lamb was not to have a broken leg	John 19:32-34,36	“...in fulfillment of the Scriptures that say, “Not one of His _____ will be broken,”
Exodus 12:11	They were to have sandals on and staff in hand	Luke 12:40	What do we need to be ready for? _____
Exodus 12:28-32	The Israelites were freed from their captors	John 8:36 Galatians 5:1a	We are slaves to sin. How are we set free? _____