

The Last Supper

Bible Verse

And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” (Luke 22:19)

Teacher Enrichment

This is the third lesson in the *LENT* series which explores the last days of Jesus’ life. Understanding the events leading up to and including Jesus dying on the cross helps us grasp the magnitude of Jesus’ sacrifice for us. As we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection at Easter, each week will examine the significance of an event and the actions of the people involved.

Jesus knew His time on earth was coming to an end and during the last week of His life, was preparing His disciples to continue His work. Jesus used the Passover meal He shared with the disciples to provide a ritual of remembrance. During the Last Supper Jesus began making it clear to His disciples that He would be leaving them; that He would die on the cross. Jesus broke bread, shared a cup and blessed both all while saying “Do this in memory of me.” Today the church celebrates the sacrament of Communion as a way of remembering the Last Supper and the sacrifice Jesus made by dying on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven.

This lesson will introduce children to the Biblical basis for the sacrament of Communion: The Last Supper. At Arcola Church, children attend a special Communion class in 2nd or 3rd grade which provides a more in-depth explanation of Communion. If you wish to further understand the practice of Communion in the United Methodist Church, you can download *The Meaning of Holy Communion* on the UMC Discipleship Ministries website: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/the-meaning-of-holy-communion>.

Before Class Begins

- ◆ Place the Sign In sheet and a pen where parents can see it upon arrival.
- ◆ Place the Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards and pens where students can see them upon arrival.
- ◆ Check that you have supplies for this lesson:
 - Arrival Activity, The Last Supper activity sheet – 1 per child
 - Large Foam Squares & Dice
 - Large Foam Dice
 - The Last Supper Game Questions
 - Last Supper Place Setting cutouts – 1 per child
 - Construction paper – 1 sheet per child
- ◆ Place an arrival activity at each place on the table.

Welcome

SUPPLIES: Sign In sheet, Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards, Attendance chart, stickers, The Last Supper activity sheet, pencils/pens

- ◆ Greet each child individually as they arrive. Introduce yourself by name.
- ◆ Help children find or add their name on the attendance chart. Provide each child with a sticker to place in today's column on the attendance chart.
- ◆ Encourage children to complete a Joy or Concern card if they have a particular joy or concern they would like to express. Collect completed Joy & Concern cards.
- ◆ Encourage children to complete a Time or Talent offering card if they gave their time to God or used their talents to serve God or others during the previous week. Children should keep their own completed Time and Talent cards.
- ◆ If children bring monetary offering, they should keep it with them.
- ◆ Direct children to complete their **Last Supper activity sheet**.
- ◆ Encourage conversation among the children and with you! Get to know the children in your classroom by asking about their week including school, activities and families. Introduce new children to each other and encourage friendships.

Children's Worship

SUPPLIES: Sign In sheet, Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards

- ◆ Arrive at Ruth Hall at 9:20 or 11:05.
- ◆ Bring the Sign In sheet and completed Joy & Concern cards to Ruth Hall. Hand the Joy & Concern cards to the Children's Worship leader as you arrive.
- ◆ Have children bring their completed Time & Talent cards and any monetary offering.
- ◆ If additional children arrive while in Ruth Hall, have parents complete the Sign In sheet and remind parents that pickup is in Room 105.
- ◆ Encourage children to participate in Children's Worship and provide re-direction if necessary.
- ◆ Assist the Children's Worship leader as needed.
- ◆ **While the children are attending Children's Worship, have an assistant place the large foam squares in a path around the classroom like a large game board. If you do not have an assistant, you may return to your classroom during Children's Worship to place them.**



- ◆ At the conclusion of Children's Worship, have children line up and return to Room 105.

The Lesson

SUPPLIES: Large foam squares and dice, Last Supper Questions & Answers, Last Supper Place Setting cutouts, construction paper, crayons/markers, scissors, glue

- ◆ As you arrive back in the classroom, have the children remain standing at the Start line of the game.

SAY: Today we learned about the Last Supper and how Jesus established Communion as a way to remember Him. We talked about if we have good memories or not. We are going to play a game and see how good your memory really is!

- ◆ Each child plays individually, however, if you have more than six children, create partner teams. One child can move on the squares and the other can roll the dice.
- ◆ Decide the order of players/teams.
- ◆ Read a question to the first player/team from **The Last Supper Game Questions**.
 - If a player/team answers correctly, they roll the dice and move the corresponding number of squares.
 - If a player/team answers incorrectly, they remain on their square and the question passes to the next player/team.
- ◆ Play continues with each player/team being asked questions in turn.
- ◆ If there is a winner prior to all the questions being asked, you may continue to ask questions and “see who comes in second.”

If the game is completed prior to the end of class, provide each child with a Last Supper place setting cutout. Show children the sample craft and direct children to color, cut out and assemble their place setting on construction paper. If there is not enough time, the craft can be sent with children to be completed at home.

Closing

- ◆ Lead the children in a closing prayer. You may say your own prayer, ask one of the children to say a prayer or use the one below.

God,
Thank you for giving us Communion to help us remember your love and sacrifice.
Amen
- ◆ If time remains before parents arrive, encourage children to return to their Last Supper activity sheet if they did not complete it. Also encourage conversation

between children and with you. This is another opportunity to build relationships with the children in your classroom!

The Last Supper Game

Game Questions

1. What is the meal that Jesus had with His disciples called?

The Last Supper

2. When we re-enact the Last Supper in church today it is called what?

Communion

3. What are the two symbols of Communion that we eat and drink?

Bread and Wine/Juice

4. Why do we celebrate Communion today?

To remember Jesus OR to remember Jesus' love or sacrifice

5. Name one of the two disciples who prepared the room for the Last Supper meal.

Peter or John

6. Name the other disciple who prepared the room for the Last Supper meal.

Peter or John

7. What did Jesus say the bread represented?

His body

8. Who is allowed to participate in Communion in the United Methodist Church?

Everyone

9. What was the man carrying who would lead the disciples to the upper room?

Water jug

10. Who bakes the Communion bread at Arcola Church?

Pastor Chris

11. Who taught us how to celebrate Communion?

Jesus

12. What is the special name of the cup used to hold the wine or juice?

Chalice

13. Which disciple betrayed Jesus?

Judas

14. In what city was the Last Supper held?

Jerusalem

15. What person must be present when we celebrate Communion in the United Methodist Church today?

A Pastor

16. What did Jesus say the wine or juice represented?

His blood

17. How did Jesus split the bread between His disciples?

By breaking it into pieces

18. What was the Jewish holiday the disciples and Jesus were celebrating?

Passover

19. What is the name the church gives to special rituals like Communion?

Sacrament

20. What is the time in the church calendar prior to Easter called?

Lent

21. Why was the Last Supper the last meal Jesus would have with His disciples?

He was going to die the next day

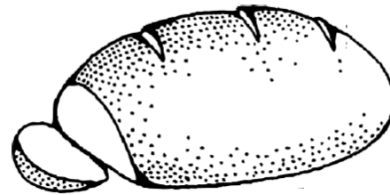
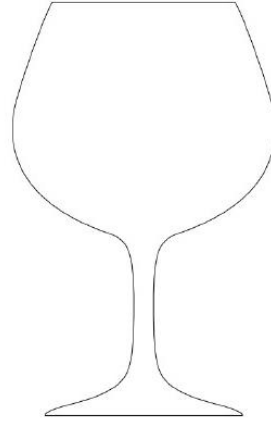
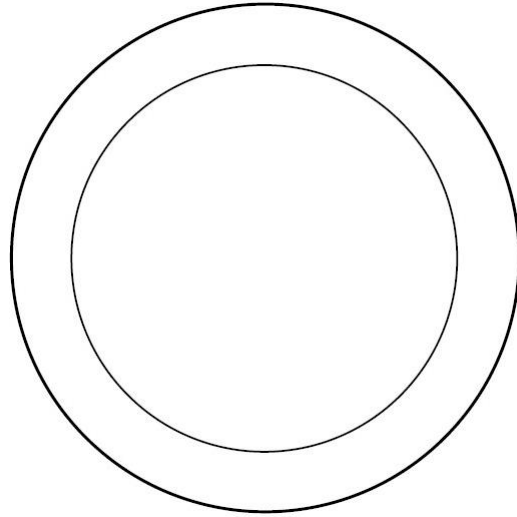
22. Which book of the Bible describes the Last Supper?

Matthew, Mark, Luke or John – all the Gospels

23. What fruit is used to make the wine or juice for Communion?

Grapes

Last Supper Place Setting Craft



Jesus took some bread in his hands and gave thanks for it. He broke the bread and handed it to his apostles. Then he said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Eat this as a way of remembering me!" After the meal he took another cup of wine in his hands. Then he said, "This is my blood. It is poured out for you, and with it God makes his new agreement." Luke 22:19-20

