

*I tell you,
one of you will
betray me*





"I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."

Luke 22:15, NIV

THE LIVING LAST SUPPER APRIL 1, 2023

Leonardo da Vinci was a genius of the Renaissance. He was commissioned by the Duke of Milan to paint the dining room of the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie. Leonardo chose the Last Supper as his theme. His painting was not intended to be an actual representation of the scene that took place, but a representation of what he considered to be the most dramatic moment of the evening — Christ's accusation.

In this "Living Last Supper" dramatization, the disciples bring Leonardo da Vinci's painting to life. Watch, as they share how Jesus has changed their lives and as they react to the words they just heard Jesus speak: "One of you will betray me."

In scene two of the drama, Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane and is betrayed by Judas into the hands of the Chief Priests and Romans. The drama concludes with a synopsis of what tradition says happened to each disciple as they carried the message of Christ into the world.

FOODS SYMBOLIC OF THE PASSOVER (SEDER) MEAL

Lamb - A sacrifice to God (ultimately Jesus Christ became the sacrifice for our sins.)

Unleavened Bread - To remember the Israelites' hurried departure from Egypt - no time to let the bread rise.

Bitter Herbs - Represented the cruel bondage of slavery in Egypt. The parsley, dipped in salt water, is a reminder of the tears of the slaves.

Wine - Four glasses of diluted wine were drunk to represent the four phases of redemption in Exodus 6:6-7.

Charoseth - A mixture of ground apples, raisins, figs, nuts, wine and honey - represents the mortar the slaves used to assemble the Pharaoh's bricks. Used as a dipping sauce for the bread.

WELCOME:

Good evening and welcome to the Living Last Supper. The events we remember tonight go back hundreds of years, all the way to the Old Testament. God's people had been slaves in Egypt for over 400 years. In His time, God sent His deliverer, Moses, to bring His people out of the land of slavery.

God sent ten plagues to the land of Egypt because the Pharaoh would not let the people go. The last plague was the death of all first-born children in Egypt. God's people were spared from these deaths by following God's instructions to kill a lamb, eat the meat and place some of the blood on the door frames of their homes. When the angel of death passed over the Israelites' homes, all inside were spared. The Pharaoh released the Israelites immediately.

God's people were instructed to observe this 'Passover' celebration every year - a lasting ordinance - remembering that it was God Himself who brought them out of the land of slavery.

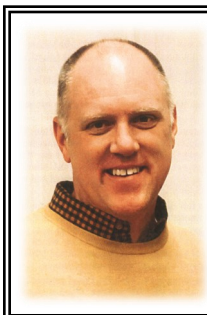
In His time, God sent His deliverer, His Son Jesus Christ, to save His people from the slavery of sin. Jesus Christ became the sacrifice for our sins. He is, as John the Baptist declared, "The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." During the last week of His life on earth, the night when He was betrayed, Jesus celebrated the Passover in the Upper Room with His disciples.

While observing Passover, Jesus also instituted a new and more wonderful celebration - His Last Supper, Holy Communion. Just as the people of Israel in the Old Testament were reminded of their deliverance from slavery in the Passover, we today are reminded of our deliverance from sin, death and the power of the devil in the body and blood of Christ.

Watch now as the events unfold, and as Christ gives His body and His blood in the new covenant.

IN MEMORIAM

This year's performances are dedicated to our beloved Brother-in-Christ and cast member, Doug Miller who fell asleep in Jesus November 2, 2022.



THE GREAT COMMISSION: GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS

And what happened to Jesus' twelve apostles after Jesus' death and resurrection? Some of what you know is historical fact and some is tradition and legend.

Nathaniel was faithful to the continued preaching of Jesus' message and took a copy of Matthew's gospel into India and part of what is now Russia. He was martyred for preaching and zealously sharing his faith.

James the Less also fell at the hands of his enemies and became a martyr by stoning. Some of his bones and relics are preserved to this day, buried under the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople.

Andrew became a fruitful evangelist and missionary, sharing the gospel in Scythia, which is southern Russia today – around the Black Sea. His ministry also included Greece and Ephesus. He was crucified and stoned on a cross-shaped like an X on November 30th, 69 A.D.

Peter, yes, Peter. He, as well as all the disciples, denied Jesus. But he was repentant and became a bold and fruitful evangelist. On the day of Pentecost, he was filled with the Holy Spirit, became the spokesman, and preached the gospel. Thousands were saved! Later, he journeyed to Lydda, Joppa and even into what is now Great Britain. He was martyred in Rome by Nero on Vatican Hill, crucified upside down because he felt he was not worthy to be crucified in the same manner as Jesus was. He is entombed in the Vatican City under the basilica named after him.

James, son of Zebedee, of whom Jesus said, "Indeed you will drink of the cup that I drink of," was the first martyr among the twelve apostles. He was beheaded by King Herod Agrippa in 44 A.D. Before his death, he was an effectual minister of the gospel, taking the message to many places, including Spain. His bones are entombed in part in Jerusalem, and some were taken to Spain where they are today.

continued

John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was the last of the apostles to die. He took responsibility for Jesus' mother, Mary, until her death. He was the only apostle to die a natural death. However, his life was not without persecution. He was exiled to the Island of Patmos to stop his preaching. It was there that God gave him the Revelation. He is responsible for five books of the New Testament. His life ended in a natural death in Ephesus around 100 A.D.

Thomas, the apostle accused of doubt, became one of the most fruitful of all Jesus' apostles. He traveled to Babylon and established churches there; and then on to India where multitudes were converted. To this day the work of Thomas is recognized and continued in India. Thomas was martyred by a lance thrust through him. He is buried in Mylapore, India – now a suburb of Madras.

Philip also became an active missionary, spreading the gospel to Scythia, where he preached for 20 years. He traveled to Hieropolis in Phrygia where priests of the pagan gods crucified him and stoned him to death while he was on the cross. He died praying for his enemies and tormentors as Jesus did.

Matthew wrote the gospel that opens the New Testament. He spent most of his life ministering to the Hebrews in Palestine. From there he traveled to Ethiopia, Northern Greece, Syria and Persia – where he was martyred for his faithfulness in serving Christ. His body is entombed in the cathedral in Salerno, Italy.

Simon the Zealot spread the gospel into Egypt, Cyrene, Africa and then to Great Britain. His life, too, was ended by being a martyr when he was crucified in Great Britain.

Thaddeus was a faithful follower of Jesus. He took the gospel into Syria, Arabia, Mesopotamia, and Persia. He was martyred in Syria.

Judas Iscariot ended his own life in torment of mind after his betrayal.

DISCIPLES

Seated from left to right

James.....Rev. Jonathan Walla
Matthew..... Aidan Quirk
Thomas..... Mark Roeder
James the Less Samuel Tschaekofske
Peter.....Chris Gergen
JohnDawson Fagerland
Jesus Christ..... Brett Morlok
Judas..... Rev. Justin Woodside
Simon Mike Fagerland
Thaddeus..... Kerwin Wolfgram
Andrew..... Mark Thompson
Philip Benjamin Thompson
Nathanael..... Paul Harron

OTHER CAST MEMBERS

Servant Women Jill Schiermeister & Anna Harron
Soldiers..... Joseph Baneck, Lee Dolajak,
Shane Quirk & Luke Woodside
Representatives of the Chief Priests.....Jordan Krill
Trevor Krause & Troy Lapp
Narrator Katie Tschaekofske

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Directors..... Mark & Laurie Thompson
Organist, PianistTina Robinson
AudioScott Tschaeckofske
Lighting..... Michael Thompson
Videographer Blake Wiedrich
UsherGabriel Harron & Josiah Walla
Cast/Crew Assistant Kim Kuhlmann
Recorded MusicBethel Choir with Kim Dolajak, soloist
Soloist..... Mike Fagerland
Costume Assistant..... Sue Wolfgram
Backdrop Artist Melissa Gordon
Publicity..... Board of Outreach Ministries

Musical Selections

Silent Was the Night (Martin)
My Savior's Love (Larson)
Behold the Lamb of God (Bouman)
In Love Christ Came Among Us (Leach/Martin)
Come Be Fed (Schram/Staggers)
When You Woke That Thursday Morning (Vajda/Haugen)
Kyrie (Wagner)
Oh Come and Mourn (Hopson)

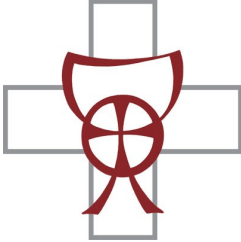
COME, WORSHIP & CELEBRATE WITH US:



Palm Sunday

April 2 @ 8:30 am & 11 am

On Palm Sunday we celebrate Christ's glorious entrance into Jerusalem. The Pharisees were jealous and troubled by the crowd's enthusiasm.

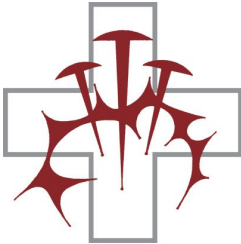


Maundy Thursday

April 6 @ 6 pm w/Holy Communion

Jesus celebrated the Passover meal and instituted the new sacrament of the Lord's Supper with His disciples. We remember this event on Maundy Thursday and receive Christ's body and blood for our forgiveness.

Later that evening, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane and was then arrested as Judas betrayed Him with a kiss.



Good Friday

April 7 @ Bethel at 6 pm -or- Tre-Ore Service

@ Messiah Lutheran Church, Mandan from noon-3 pm

Good Friday is celebrated because Jesus' death and resurrection is our hope for eternal life. On this day, Jesus was crucified. He was sinless, but took our sins upon Himself. He suffered and died, paying the debt for our sins.



Easter Sunday

April 9 @ 8:30 am & 11 am w/Holy Communion

Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:45 am

On Easter we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Jesus rose from the dead, conquering sin, death, and the power of the devil so that we may live forever in His grace. He IS alive!

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