



## Maundy Thursday with Communion

April 9, 2020

### Introduction

As you prepare to celebrate the Last Supper, let's remember that Jesus and the Twelve had their last Passover together in the Upper Room the day before Jesus went to the cross.

**Kindling the Lights:** [*light two candles as you say the prayer*]

Blessed art Thou, O LORD our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us by the commandments and has commanded us to kindle the Festival lights.

We also remember that Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world," he said. "Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."

### The Bread

At Passover, matzoh is the only bread eaten—in remembrance of the people leaving Egypt with no time to add yeast to their bread.

When a specially hidden piece of matzoh was found and returned their table, Jesus took it, gave thanks to God, broke it and gave it to the Apostles, saying, "This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

We remember, too, that Jesus had said in John 6:35, "I am the Bread of life... He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

With Jesus, let us bless this bread: **Praised are you, O Eternal One, our God, ruler of the universe, who bring forth bread from the earth.** [*Eat the bread*]

### The Cup

It was the 3<sup>rd</sup> cup, the Cup of Redemption, that Jesus raised, saying, "This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you." On the night when all Jews celebrate their redemption in Egypt because of the blood of the Paschal lamb, we also celebrate our redemption because of the blood of the Lamb of God. Let us join Jesus in blessing the cup: **Blessed art Thou, O LORD our God, king of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.** [*drink the cup.*]

*Be sure to give thanks to God for Jesus and for the blessing of Communion.*