

Jesus' Last Supper – Loaves and Fishes Cafe

At a Glance

Children will bake unleavened bread that will be used later (preferably later that morning) by the congregation for communion. (Mar. 9, *Apr. 6, Apr. 17 -- Maundy Thursday, or Apr. 20 Easter)

Outcome Objectives

- 1) To learn about Jesus' Last Supper.
- 2) To connect Jesus' Last Supper with the service of Holy Communion.
- 3) To make a meaningful contribution to the communion service.

Supplies Needed

Ingredients and Supplies for recipe (attached)

Items used when we celebrate communion. (Or pictures of them.)

The home communion set used by the pastors for visitations.

Copies of the communion service, particularly the words of institution.

Advance Preparation

Contact the worship and sacraments team and the pastors to make sure that the bread you bake can be used and eaten in the communion service. If possible, prepare the bread the morning that it will be used in church. If not, you may make it ahead and freeze it for use on communion Sunday.

Ask the pastors for the home communion set they use with visitations and a copy of the communion service.

Opening Activity

Note: Some of this discussion can be continued once the bread is in the oven. Determine what time you want to start cooking and suspend discussion.

Show the items we use at communion.

Ask children if they know what they are, when we used them, etc.

What happens during the communion service?

(What do the pastors say? What do the pastors hold up? What do the people do? etc.)

In particular see if there are any words from the communion service that they can remember.

Say: One of the words that gets used a lot in the communion service is "remember." What do you think it is that Jesus wants us to remember about him? (Allow a variety of answers.)

Say: During communion, one of the important things for us to do is to remember something about Jesus. When you are receiving communion, what sorts of things do you remember about Jesus?

Show the home communion set. What do you think this is for?

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Explain that the pastors bring communion to people who are in nursing homes or who live at home and can't travel anymore. Ask: I wonder why they do this? I wonder why this is important to people?

How does this connect to remembering?

Main Lesson

There are several recipes for unleavened communion bread at <http://www.communionbread.org>
Explain that at the Last Supper Jesus was celebrating Passover, which requires unleavened bread. So today we are going to make unleavened bread.

Follow the recipe of your choice and directions.

Life Application

Continue the discussion from before.

Help each child to come up with something about Jesus that they want to remember during communion. Explain that during the communion service, they are supposed to "contemplate" these things. Ask if anyone knows what this word means?

Defintion: (1) : the act of thinking deeply about something; (2) the act of looking carefully at something.

Explain that everytime they take communion in worship, they should "contemplate." This can mean thinking deeply about Jesus, or it can be looking carefully at the bread in your hands. Have each child decide what he or she is going to "contemplate." Give them all a little bread and have them hold it quietly and carefully in their hands while contemplating. When you say "Jesus said 'this is my body broken for you. Take, eat and remember me,'" they may eat their bread.

You may want to serve the bread with grape juice.

To take home

Some unleavened bread OR the recipe to make it at home.