Maundy Thursday Passover Seder

In the Christian tradition, we remember that Jesus gathered for a Passover feast the night before he died. We call it "Maundy Thursday" … "Maundy" means "commandment" … as it was on that night that Jesus gave his disciples the commandment to "love one another." It was also at that meal that Jesus shared the bread and cup in a new way, which became the Christian practice of Holy Communion.

You are invited to a **Passover Seder on Thursday, March 29, at 6:30pm in the Celebration Hall at the Metropolitan Community Church of Richmond.** Quite different from our usual worship services, this service will give us a chance to understand the Jewish tradition of Passover, through which we remember the liberation from slavery and reflect on the ways God still frees us from bondage.

At the Passover Seder we will use a Passover Haggadah as a guide to the Seder. We will enjoy a full meal, readings, symbols, prayers, music and fellowship which will help us remember the story of God's dramatic deliverance of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt.

Because Jesus was an observant Jew, Passover was a central part of his life. Renewed interest in the Jewishness of Jesus has led many Christians to reclaim the Passover Seder as part of their heritage. Christian and Jewish Seders, however, differ from one another. For Christians the Passover Seder connects them to Jesus the Jew and thus deepens their understanding of Jesus the Christ. For Jews the Passover Seder is a global family reunion focusing on the retelling of the core story of the Jewish people: their liberation from slavery in Egypt. The Passover story is the key to Jewish self-understanding.

While borrowing heavily from the original Seder of the Jewish faith, participants in the Passover Seder are not imitating the Jewish people, but learning from them.

ALL are welcome!

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