

## LENTEN FAITH SHARING

### Week Six

#### Week Six – Luke 22:14-30

**“It is you who have stood by me in my trials, and I confer the kingdom on you. Just as my Father has conferred on me, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.” Lk/28--29**



[The Leader leads the participants through the Centering Prayer Process and Lectio Divina](#)

Begin with **Centering Prayer**.

Sit comfortably with eyes closed.

Begin to slowly breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth.

As you slowly breathe in, image God breathing breath into your center.

As you breathe out through your mouth, let it be a moment of letting go of your anxieties, worries, anger, hatred, frustrations.

Repeat this practice several times.

1. Choose a Sacred Word or Mantra as a symbol of your intention to consent to God’s presence and action within.

Whenever you become aware of distractions, sounds, thoughts of other things, simply return to the Lord with Centering or your prayer word/s.

(Repeat this exercise three to four times. Trusting that you are sitting in God’s Holy presence by yourself and with other.

While sitting in silence, open your life to become aware of the presence of God with you personally and with the Share Group.

Ask the Lord to abide in you.

2. **Lectio Divina** – [Choose a Reader.](#) [The Leader leads the Lectio Divina](#)

Read **Luke 22:14-30** Slowly, while pausing between paragraphs for silence.

Invite participants to rest in silence for a few moments.

Invite them to savor a word, a phrase or a feeling that rises in you. Reflect on this quietly.

The Leader, after some time of silence can invite participants to share the **word** or phrase aloud.

The Reading is slowly read a second time by the Reader.

Pause for silent reflection.

The leader invites participants to share their experience using the Reflection responses below.

## **REFLECTION**

As we read the Last Supper account according to Luke, we find Luke dependent on the Gospel of Mark but has incorporated some of his own special tradition into this narrative. Among his distinctive sections are the tradition of the institution of the Eucharist, Jesus' farewell discourse, the mistreatment and interrogation of Jesus, Jesus before Herod and his second appearance before Pontius Pilate, and the words addressed to the women followers on his way to his crucifixion.

Everything that Jesus has formerly spoken and finished is underlined at the Last Supper in relationship to his dying and rising. Jesus is now offering a new kind of meal, in which his apostles share in the gift of salvation. In Luke's narrative the Last Supper is presented as a new Passover. The New or Christian Passover is the sacred meal in which the followers of Jesus share in the passion and resurrection of Jesus. The former or ancient Passover was that which celebrated the freedom of the Israelite people, and their history which made them the chosen people of God. The Passover of the Lord frees those participating in the experience to become unified to the family of God, free from the slavery of sin and death and joined to Christ. It is a sacred meal of remembrance and hope. It is Jesus' farewell discourse to nations and peoples of future generations. The

Last Supper is Jesus showing future generations how to make present and enter the Paschal mystery: *Do this in remembrance of me.* The broken body of Jesus and his blood poured out, is the very body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist we celebrate week after week and is also that of the church, uniting itself with the offering of Christ. As this discourse of the Last Supper ends, Luke has Jesus making yet another profound request: do not have the ambition of the gentiles in placing yourselves in places of honor. Jesus's words are spoken to his church regarding how to live in the body of Christ, in the new covenant, in the kingdom of God. Be servants. Do not display an arrogant ambition. Be servants at the table of the Lord. Those who remain faithful to Jesus and celebrate the Lord's supper in memory of him, will eat and drink at the table in the Kingdom of God.

## **Reflection responses**

1. What in the reading stirred your heart?
2. Does this Scripture story take on meaning for your life?
3. Did the story help you make connections to the Eucharist?
4. What did you find enlightening?
5. How did you feel challenged for our future church with Jesus' final discourse?

**Action – Connect with the disconnected.**

How or what will you do to share your experience of Eucharist through the Scriptures and worship with someone who is not participating in the Eucharist?

Can you gently and lovingly, and without judgment, ask another what prevents them from coming to experience the Eucharist?

Listen! Listen! Listen! The Holy Spirit will provide the words you should speak.

## **Luke 22: 14 - 30**

14 When the hour came, he took his place at table with the apostles.

15 He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer,

16 for, I tell you, I shall not eat it [again] until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”

17 Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and said, “Take this and share it among yourselves;

18 for I tell you [that] from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

19 Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.”

20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you.

21 “And yet behold, the hand of the one who is to betray me is with me on the table;

22 for the Son of Man indeed goes as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed.”

23 And they began to debate among themselves who among them would do such a deed.

24 Then an argument broke out among them about which of them should be regarded as the greatest.

25 He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them and those in authority over them are addressed as ‘Benefactors’;

26 but among you it shall not be so. Rather, let the greatest among you be as the youngest, and the leader as the servant.

27 For who is greater: the one seated at table or the one who serves? Is it not the one seated at table? I am among you as the one who serves.

28 It is you who have stood by me in my trials;

29 and I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father has conferred one on me,

30 that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom; and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.