Bible Verse: Luke 22:8 (NIV) Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

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Every week, we notice where we are on our Church calendar- what season and what Sunday. If we visit most other Christian churches, like the United Church or the Methodist Church in Walpole, or Blessed Sacrament, or the National Cathedral, or Westminster Abbey in London, their calendar will match ours. But there are other religious calendars too. St. George's Orthodox Church in Norwood is celebrating Palm Sunday today and Easter next week.

Jewish families around the world are in their season of Passover right now. Passover is a season to remember how God saved his people from slavery and helped Moses lead them out of Egypt to a promised land. Passover is a celebration of belonging to the family of God.

Every year, Jewish Passover starts with a special dinner, a Seder. There are special foods and special prayers and special songs and stories.

We know from the Bible that Jesus celebrated Passover with his parents Mary and Joseph and later with his disciples. Jesus shared a Passover Seder with the apostles just before he was arrested. We remember this meal on the Thursday of Holy Week and we call it the Last Supper.

In the 1600s, a famous artist named Leonardo da Vinci decorated the wall of a monastery dining room with a picture of how he imagined The Last Supper. The painting is so big that the monks could feel like they were eating with Jesus.

We have an amazing stained glass version of that da Vinci painting of the Last Supper in our own vestry room.

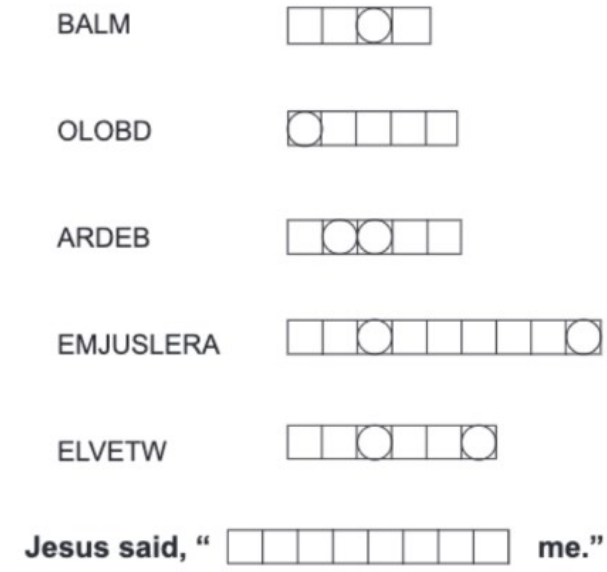
Da Vinci includes the twelve disciples sitting at a table with Jesus in the center. They know Jesus is in danger. Some are surprised, some are nervous, some are arguing with each other, some are talking to Jesus. Judas holds a bag of money. Peter has a knife.

But the food on da Vinci's imagined Last Supper table is not Passover food. The table is full of bread and wine. Not even flat Passover bread. This is the meal when Jesus breaks bread and says "Take and eat; this is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me" and when he shares the cup of wine, telling them "This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins".

We say those same words as we share bread and wine together every time we come to the altar for communion.

As Christians, we don't celebrate Passover as a holiday, but we do celebrate belonging to the same family of God.

Wonder Question: How would you have felt if you were sitting at the table with Jesus, at the Last Supper?

Word Scramble for the Last Supper

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.