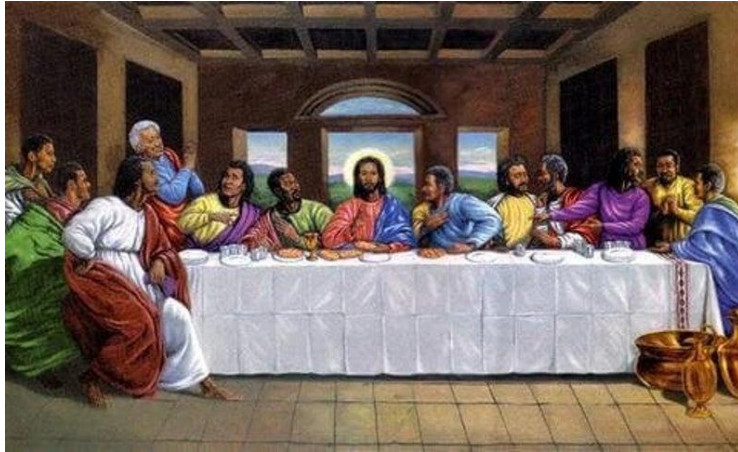


April 1st, 2021. Scripture: Exodus 12:1-4, 11–13, John 12:14-23 Title: The Hour Has Come.

Introduction: Through the Scripture readings for this evening, one can clearly see the Hand of God at work throughout the history of the world. Tonight, we recall the history of the Last Supper in which the hand of God leads the disciples, and all of us, out of years of slavery to sin and evil. And he is doing this through the body and blood of Jesus the Christ.



The origin of this story is in Exodus 12:1-4, 11–13 where the Jewish people came to the Holy City to remember the Passover. God instructed Moses to share the meal inside their homes with the doors to their homes marked with the blood of the lamb.

The following were to be in the menu of the evening seder meal before the last supper:

1. Lamb
2. Unleavened bread
3. Bitter herbs
4. Green herbs
5. Haroseth
6. Wine

Jesus roughed a towel around himself like a common servant and proceeded to wash his disciples' feet.



The following is the prayer of St. Francis asking our Lord to grant the grace to live as he commanded and is a wonderful example of the servant's love:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Conclusion: The time has come for his blood to be spread on the doorposts of our hearts so that we can be released from the bondage of slavery, and pass to safety through the waters of baptism, and set out for a new life of freedom, strengthened by his body and blood. God has not forgotten us. He has sent Jesus to be hang on the cross for us.