

The Lord's Supper

Main Text: Matthew 26:17–30

Supporting Texts: John 6:51–58, Exodus 24:8, Jeremiah 31:31–34,

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

This weekend, Pastor Jonathan talked about the Lord's Supper, also known as Communion. This is the meal that Jesus gave to us and it is filled with meaning. 3 primary images that Jonathan brought up are Passover, Bread, and Blood/Covenant. Passover: Jesus chose the annual Jewish Passover meal as the venue for giving the Last Supper, which links it to the story of God's deliverance of his people from the bondage of slavery. Bread: Jesus calls himself the bread of life in John 6, and speaks of the communion we have with Jesus when we eat and drink ("Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them"). Blood/Covenant: Jesus uses the phrase: "This is my blood of the covenant" which hearkens back to the first covenant with the people of Israel in Exodus 24 and the new covenant prophesied in Jeremiah 31. When we take the Lord's Supper, we are doing 3 things: remembering, proclaiming (1 Cor. 11:26), and communing with Jesus (John 6:56).

Questions:

- How have you practiced and understood the Lord's Supper in your life of faith?
- Have you ever had an experience of feeling God's presence in the meal?
- Jesus chose the Passover dinner as the place and time to give the Lord's Supper, thereby linking it to God's rescue of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Discuss how this link informs our understanding of the Lord's Supper?
- Read John 6:51–58. How do you understand these words about the body and blood of Jesus?
- Read Jeremiah 31:31–34. What are the key difference between the old and new covenants?
- Take the Lord's Supper together.