

“Love Feast”

Mount of Olives | November 2, 2025 | 1st Corinthians 11:17-29

Pastor John Steward

Prayer of the Day

Lord Jesus, on this Communion Sunday, we want to recommit our lives, our hearts, our thoughts, and everything to You. Fill us today with Your powerful Spirit. And when we leave this place, help us to hold this fresh remembrance and the story that never grows old close to our hearts. Help us to share its message faithfully as You give us opportunity. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading

1st Corinthians 11:17-29

Now in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you; and to some extent I believe it. Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine. When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you! For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves.

Message Notes

1st Corinthians 11:17-29

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remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves.

Mark 14

Acts 2

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

Hebrews 10

Psalms 103:12

...As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

Study Questions

Read 1st Corinthians 11:17-29

(ICEBREAKER – getting started)

1. Describe your earliest memory with Holy Communion. Where were you? How old were you? Who was there? What was it like? What did you think? What did you feel?
2. Describe your most meaningful Communion experience. Where were you? What made it so special?

(OBSERVATION – What does the text say?)

1. As you read **1st Corinthians 11:17-29**, what comes to mind? What stands out? What is interesting to you and why?
2. In one sentence, how would you summarize this text?
3. What lesson or message do you think the author is trying to convey?

(INTERPRETATION – What did it mean to them?)

1. Read Acts 26:14-18, Galatians 1:11-19 (pay special attention to verse 12), and 2nd Corinthians 12:1-5. In the context of these verses, what do you think The Apostle is saying in the first part of 1st Corinthians 11:23? What was Paul's source for truth?
2. In verses 23-25, Jesus says, "do this in remembrance of me." Recognizing that Jesus said this before he was betrayed, crucified, died and was buried, what do you suppose the disciples may have thought about when asked to remember Jesus? What was it that they may have remembered?
3. Read Exodus 24:3-8, Hebrews 8:3-12, Hebrews 9:18-26, Hebrews 13:20-21, and 1 Peter 1:1-2. Based on these verses, what do you think Jesus meant when he said, in 1st Corinthians 11:25, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood"?
4. In verse 26, what do you think is meant by, "For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes"? What do you think is meant by,

“proclaiming the Lord’s death until he comes”? How can we proclaim the Lord’s death with our words and with our actions?

5. In the context of 1st Corinthians 11:17-22, what do you think the Apostle Paul meant in verse 27 when he says, “So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord”? In verses 17-22, what were they doing that would be considered “unworthy”? Give some examples of what we might do today that would also be considered an “unworthy manner.”

6. According to verse 28, what must we do before receiving Holy Communion? How do we do this? How might David’s prayer in Psalm 139:23-24 relate to this?

(APPLICATION – What does this mean to you today?)

1. How does knowing Jesus’ body was given for you and his blood was shed for you, influence your identity?

2. How will this knowledge impact your life, the decisions you make, and how you treat others?