

## This Is the Lord's Supper Information We Include In Our Service Folder Each Week

**LORD'S SUPPER:** It is offered to repentant believers to assure them of God's forgiveness. Please prepare to receive by asking yourself **these five questions:**

- Bible:** It shows us our sin, tells of Jesus, and calls for repentance. [Do I believe the Bible is true?](#)
- Repentance:** It begins in our hearts and shows in our lives. [Do I desire to turn from my sins?](#)
- Salvation:** It is by grace through faith in Jesus for eternal life. [Am I trusting in Jesus for heaven?](#)
- Supper:** [Do I believe the supper is bread & body and wine & blood for the forgiveness of sins?](#)
- Unity:** We are in harmony with God – based on our belief in His word, and with others – based on our common confession. [Do I know and agree with the teachings of the LCMS](#) (Luth. Ch. Missouri Synod)?

### This Is an Explanation

- Bible:** It shows us our sin, tells of Jesus, and calls for repentance.
  - Jesus Prayed to His Father:** [John 17:17 "Your word is truth."](#)
  - Get the Evidence** – see this brochure: [The Bible Is True](#)
  - Ask:** [Do I believe the Bible is true?](#)
- Repentance:** It begins in our hearts and shows in our lives.
  - Godly Sorrow Is Essential:** [2 Cor. 7:10 "...the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation...."](#)
  - Ask:** [Do I desire to turn from my sins?](#)

- Salvation:** It is by grace through faith in Jesus for eternal life.

- Regarding Jesus:** [Acts 4:12 "...there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among mankind by which we must be saved." // Only Jesus lived sinlessly and died sacrificially for us!](#)
- Ask:** [Am I trusting in Jesus for heaven?](#)

- Supper:** See the passages below to discover **what it is and why we receive.**

- 1 Corinthians 10:16** "Is the cup of blessing [wine] which we bless not a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is the bread which we break not a sharing in the body of Christ?"
- Jesus Said:** [Matthew 26:26-28 "Take, eat; this is My body.' ... 'this is My blood of the covenant... for forgiveness of sins."](#)
- Ask:** [Do I believe the supper is bread & body and wine & blood for the forgiveness of sins?](#)

- Unity:** We are in harmony with God – based on our belief in His word, and with others – based on our common confession.

- Unity Is Important:** [1 Corinthians 1:10 "I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you..."](#)
- Let's Receive Where We Know and Believe the Teachings:** [1 Corinthians 10:18 "Look at the people of Israel; are those who eat the sacrifices not partners in the altar?](#)
- Ask:** [Do I know and agree with the teachings of the LCMS](#) (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)?

### How to Learn More:

- Request and read:** "A Simple Explanation of Christianity"
- Request and read:** "Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation"
- Talk / Meet** with the pastor.
- Ask** about our Bible Basics Course.

## 9: How to Receive

### Best Practices:

- Bread—Body:** Into your hand or into your mouth. If into your hand, place one open hand on top of the other. Need gluten free? Let us know.
- Wine—Blood:** Chalice or individual cup; wine or alcohol removed wine. If from the chalice, look forward and assist in tipping the cup.

## Conclusion

At Bethlehem: We offer the Lord's Supper every Saturday and Sunday and at all festival services. May the Holy Trinity enable us to:

- Be open to what the Bible says!
- Believe with child-like faith!
- Eternally benefit through Jesus!

Pastor Green – [RevRLGreen@aol.com](mailto:RevRLGreen@aol.com)

PS: See 3-part sermon series "[The Lord's Supper](#)"

Scripture: New American Standard Bible, 2020 Version

## Connect With Us

**Website:** [www.BLC7500.com](http://www.BLC7500.com)

**YouTube and Podcast:** Benefit from the Bible

**Facebook:** Bethlehem Parma

**Schedule:** Saturday 4; Sunday 9; 440-845-2230

**Location:** 7500 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

(Last Update: 1-26)

# The Lord's Supper



- 1: Passover Connection**
- 2: Sacraments Are Mysteries**
- 3: Various Names**
- 4: Reasons to Receive**
- 5: Words of Institution**
- 6: What Is Being Received**
- 7: Benefits of Reception**
- 8: Preparation to Receive**
- 9: How to Receive**

## Introduction

**Dear Friend:** Since unforgiven sin leads to death and hell, *God gave His Son to take away the sin of the world!*

The Lord's Supper was instituted (established) by Jesus on Good Friday, *the same day He bore our sins and eternal punishment and laid down His life.* He is now our **risen** and **reigning** Savior!

The Lord's Supper is real, important, and relevant; therefore, *please keep reading to better understand and greatly benefit!*

## 1: Passover Connection

In the time of Moses (1450 BC), the LORD used the blood of *unblemished lambs* to spare the physical lives of Jacob's descendants and set them free from their bondage in Egypt. He also commanded the Feast of Passover to be celebrated each year ([Exodus 11-12](#)).

In the time of Jesus, John the Baptizer referred to Jesus as "[the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!](#)" ([John 1:29](#)). *That's exactly what Jesus did when He gave His body and shed His blood!*

As the blood of lambs saved **physically**, so the blood of Jesus, saves **spiritually / eternally!**

Note: The Lord's Supper is the NT Passover!

## 2: Sacraments Are Mysteries

Why Are They Mysteries? The words "sacrament" and "mystery" are both derived from the Greek word: μυστήριον (mysterion) Greek – Latin – English translations:

- Greek μυστήριον to Latin sacramentum.
- Latin sacramentum to English sacrament.
- Greek μυστήριον to English mystery.

Heart: Since Sacraments Are Mysteries: **They are properly understood Biblically**, not logically:

1. Baptism: We see water and hear words, but God is at work by the Holy Spirit. "[God] saved us... by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit..." ([Titus 3:5](#)).
2. Lord's Supper: We see and taste bread and wine, but Jesus' body and blood are united to the bread and wine. "Is the cup of blessing which we bless not a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is the bread which we break not a sharing in the body of Christ?" ([1Co. 10:16](#)).

**Note:** The words "**not**" are the Greek word "οὐχί" (ouchi), which is used frequently in questions with a tone suggesting that a **positive answer** ought to be self-evident..." (BW, Danker).

## 3: Various Names

1. Sacrament of the Altar: The word **altar** recalls **sacrifice**. The OT sacrifices kept pointing ahead to Jesus' once for all sacrifice ([Heb. 9:28](#); [1Pe. 3:18](#)).
2. Holy Communion: + When we partake, we share **with God**—*based on our belief in His word, and with other believers—based on our common confession.*
3. Lord's Supper: The supper is His: **He is both host and meal** ([1Co. 11:20](#)).
4. Lord's Table: His supper is from **His altar**, that is, **His table** ([1Co. 10:21](#)).
5. Breaking of Bread: **One loaf** was broken to distribute to **each person** who was receiving the supper ([Acts 2:42](#)).
6. Eucharist: A Greek word, which means **giving thanks**. Jesus took bread and gave thanks, then the cup and gave thanks ([Lk. 22:19-20](#); [Mk. 14:22-24](#)).

## 4: Reasons to Receive

- To "proclaim the Lord's death until He comes" ([1Co. 11:26](#)).
- "...for forgiveness of sins" ([Mt. 26:28](#)).

## 5: Words of Institution

- Recorded In These Four Passages: [Matthew 26:26-28](#); [Mark 14:22-24](#); [Luke 22:19-20](#); [1 Corinthians 11:23-25](#).
- The words used in Lutheran Churches are a **summary of those four passages**.

## 6: What Is Being Received

Four Different Theological Positions:

1. Roman Catholic: The bread and wine **become** the body and blood of Christ.
2. Martin Luther: The body and blood are **sacramentally (mysteriously) united** to the bread and wine.
3. John Calvin: Christ is **spiritually** present with the bread and wine.
4. Ulrich Zwingli: The bread and wine are **merely symbols** to help us remember the work of Christ.

What Matters Is What the Bible Says:

- **Here is the key passage:** [1 Cor. 10:16](#): "Is **the cup** [wine] of blessing which we bless not a **sharing in the blood of Christ**? Is the **bread** which we break not a **sharing in the body of Christ**?"
- **The word Sharing** is from the Greek word, κοινωνία (koinonia). It can be translated: ▪ Sharing ([1Co. 10:16](#)), ▪ Fellowship ([Acts 2:42](#); [2Co. 6:14, 13:13](#); [1Jo. 1:3](#)), and ▪ Participation ([Phil. 1:5, 2:1](#); [Phm. 1:6](#))
- **Take note:** All four elements are received – wine, blood, bread, and body (the bread and wine do not become the body and blood; instead, they share in the body and blood).

Dr. Paul Kretzmann: "We have here the essence of the Lord's Supper in one [verse]: there are the earthly, visible elements, **bread and wine**; there are the invisible blessings, the real presence of the **body and blood** of Christ..."

Object Lesson: Four Boards, Two Locks

- Our Altar Guild places unleavened bread and wine on the altar.
- **By the power of Christ, through the**

*words of institution*, a sacramental / mysterious union is made (locked) between **bread and body** and **wine and blood**.

Keep these things in mind:

- We believe ▪ what the Bible says **OVER** ▪ what we see and taste.
- When we receive the bread and wine we can see, we are also receiving the body and blood we cannot see.
- We say, "take, eat, the body," and "take, drink, the blood" because the body and blood are **MORE IMPORTANT** than the bread and wine.

## 7: Benefit of Receiving

Christians, by the grace of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, are ▪ sorry for their sins, ▪ trusting in Jesus for eternal life, and ▪ aligning their lives with God's word. **They** have God's forgiveness and are indwelt by the Holy Spirit.

- However, since they cannot completely stop sinning ([Eccl. 7:20](#)), they experience **guilt** and **uncertainty**.
- Therefore, through the supper, Jesus gives them great assurance that through **His finished work** their sins are forgiven.

## 8: Preparation to Receive

The pastor of a congregation is a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God ([1Co. 4:1](#)). He is responsible to manage the mysteries in agreement with God's word.

All who desire to receive the Lord's Supper are called to prepare themselves by examining themselves: [1 Corinthians 11:28](#) "...a person must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup [which are the **visible elements**]."