

HOLY WEEK
“The Meaning of The Meal”
Pastor Randy Stroming

Today we celebrate Maundy Thursday. Jesus gathered his disciples for a meal to set up a new relationship and covenant with us.

This special time was the Passover meal. The meal itself was a symbolic one reminding the Jews of the sufferings of their forefathers and the power of God's deliverance. It was at the conclusion of that meal that Jesus added a new promise/relationship to the supper. He took a loaf and broke it and gave it to his disciples. Then he took a cup with wine. He drank from it and gave it to his disciples Thus was born our sacrament of the Lord's Supper, out of the experience of an ancient Jewish custom.

Tonight we remember the meal that Jesus gave to us and more importantly what is the meaning of the Meal for you and me today.

And so as we prepare to eat and drink and receive we need to remember what the meal is all about

We need to take it very seriously. This meal is not just going through motions or ritualistic deeds but an act of faith for the forgiveness of sins and salvation of our souls. By Faith IT sets us on a new course of life; to live in a new way IN Christ. Be wise in coming to this meal.

As we approach the Lords supper

Let's remember the meaning of the Meal in

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#1 – How we come to the Lords Table. We come hopeless and helpless needing Jesus to save and forgive us. We receive forgiveness from the bondage of our sins and the HOPE of heaven and death will pass over us. This is not a small trivial thing – Lord open our eyes to see Forgiveness and hope of heaven In this meal –

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#2 – How this is provided. The Bible tells us it is by faith believing that Jesus made payment for your sins to save you from your sins. The cross points to Jesus and We see his love and underserved gift of grace and faith.

Repent - of your sins

Recognize Jesus in the bread and the wine. Remember the words of Jesus **This is my...** It's seeing the refreshment that Jesus offers to us in **himself in the bread and wine** and **body and blood** Remembering what he has done on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

Renew – a new life in me. Forgiven refreshed to really live In you and you and me. This is not by human understanding or by human feeling but by **faith** Look to the Lord Jesus and Believe - be saved.

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#3 – In the Word. Gods word is powerful. At creation he said it and it happened. Gods word is powerful - Given and shed for the remission of your sins. He says it and it happens.

Check and see if you are alive.

See the sin wall and believe the gift. Expose the wall between you and God and see the salvation that he has set before us

We come in the Power of the Word to repent of our sin as a Penitent (I'm sorry-God I am a sinner. We humbly confess we need Jesus as Lord and Savior. We believe Jesus as the one who makes us whole and holy. We believe Jesus hears our confession and smiles down on us – God is here with us. and forgives and strengthens us.

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5 How do I respond to meaning of the Meal. Coming to the table is the First step is in living for Jesus is to renew my devotion to Jesus as my Lord and King. He is the one I want to worship and give my allegiance to. Not this world, not to Satan, not myself. It all about Jesus. Jesus fills us with his spirit and faith to live in humble devotion to go and serve others and tell others about this wonderful gift you have and is theirs also. When we leave here we remember, and go the Bible and prayer every day, to stay close to Jesus, we serve others in love because Jesus loves us, Not gossiping, praying for our enemy, help others in need. It's not about showing people us (point to self) it's showing them Jesus. Point to Jesus – special union connection

Joh 15:5 I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me.

By faith believing that we are in the Real presence of Jesus. A continuation of the 1st Lords Supper. Really present - really here for you and me.

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#1 - who is inviting us to this meal? Jesus-God's Son is calling us to the table. When we see the pastor prepare and bless the supper with God Word on the bread and wine we need to see Jesus is calling sinner, friend (your Name) personally come to the table. Humble yourself before Jesus.

Jesus is coming right now - inviting you to the Lords table. He can't wait to celebrate this meal with you. (Jesus and disciples come out and gather round the altar.)

Mat 26:26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said,

"Take, eat; this is my body."

Mat 26:27 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you,

Mat 26:28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Mat 26:29 I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

the Lord of Hosts is welcoming us to come to His table.

(direction to the table)

We will have 4 stations.

As a station is open please come to open station and receive Holy Communion.

Middle isle to come down on both sides and go right or left

Outside isle to come on the outside and file down the next isle

Gluten free is also available for those who request.