

Family Communion

Family, we come to the Table again.

Not as those who have it all together, but as those who gratefully receive the grace of God.

This is not a table we built. It is a table we were invited to. This is not a meal we prepared; it is a feast prepared for us... before we even knew we were hungry.

1 Corinthians 11:23-24: For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

And as we hold this bread, we remember.

1 Corinthians 25-26: In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

And as we hold this cup, we remember.

We remember, family, in two directions. We remember vertically: we remember that the body of Jesus was broken and His blood was shed so we could be reconciled to the Father and adopted into His family. And we remember horizontally: we "re-member" ourselves as part of the body of Christ.

This is the story of His finished work. Every accusation loses its voice here at Your table. Every weary person finds rest here.

Jesus, we thank You that in Your breaking, we are made whole; that in Your pouring out, we are filled.

And in this simple, sacred meal You remind us of who we are: We are Your sons and daughters, deeply loved, fully known, completely Yours, a treasured member of Your beautiful family.

And as we rise from this Table, we do not leave Your presence. We carry it. Let our lives become a living thanksgiving, a visible sign of Your invisible grace.

Now, take the bread, and as you give it to one another, say, "The body of Christ... broken for you."

...and receive together.

Take the cup, and as you offer it, say, "The blood of Christ... shed for you."

...and receive together.

Now, take a moment to give thanks together.

As family who have just received and now freely give thanks to the Lord.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.