



The CHOSEN

First Congregational Church

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“It is easily forgotten that the fellowship of Christian brothers (and sisters) is a gift of grace, a gift of the Kingdom of God that may be taken from us at any time.”

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*



THE BODY AND THE BLOOD



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And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."



And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

Luke 22:14-20 ESV



The Bread & The Wine

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The Body & The Blood

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out *bread and wine*. (He was priest of God Most High.)

And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

Genesis 14:18-20 ESV



**Christ did not take on himself the glory
of becoming a high priest. But God said to him,
“You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”**

**And he says in another place,
“You are a priest forever, in the order of
Melchizedek.”**

Hebrews 5:5-6 ESV



Salem = Jerusalem
Peace - City of Peace



“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

John 6:35-38 ESV

WHAT ARE YOU
HUNGERING FOR?



This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

John 6:58 ESV

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“Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

John 4:13-15



WHAT ARE YOU
THIRSTING FOR?



So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

John 6:53 ESV

**“This is a hard saying;
who can listen to it?”**

**After this many of his disciples turned back
and no longer walked with him.**

John 6:60 & 66 ESV



The priest who offers it for sin shall eat it. In a holy place it shall be eaten, in the court of the tent of meeting.

Leviticus 6:26 ESV





So Jesus said to them, “Truly,
truly, I say to you, unless you
eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink his blood,
you have no life in you.

John 6:53 ESV

**But no sin offering shall be eaten from which
any blood is brought into the tent of meeting
to make atonement in the Holy Place;
Leviticus 6:30 ESV**



For the life of every creature is its blood: its blood is its life. Therefore I have said to the people of Israel, You shall not eat the blood of any creature, for the life of every creature is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off.

Leviticus 17:14 ESV



The life of a lamb
is temporary

The life of
our Savior is Eternal



In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of

God's grace - Ephesians 1:7

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Hebrews 9:14



The Lord's Supper: Practice & Malpractice

For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

1 Corinthians 11:29-30 ESV



Application

1. **Abiding with Christ**
2. **Uniting as the Church**
3. **Identity Transformation**

Abiding with Christ

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

John 6:54-56 ESV

Abiding with Christ

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

Psalm 51:17 NIV

“Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.”

1 Corinthians 11:28 NIV

Uniting as the Church

“When two, three, ten, a hundred, or a thousand people eat the same bread and drink from the same cup, and so become united with the broken and poured-out life of Christ they discover that their own lives are part of that one life and thus recognize each other as brothers and sisters”.

Henri Nouwen, Dutch priest & professor

Uniting as the Church

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go.

First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. - Matthew 5:23-24 ESV

Conflict and division should be resolved first!

Identity Transformation

So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

Genesis 2:21-23 ESV

Identity Transformation

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:31-32 ESV

Christ gave His body that we might be One

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