

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Devotional Author

Return of Communion

Need for Cleaning - not since March?

Invocation

HYMN G#281 *Jesus Paid It All*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

We are the Body - 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke the bread and said, "This is my body which is broken for you." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Communion means many things among the redeemed people of God, but it is, above all else, a memorial to the glory and grace of God revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Communion is a testimony to God's mercy as He supplies a substitute sacrifice, His own Son to bear the outpouring of God's wrath, the Creator's righteous response to the creature's sin.
- Communion is a witness to God's unfailing ability to fulfill His divine, eternal purpose which is to fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, and to do so through those people whom he chooses and rescues from the peril of death presented by sin.
- Communion affirms God's love and justice, his compassion and holiness, his goodness and righteousness mysteriously and perfectly married in one eternal, unchanging, all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present Spirit.
- Communion memorializes Jesus, God's only begotten Son, God's appointed and anointed Savior, reminding us that His body was broken in our place and on our behalf; that His blood was shed in our place and on our behalf; that He suffered pain and anguish and sorrow, that He died in our place and on our behalf; that His dead body was buried in a dark, cold tomb; that God raised Him from the dead on the third day, and that through faith in Him every promise of life and eternal life God makes is ours to claim.
- Communion also reminds us that Jesus, who lived and died and rose from the dead, who ascended to heaven and will one day return, that same Jesus has a living, breathing, functioning Body in the world today, and church, Christian, you are the Body of Christ. **Your location has changed but your status has not changed.**
 - You may be exiled under an imposed Sabbath, but you are still the hands and feet and heart and mind of Christ fulfilling the mission of Christ,

- doing the world of Christ, revealing the Father of Christ to the world.
- Communion reminds you of a revelation the Holy Spirit made through the apostle Paul in the letter to the Ephesians.
 - **Ephesians 5:29** *For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church.*
 - Christ, while on earth, nourished and cherished his body.
 - Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, continues to cherish His Body, the church
 - Therefore, church, Body of Jesus, you are reminded in communion to love and cherish and nurture that which Jesus loves and cherishes and nurtures: His church, one another.
 - **Communion reminds you that wherever you are, however you are, the command and expectation of Jesus is that you will love and cherish and nurture one another just as He loves and cherishes and nurtures you!**
- Communion reminds us that we are the Body, Christ is the Head. We have come to this status through Christ who gave Himself to the Father's eternal will in our place and on our behalf.
- **Let us, therefore, renew our commitment through this communion, to being the Body Christ has saved us and made us to be: to love Christ with our whole hearts, to love one another, and to share the love of Christ diligently, intentionally, and broadly in all the places and to all the people He calls us in our day.**

NOTE: At this point, people in attendance will come forward and take their servings from the table. When everyone has their cup and bread, I will say, "Jesus said, 'This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'" We will eat the bread. I will then say, "Jesus also said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. As often as you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.'" We will eat the bread. After communion we will move on to the hymn.

HYMN G#291 Arise, My Soul, Arise

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Mark 4:21-25
 Message Pastor Dale McIntire
Of Lamps and Baskets

I. The Trouble with Teasers (Previews)

A. Linda's dislike of previews

B. The preview on Facebook

1. There is an unusual grammatical exception in the original language of Mark 4:21 that does not occur in the Matthew and Luke versions of the parable of the lamp.
2. One little word is different, and it makes a big difference!

3. Find out what that difference is and why it should make a difference in your life this Sunday morning at <https://cscchurch.com/service-live-stream>. Sundays 10:30 AM.

II. Of Lamps and Baskets

A. Of Lamps

1. The little difference that makes a big difference
 - a. The definite article “the”
 - (1) Mark uses the definite article “the lamp,” Matthew and Luke refer to “a lamp”
 - (2) Literal: “Does the lamp come in order to be put under a basket or a bed?”
2. The Lamp: What is the lamp to which Jesus refers?
 - a. In Scripture: 6 Metaphorical Uses of “Lamp”
 - (1) God is the Lamp **2 Samuel 22:29 (ESV)** *For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness.*
 - (2) A Davidic king is the Lamp **1 Kings 11:36 (ESV)** *Yet to his son I will give one tribe, that David my servant may always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen to put my name.*
 - (3) The word fo God is the Lamp
 - (a) **Psalm 119:105 (ESV)** *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*
 - (b) **Proverbs 6:23 (ESV)** *For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,*
 - (4) Conscience is the Lamp **Proverbs 20:27 (ESV)** *The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all his innermost parts.*
 - (5) The eye is the lamp **Matthew 6:22 (ESV)** *“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,*
 - b. Jesus
 - (1) **Revelation 21:23 (ESV)** ²³ *And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.*
3. The point of the parable
 - a. **Jesus is the Lamp in whom God intended from eternity past to reveal His glory.**
 - b. Disciples are those who recognize the Lamp and set Him before the world.
4. The promise of the parable
 - a. **Mark 4:24 (ESV)** *And he said to them, “Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you.*
 - b. **If you, as a believer and follower of Jesus, make Him widely**

known through your life, your words and testimony, your worship, your faith and obedience, then with the measure of devotion you trust and serve the Lord, with that measure grace and mercy and blessing will be served to you.

- c. But if you are stingy, reserved, retreat from the Lamp and the light, avoid worship, avoid witness, avoid the Lamp on the metaphorical stand of your life and lips, then you can expect from God no more than you willingly give God.
- d. **And with that, we need to talk about baskets.**
 - (1) Which we will do next week.
 - (2) Four Baskets That Extinguish the Light of the Lamp

B. Four Baskets the Extinguish the Light of the Lamp

III. Conclusion

A. God's eternal plan

- 1. God's plan from before the foundation of the world
 - a. has been to fill the earth the knowledge of His glory
 - b. He intended all along to send His Son, Jesus, into the world to reveal the character of His glory to the world
- 2. Jesus assigns to His disciples the continuing work of revealing the Father's glory
 - a. The disciples for who Jesus dies
 - b. The disciples who Jesus fills with His Spirit
 - c. The disciples to who Jesus gives the mission to spread throughout the whole earth making disciples.

B. You have come to faith in the purpose of God to set before the world the Lamp who is Jesus Christ.

- 1. You are the lampstand
- 2. Share the light

Benediction

Postlude