

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Bible Text: Exodus 12:1-36; Matthew 26:17-29; Luke 22:19-20

Lesson Focus: Word, wine, and bread together give us salvation, forgiveness, and new life.

Big Question: What really happens during communion?

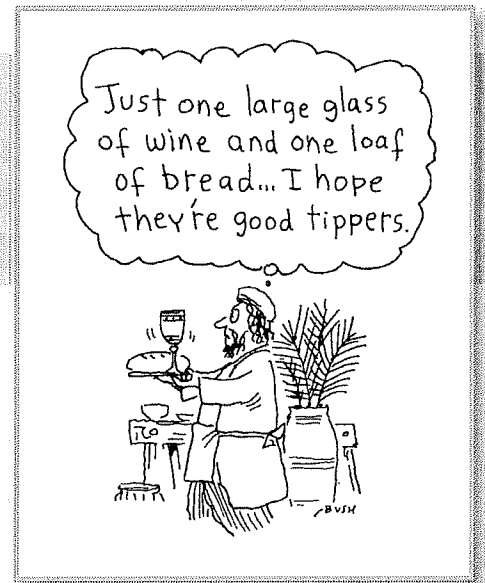
Key Words: PASSOVER, LAST SUPPER, EUCHARIST, COMMUNION

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] The story of the Passover in Exodus recalls the liberation of God's people (Exodus 12:14).
-] Jesus and his family were Jewish, and they celebrated Passover every year (John 11:55).
-] Jesus' last supper occurred during a Passover observance (John 13:1).
-] Jesus called the bread his body and the wine his blood poured out for forgiveness (Luke 22:17-21).
-] Early Christians celebrated communion every week on the first day of the week to remember Jesus' resurrection.
-] When we receive Christ's body and blood, we receive a sacrament—ordinary elements paired with the word of God; a command ("Do this"); and a promise ("for the forgiveness of sins").
-] Holy Communion liberates from sin, death, and evil (Ephesians 2:4-7).
-] Jesus sacrificed for us; we receive communion to remember and give thanks.
-] Eucharist is another word for Holy Communion.
-] We do not have to be perfect or worthy to receive communion (Matthew 26:28).
-] Lutherans believe that all baptized Christians are welcome at the communion table.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] Who is this waiter serving?] How would you tell the man in the cartoon about Jesus?
-] How do we recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 135: How to Receive Communion

-] Holy Communion is one of two sacraments in the Lutheran Church. What is the other one?
-] How are your senses involved when you take communion?
-] What communion practices does your church use?

Here We Stand Student Book page 312: Glossary of Lutheran Worship Terms

-] What objects are used in your congregation during Holy Communion?
-] What things or actions do you think are most interesting in this glossary?
-] What new thing do you wish your congregation would try during Holy Communion?

LIFE CONNECTION

Jesus celebrated communion for the first time with his disciples at the Last Supper. He prepared this meal carefully, knowing he would be with the people he loved. Prepare a meal at home for your family to celebrate your relationship and the love of Christ that feeds us throughout our lives. Make it special and delicious!

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Word Scramble

Unscramble the words to answer the clues below.

1. YEDAETRB

2. DEBRA

3. SHTAKN

4. SDPSIELCI

5. DOYB

6. ERCENMAERMB

7. PSUPRE

8. NIKRD

9. ONAVNECT

10. FSSORENGIEV

1. On the night in which he was _____,
2. Our Lord Jesus took _____
3. And gave _____.
4. He broke it and gave it to his _____,
5. Saying, "Take and eat; this is my _____, given for you.
6. Do this for the _____ of me."
7. Again after _____,
8. He took the cup, gave thanks, and give it for all to _____,
9. Saying, "This cup is the new _____ in my blood,
10. Shed for you and for all people for the _____ of sin."

Answers: 1. betrayed 2. bread 3. thanks 4. disciples 5. body 6. remembrance 7. supper 8. drink 9. covenant 10. forgiveness