

Paul's Epistles – 1 Corinthians: Communion

The New Testament * Week 20 * Opening prayer: #5, "Of the Holy Eucharist," BCP 252

If you have questions from past weeks or your reading, email them to

TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

I. Guidelines for Holy Communion – 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

II. Verses 17-19 – communion, "common union." *Koinonia* = "sharing life, participation, communion."

III. Verses 20-22 – Other names:

A. Lord's Supper –

B. Eucharist = "thanksgiving." "Great Thanksgiving."

C. Divine Liturgy: "Divine" = God's. "Liturgy" = "work of the people."

D. Mass = Latin for "you are dismissed."

IV. Verses 23-26 – The "words of institution/consecration."

A. *Anamnesis* = "remember"

B. *Eucharist* = Thank God

C. *Epiklesis* = call the Spirit

V. Other details:

A. Posture:

B. Common cup

C. One loaf

D. Unleavened or leavened?

a) Genesis 18

b) Manna and water in the desert

c) Jesus feeding 5,000 and 4,000

d) John 22

e) Revelation 19

E. Wine and water

F. How to receive:

VI. Verses 27-32 –

A. “Examine yourself:”

B. “Recognize body”

C. “Exhortation” on BCP 316-317 (we’ll hear this in Lent)

D. Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Church custom:

VII. Verses 33-34 – Get along! “Further instructions” = rubrics and custom.

VIII. Bottom Line on aspects of worship: If it’s meaningful, do it. If not, don’t!
All may; some should; none must.

Preparation for next week: Read Revelation

Closing Prayer: BCP 399