

Trinity Baptist Church
Communion 16/05/21

Invitation:

We come now to communion. Each bubble will share their own bread and wine. But wherever we are, at home or in this building, we unite together to remember Jesus' death and resurrection.

Jesus declared in John 6: "35 I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty ... 37 All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away ... 40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.'

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live for ever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.'

54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. 56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me."

So we do as he says. In this bread and wine are represented Jesus' broken body and shed blood. And when we eat of it, in a mystery we don't fully understand but joyfully accept, we partake of Christ himself, and receive his life afresh into ourselves.

Come to this table, not because you must, but because you may.

Come, not because you are strong, but because you are weak.

Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help.

Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.

Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his body.

Confession:

Almighty God,

To whom all hearts are open,

All desires known,

And from whom no secrets are hidden:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

That we may perfectly love you

And worthily magnify your hold name;

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Paul writes:

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.' 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.

Sharing of bread and wine:

Let's eat together, remembering that Christ died for us, and feeding on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

[take and eat bread]

Now, let's drink together, remembering with thanksgiving that Christ's blood was shed for us and our salvation.

[drink from cup]

Your death, O lord, we commemorate.

Your resurrection we confess.

Your final coming we await.

Glory be to you, O Christ.