

In times of silence (a normal part of the meeting), it is important to be examining yourself during the silence, ready for the Lord to use you in the meeting as you reflect and remember the Lord Jesus.

5.) "Considerate" Worship

To keep with the purpose and focus of the Lord's Supper, we should seek to focus our comments on Christ; keep silent when another is talking; save questions or comments about potentially divisive subjects for a later time; and should limit our words to 1 to 5 minutes so other saints in attendance would have an opportunity to speak. Also, speak up so all may hear! We do this in a reverent manner from our location in the room, either standing or sitting.

Spoken words don't need to be long. Some people can easily let the floodgates of their heart pour out and speak easily. Other people may not easily have many words. Know which person you are. If you are long-winded, then it might be best to limit and focus your comments or prayers. If you find it harder, or you are very reluctant to speak, it would be best if you make a note so you can remember what the Lord has put on your heart. It is best to give some thought to what you will say at the Lord's Supper. Sometimes it is helpful to jot a note down in the days before the meeting.

Please be guided by some sense of the clock. We do not want to limit the Holy Spirit, and there are times when it is His will that we worship at greater length. Therefore, there may be times when the meeting runs a little longer or shorter than usual. But we must be careful lest we run overtime through inattention or lack of discipline.

6.) "Participative" Worship

At the Lord's Table we can vocally participate in several ways:

Making a few remarks: A thought or reflection to be shared is wholly appropriate. Communion is not a time for teaching or bringing up questions or making personal comments apart from focusing on Christ, but sincere reflections on the Lord, His ministry, His work on the cross are important things for the church to hear around the table. Consider sharing thoughts about the rich theological truths of why and what Christ has done on the cross for us. Topics can include things such as: opening thoughts and praises; worship and magnifying Him; remembering the cross; His second coming and glory; closing encouragement; and thanks for the elements.

Music: We will typically begin and end in a hymn. Lyrics of a hymns or songs that consider Christ may been read during the meeting with or without comment.

Prayer: In keeping with remembering Christ, it's best to refrain from praying for prayer requests. We want our focus to be on Him. Prayers of adoration and thanksgiving are appropriate.

Thanksgiving: We can express thankfulness for who He is and what Christ has done. We have been given everything in Christ. Thank God for that truth, especially as it relates to the cross and His resurrection.

Reading short portions of scripture: Read aloud scripture at communion that will edify (build up) the church. Some people just read a passage. Some people have read a passage and said a short comment or prayer of thanks at the end. Either way is perfectly fine.

More Information

Speak with an elder if you have questions or email elders@libertycommunity.com or visit libertycommunity.com/communion for more info on the unique & Spirit-lead "remembrance meeting" of our Lord Jesus Christ.



The Lord's Supper at



Welcome

If you are a guest or visitor at Liberty Community Church, our observance of the Lord's Supper may be new to you. The Lord's Supper is an ordinance established by the Lord Jesus. It was during the feast of the Passover that Jesus commanded the disciples to celebrate the Lord's Supper in remembrance of His sacrifice of His body and blood (His life) for the payment for sin. The bread and cup are purely symbolic, they do not "transform" into Christ's body and blood.

If you trust in Jesus Christ the Lord as your Savior, you are welcome to partake, regards of your church affiliation elsewhere, as long as you take in an examined worthy manner (1 Cor. 11:27-29). If you have not yet put your faith and trust in Christ as Savior, you may sit and observe the meeting without speaking or partaking of the emblems.

Our Communion Meeting

There is no command for a specific frequency for the Lord's Supper. Our Lord's Supper meeting is held the 1st Sunday of each month at 9: 00 am. It is a simple meeting that is marked by active participation and leading of the believers in attendance. This communion meeting is sometimes called the "remembrance meeting" or "breaking of bread". Those in attendance have made a concerted choice to participate in worship and observance around the Lord's Table. We do not observe communion as part of the preaching service and music at 10am.

Our communion meeting as we observe it is the fellowship of the saints at Liberty Community Church celebrating in the presence of the Lord and each other. It is a central expression of our Christian unity. The true life of the church finds a deep expression in observing communion. From the outside, this unique

meeting could be observed as a simple and subtle witness of the character of our church. We are remembering the Lord Jesus, who we know personally. We don't know Christ just as an idea or a concept or a great teacher who once lived but is now a dim memory. We in fact know Christ. We know Him as the resurrected king seated at the right hand of the Father. We proclaim His death until He comes again. The Lord's Supper is a strong witness that Jesus is not a myth. There are people right here in North Haven who know Him, love Him and remember Him.

The Lord's Supper Meeting is:

1.) "Priestly" Worship

The focus of our worship at the Lord's Supper is not a sermon, or the music, or a liturgy. The table with the elements is the central focus of the room. The gathering is not focused on any one individual or church leader, except for the Lord Himself. We are focused on Christ. We all come to the table with a common status.

No one is the minister, clergy, or priest administering the sacrament. The pattern of our communion meeting particularly highlights the priesthood of every believer (*1 Peter 2:5,9-10*). All believers, because of Christ, now have direct access to the throne of God through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest. There is no division or distinction between clergy and laity in the church. We all may minister to one another. The Lord's Supper meeting purposefully leans into the involvement of all believers in attendance.

2.) "Examined" Worship

The Bible tells us, "whosoever eats the bread or drinks the cup in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks

of the cup" (1 Corinthians 11:27-28). This does not mean one must be a perfect human being to take part in the Lord's Supper, for Christians are sinners saved by grace through faith in Christ alone. However, scripture instructs us to examine ourselves for any sin that needs to be confessed to the Lord before taking part. Examination should include recognizing any strife with another brother or sister in Christ and must be resolved before partaking of the emblems (Matt 5:22-24, Matt. 18:15). Do not take of the elements if you have not examined yourself and confessed your sin.

3.) "Spontaneous" Worship

The remembering of Jesus's death and resurrection causes the welling up of worship in one's heart. Worship at this meeting is not pre-planned or arranged. As in the Passover, worship was involved along with remembrance and singing (Matthew 26:30). Believers at the Lord's Supper may offer up to the Father and Son audible praise, worship and song. Each are to be directed towards the Lord as He is present. It is the Lord's Supper. He is to be remembered, praised, worshipped or sung to. Prayers may be expressed from an "I" or "we" perspective, as the meeting is corporate worship that ministers to the entire body. It is not simply a private prayer time.

4.) "Reflective" Worship

The Lord's Supper is not a "teaching" meeting. We wish to focus on our Lord Jesus Christ and give Him glory. As we read Scripture, sing songs of remembrance, offer prayers, or give a reflection on the Lord and His ministry and person, our worship should be conscious of theme or themes that are introduced and led by the Holy Spirit, through His people. We desire to be united as a body, not just individuals thinking our own thoughts. The Holy Spirit in His sovereignty may change the direction in midstream, and we do not wish to restrict His freedom.