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We continue steadfastly in prayer, and in the  
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

## Christ at the Communion Table

### A Message for Adults

Week of Sunday 16 April, 2017 A.D.  
(Anno Domini – In the year of our Lord)

Sunday 20 Nissan, 5777

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- **Text:** Matthew 26: 26-28 ASV

<sup>26</sup> And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it; and he gave to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.  
<sup>27</sup> And he took a cup, and gave thanks, and gave to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; <sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many unto remission of sins.

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- What's God's primary will and intent through out the Old Testament? The Bible constantly stresses the thought of creating a memorial in remembrance of the name of the Lord. The whole purpose of all God's activity with Israel in giving revelation and special grace to that people, making it fruitful in their lives, and colorful in public worship among them, causes His name to dwell there. The same purpose now permeates the soul of the Servant of the Lord, the Priest of the house of God, of Him

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who has been faithful to the last detail. He does just one thing; causes His name to be remembered. <sup>19</sup> And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave to them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Luke 22: 19 ASV  
Christ establishes a memorial for His name, establishes a memorial for God.

- He is able to do that because He is the temple of the living God, as well as the Priest of that temple. He can do it because He is at the point

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of supplying the altar with His sacrifice. God Himself is creating a memorial to His name by letting the Son institute the Lord's Supper.

- By entering into communion with His suffering any believer can feel the power of the Holy Spirit burning within. As often as the believer wants to feel the power of the Holy Spirit burning within he may seize upon his Lord, triumph in His death, rise with Him in brokenness to confess that to lose everything in the world's terms is equivalent to gaining God and

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Christ for eternity.

- How does He accomplish this? In this unique hour the Holy Spirit takes away the agonizing bleat of the dying lamb and replaces it with the dying Lamb of God who takes bread and blesses it, takes wine and blesses it, taking both as His signs. The table for the Lord's Supper is set with bread and wine. Everywhere in the world there is bread and wine. Heaven is satisfied ! By His shedding of blood every other stream is stopped. Christ puts His church at

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rest by choosing signs from the bloodless order of created things, choosing them from the most ordinary of daily needs, the popular food and the popular drink. By this means He tells the church I give you Myself completely. Take and eat. An eternal memorial for Me as your Lord and Servant.

- Christ received His own at the table of Communion. The Priest after the order of Melchizedek overturned the altar of Aaron;

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but Aaron's breast-cloth, on which he bore the names of the tribes of Israel over his heart, remained, and that is our comfort. Christ receives His own within His heart: He is their intercessor before they know it.

- Listen to Christ tell Simon <sup>31</sup> behold, Satan asked to have you, that he might sift you as wheat: <sup>32</sup> but I made supplication for thee, that thy faith fail not. Luke 22: 31-32 ASV Satan wants to sift the disciples as wheat, but that Christ interposes making intercession between



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Satan's desire and the Father's right. The first thanksgiving service! The church still continues engaging in a thanksgiving service immediately after the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Sometimes it is a meditation. It can be a prayer. Or it may be singing the Doxology.

- After having concentrated our thoughts, in the Lord's Supper and thanksgiving, thoughts scatter again. In the Supper, Christ bound up the souls of His own with His soul. He intensifies and ultimately unites ours and His.

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When the Lord's Supper is finished, we must be led from the heights of faith to the edge of the cliff beneath which the bottomless abyss yawns; heaven and hell open before us ! Our concentration of heart is followed by expansion to God's highest height and Satan's deepest depth. After the intense concentrated intimacy of that moment of Communion with Christ comes the shock of a spoken word by which all the chasms of hell and all the forces of heaven are revealed. But it is comfort to know Jesus Christ, as Intercessor and as Mediator,

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understood the profundity of hell and entered His plea against Satan with the Father in highest heaven for all His own. We owe Him gratitude and do this in remembrance of Him.

- Christ's suffering at the institution of the Lord's Supper becomes a festival confirming our faith. No other name among men or under heaven is memorial to the remembrance of God and His love. <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have

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eternal life. John 3: 16 ASV Standing beside the table He takes it upon Himself to destroy the Anti-christ by the sword of His mouth and strengthen His people till the end of time. It is ancient and modern. It is blessing to the humblest and curses the proudest. It represents love and wrath. It is tenderness and force. The Lord's Supper affects the whole world ! It is not a sacrifice; it is the breaking of bread.

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*You are invited to join us!*

*We continue stedfastly in the apostles' teaching  
and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and  
prayers every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.*

*We study doctrine and pray every Wednesday at  
6:30 p.m.*