

# A Big Banquet

## The Sacrament of the Altar

### Lesson 17

The second sacrament in the Lutheran Church is the Sacrament of the Altar. Think back to what two elements need to be present for a sacrament. List them below.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

What are the visible elements of the Sacrament of the Altar?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

As in baptism, God instituted the Sacrament of the Altar and commands that we do this (invisible element). Read I Corinthians 11:23-26.

Whose words are recorded here? \_\_\_\_\_

There are various names used for the Sacrament of the Altar. These names point to specific aspects of the sacrament. List three other names for the Sacrament of the Altar.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Why is this sacrament referred to as "The Lord's Supper"?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why is this sacrament referred to as "Holy Communion"?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Why is this sacrament called "The Holy Eucharist"? See Matthew 26:26,27.

(Eucharist is from the Greek and means "giving of thanks.")

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Why is this sacrament referred to as the "Sacrament of the Altar"?

\_\_\_\_\_

Matthew records the details of the Last Supper in Chapter 26, verses 1 - 30. Look this up and read about what happened.

What occurrence was being celebrated? \_\_\_\_\_

What happened at the original Passover? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is often called "The Lamb of God." What does Jesus, the Lamb of God, have in common with the Passover?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

What does Jesus instruct His disciples to do? (verses 26 and 27)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

What do we receive when we do this?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

All of the above events took place on Thursday. We now call this Maundy Thursday. What is the next day called?

\_\_\_\_\_

What happened on that day? \_\_\_\_\_

It is important to note Jesus' words when He gave us the Lord's Supper. He said, "This is my body" and "This is my blood." He did not say that the bread and wine represented His body and blood. He said they are His body and blood. This does not mean they are changed into His body and blood. The best way to put it is that they are united -- wine and blood, bread and body. This is truly something only God can accomplish. This union is called "the sacramental union." This is the only occurrence of sacramental union.

Paul has some comments to make concerning Communion. Look up 1 Cor. 10:16.

How does Paul describe eating the communion bread and drinking the communion wine?

\_\_\_\_\_

Should we take communion lightly or seriously? \_\_\_\_\_

Look up 1 Corinthians 11:23-29.

What should we do before taking communion? \_\_\_\_\_

What happens when we examine ourselves? Look on page 239 of *Luther's Small Catechism*.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Under which condition is it wrong to take communion? Look on page 239 of *Luther's Small Catechism*.

\_\_\_\_\_

How do we “worthily” receive communion? See page 239 of *Luther’s Small Catechism*.

\_\_\_\_\_

How often are we to participate in communion? The Bible indicates that in the early church communion was a part of each worship service. Look up Acts 2:42.

To what does “breaking of bread” refer? \_\_\_\_\_

The words "do this in remembrance of Me" are part of the words Jesus used when instituting the Lord's supper. What are we to remember about Jesus?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

The Lutheran Church views communion differently from the Reformed churches and from the Catholic church. The chart below summarizes the differences.

REFORMED	LUTHERAN	ROMAN CATHOLIC
bread only	bread - body	body only
wine only	wine - blood	blood only