

Communion is a _____

- A sacred or special _____
- _____ by Jesus Christ
- For those _____ a relationship with God

In our tradition, we understand Communion to be...

1. A _____ into the sufferings & death of Jesus Christ

“Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.” 1 Corinthians 11:26

“Communion is...setting before our eyes the events that bridge the distance between past and present by communicating in the vibrant language of religious experience the effectiveness of Christ’s death.” John Tyson

- We re-connect and re-member ourselves with the events that changed the course of human history and destiny
- We re-enter God’s story of grace, love, provision and reconciliation as our story

2. A _____ of grace

“When we bless the cup at the Lord’s Table, aren’t we sharing in the blood of Christ? And when we break the bread, aren’t we sharing in the body of Christ?” 1 Corinthians 10:16

“Sacraments are...windows through which God’s grace shone into human hearts.” John Wesley

“Sacraments are...an outward sign of an inward grace and a means whereby we receive the same.” John Wesley

- A place to _____ Christ = “prevenient grace”
- A place to _____ Christ = “justifying grace”
- A place to _____ in Christ = “sanctifying grace”

“Communion serves as a kind of reset button on our relationship with God.” Ken Schenck

3. A _____ of heaven

“And just as my Father has granted me a Kingdom, I now grant you the right to eat and drink at my table in my Kingdom.” Luke 22:29-30

- Communion promises us that admission into heaven has been granted to us that believe in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- When we celebrate this meal, we get a foretaste of the full-taste of the heavenly banquet that we are invited to be a part of

4. A _____ of sacrifice

“This is my body...this is my blood which confirms the covenant between God and his people...poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many.” Matthew 26:26-28

- Once and for all
- Sufficient and complete

5. A _____ of God’s presence

“For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.” 1 Corinthians 11:26

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!

“The three aspects, Christ’s death, resurrection, and return, are the foundations upon which all other aspects of the Gospel are built.” Lester Ruth

6. A _____ for Christians

“You should examine yourselves before eating the bread and drinking from the cup...” 1 Corinthians 11:26

- To _____ on our relationship with Christ and others
- To _____ as Jesus sacrificed
- To _____ Christ
- To give ourselves _____ to Christ