

A Word About Participating in the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is a special covenant meal that Christ gave to His Bride, the Church. **Followers of Jesus** come to this Table to meet with their Lord and Savior by faith, to be renewed and strengthened by Him in their callings and mission as they eat the bread and drink the wine.

If you are not yet a Christian, or if for whatever reason you are not prepared to share in this meal, feel free to simply observe. Consider spending this time in prayer, perhaps using one of the prayers listed below. Reflect on the invitation of Jesus, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst...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 him up at the last day" (John 6:35, 40).

Please note, MHC serves wine in the Lord's Supper. We offer wine since it is often a symbol of joy and celebration in Scripture. **Juice is also provided** if you you would prefer that option.

Prayers for Those Not Communing

A Prayer Searching for the Truth: Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one comes to the Father except by You. If what you claim is true, please guide me and teach me. Amen.

A Prayer of Trust in the Lord Jesus: Jesus, I confess that I am more broken, flawed, and sinful than I had ever before dared to admit. Yet You tell me that I am more loved than I ever dared to hope, and that You accept all who turn to You in simple faith. I trust You for the forgiveness for my sins, and I receive from You now the eternal life that You promise to all who come to You. Amen.

A Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Jesus, You know the battle that rages within my heart. Grant that in my battles with sin, I may see in You the fulfillment of all my needs. Give me strength to turn from every false satisfaction to find my ultimate joy in You. Amen.

A Prayer for Children (who have yet to profess faith): Jesus, the Bible tells me that You blessed kids like me. Help me to know who You are and to understand what You have done for me. Amen.

Announcements

Men's Cookout: Today at 6 PM

Mercy Hill men will meet at 6 pm on Sunday September 17 for a cookout at the Fergusons', 2511 Broadmoor Dr in Bryan.

Learn the Gospel Seminar Meeting Today

Every Christian should seek to master the gospel of Jesus to not only apply it to our own lives, but to share it with others. This seminar is geared around deepening our understanding of and trust in the message about Jesus, and it will take place on Sundays after the service for about 30 minutes. Though not required, you can order a copy of the book were basing our seminar on called Learn the Gospel through Matthias Media online:

<https://matthiasmedia.com/products/learn-the-gospel>

Children's Ministry Meeting Today

Our children's ministry will also meet today. The kids' sessions are for 30 minutes immediately following the service.

Join a Life Group! Because life is better together!

We gather in Life Groups to enjoy life together, make new friends, and seek to grow in our understanding of the good news of Jesus. We believe Christians grow best in a nurturing communing and these are great places to learn how to follow Jesus together as we wrestle with the truths of Scripture, learn to love one another, serve our city, and participate in the mission of God. Life Groups aren't just a good idea. We see them as one of the main ways Jesus makes us more like Himself. Request more info by indicating so on the Connection Card.

September 17, 2023



Welcome!
**We're really glad you're
here with us today.**

**Whether you are a Christian seeking to grow in
your relationship with Jesus Christ, or a
skeptic looking for answers, or someone who
is struggling to make sense of life and simply
looking for a caring community, you are
warmly welcome here. We are delighted you
came this morning!**

God Invites Us Into His Presence To Worship Together

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!”
— Psalm 150:6 —

The Invitation

Isaiah 40:27-31

Opening Prayer

Songs of Praise & Worship

“Sing Alleluia”

“Agnus Dei”

God Graciously Renews Us In Christ Jesus

“Have mercy on me, O God....”
— Psalm 51:1 —

Confession

Matthew 11:28-30

A Song of Repentance

“Jesus I Come (Out of My Bondage)”

The Words of the Gospel

John 10:10

Song of Response

“Hallelujah for the Cross”

God Gives Us His Words Of Eternal Life

*“Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life!”*
— The Gospel of John 6:68 —

“Seeking Divine Wisdom”

James 1:5-8

Sermon Series: James: Real Life Spirituality

God Receives Our Offerings

“I appeal to you..., by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”
— Romans 12:1 —

The Giving of our Offerings and the Song of Response

“Lord I Need You”

God Invites Us To Gather Together At The Lord’s Table

“People will come from the east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the Kingdom of God.”
— The Gospel of Luke 13:29 —

The Words of Institution

For more on Communion, please see the back panel.

Songs of Response & Celebration

“Behold the Lamb”

“This I Believe”

God Sends Us Out Into The World With His Blessing

“The Lord bless you and keep you....”
— Numbers 6:24-26 —

The Blessing

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Notes: