### 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**

#### No Kids' Sunday School Today

The Kids' Sunday School class will not meet today. The kids will meet next Sunday, December 22.

#### Next Sunday, December 22

Next Sunday, December 22, the Mercy Hill Church service will meet back at the Hilton Garden Inn at 10 a.m.

#### Christmas Eve Service

You are all invited to join us for a Christmas Eve service

of lessons and carols!

Date: Tuesday, December 24

Time: 4 PM

Location: Rivergate Church,

5422 Cole Ln, College Station, TX 77845



### **December 15, 2024**



# 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 Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Invitation

Scripture Reading

### Songs of Praise & Worship

"Ten Thousand Reasons"

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

## God Graciously Renews Us In Christ Jesus

"Have mercy on me, O God...."

— Psalm 51:1—

### Confession

Psalm 145:8-9

A Moment for Silent Confession & Reflection

### The Words of the Gospel

Matthew 1:21 & 1 Peter 2:24-25

# 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—

"A Weary World Rejoices"

Luke 1:46-55

### **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

**Song of Response** 

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

# 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

"Sing to the King"

# God Sends Us Out Into The World With His Blessing

"The Lord bless you and keep you...."

— Numbers 6:24-26—

The Blessing

Romans 15:13

Notes: