

The Lord's Supper

At Rideauview Bible Chapel, we love the Lord Jesus. The Lord's Supper (the Breaking of Bread, Communion) is an opportunity for us as a church to express our love to Him. We observe the Lord's Supper every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Other than the Welcome and the Closing, the meeting is unplanned. Different brothers lead the assembly in worship through hymns, prayer and Scripture reading. During this service we partake of the emblems, the bread and the wine.

The Lord's Supper is an act of:

1. **Love and worship** *The Lord seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. John 4:24*
2. **Obedience** *'Do this in remembrance of me.'* 1 Corinthians 11:24
3. **Remembrance** *In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:25*
4. **Fellowship** ¹⁶ *The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation (fellowship) in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation (fellowship) in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. 1 Corinthians 10:16,17*
5. **Proclamation** *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26*
6. **Thanksgiving** *'And when He had given thanks...'* 1 Corinthians 11:24
7. **Anticipation** *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26*
8. **Rejoicing** in the risen Lord who is present with us. Matthew 18:20

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Spiritual preparation

The Lord's Supper is an overflow of our devotional life throughout the week. As part of our role as a royal and holy priesthood (1 Peter 2:5,9) we "offer a sacrifice of praise to God." (Hebrews 13:15). Coming to the Lord's Supper with a song, with prayer, Scripture reading or meditation, etc. (whether shared audibly or offered in silence) is appropriate and biblical (1 Corinthians 14:26). Preparation includes the self-examination called for in 1 Corinthians 11:28. I should ask myself: "Is there unconfessed sin in my life? Are there people in the room with whom I have unresolved conflict?"

Participation: An Open Table

Anyone who is a child of God, born again by the Spirit of God and knows the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, is welcome to take the bread and wine. However, if you are visiting Rideauview and not allowed to partake of the bread and the wine in your home assembly or local church, we ask you refrain from taking them here.

Some Specific Guidelines

1. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and the flow of the meeting if you share a thought.
2. Periods of silence are neither unusual nor uncomfortable in worship and reflection.
3. The Lord's Supper is a time of worship, a time to focus on the Lord Jesus. The intent is not for teaching or testimonies.
4. In order to give adequate time for the emblems, consider praying for the bread and wine no later than 10:15 a.m. People will be less focused if you push the meeting overtime. Giving thanks for the emblems is not restricted to a select few.
5. Please speak up so all can hear! If you announce a song, repeat the title and number twice. If you are hard of hearing, please request an assisted hearing device from the audio room.