

Matthew 26:26-30

Eat & Drink

Deliverance ...

I. Commemoration

A. Passover

B. Remembered

II. Crucifixion

A. Paschal Lamb

B. Resurrected

III. Communion

A. God's People

B. Refreshed

... celebrated.

Children, Listen ...

1. What was Passover about?
2. What animal was sacrificed for Passover?
3. Why was Jesus called the Passover Lamb?
4. What part of worship does Jesus start at the Passover meal?
5. Why should the Lord's Supper bring joy to God's people?

A Sacred Celebration

The original presentation of the Lord's Supper was a somber occasion. While it took place during the joyous celebration of Passover, it was also in the context of Jesus' upcoming crucifixion. It is here that Jesus established the sacrament of the Lord's Supper by setting aside two elements of the meal to commemorate the sacrifice He would make of Himself as the Passover Lamb. A form of this symbolic, yet truly spiritual meal, became a regular part of Christian worship that will remain until the Kingdom of Christ comes in fullness. While there are still solemn aspects of communion such as reflecting on Jesus' gruesome death and our sin that made it necessary, as well as repenting of indwelling sin, it is not a morbid event. It is not a funeral but a celebration of the ultimate deliverance from sin by our gracious Savior who was dead, but is alive! We are not celebrating death and sin, but the death that delivered us from sin. We are celebrating the Living Savior as those who have been made alive in Him. If you belong to Jesus, come to the table with sincere faith and deep reverence and leave with exuberant joy and thanksgiving that your sins have truly been forgiven.

For more information on the Lord's Supper see:

Westminster Confession of Faith chapter 27 (Trinity Hymnal p 864)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 92, 96, 97 (Trinity Hymnal p 876)

Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A 168-175