

New Testament Church of God – Harvest Temple

The church where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord



Holy Communion & Washing of the Saints Feet

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The Sacraments of the Church

- Holy Communion
- Christian Baptism
- Washing the Saints Feet

**Jesus is the central focus
of these sacraments**

The Sacraments of the Church

What are sacraments?

From the Latin word sacramentum:

- 1. Implies a mystery**
- 2. Refers to an oath of loyalty**

In New Testament the Lord's Supper is called:

- 1. Communion** – 1 Corinthians 11:20
- 2. Breaking of Bread** – Acts 2:42
- 3. Holy Communion** – 1 Corinthians 10:16
- 4. Eucharist** (in the Greek language)
Rendered “*thanksgiving*” in English
“**The Cup of Blessing**” – 1 Corinthians 10:16

3 Reasons why we celebrate The Lord's Supper

- 1. Focuses the believer's faith on the person of Jesus Christ – John 3:16; Isaiah 53:5**
- 2. Fosters fellowship amongst the people of God – Matthew 5:23, 24**
- 3. To receive forgiveness and focus on the forgiveness of God – Matthew 6:12**

Theological questions about The Lord's Supper

1. In what sense is Christ present in the Eucharist? – Luke 22:19

Jesus did not say, 'This bread is my physical body.'

Neither did He say, 'This bread represents my body.'

That is why it is a sacrament.

It is more than a symbol or ritual. It is participating spiritually, by faith with the living presence of Christ.

Theological questions about The Lord's Supper

2. In what manner is the Eucharist a means of grace? – Ephesians 2:8

It is not partaking of the sacrament that imparts grace to the believer's heart. Only when believers partake of the sacrament by personal faith in Jesus will God's grace be experienced.

Theological questions about The Lord's Supper

3. Who may participate in the Eucharist?

The Eucharist is a sacrament of the church and for the church. **Therefore, it is only for believers.**

We practice *'open Communion'*.

Confessing Christians are welcome to share at the Lord's Table.

The image features three black silhouettes of crosses of varying heights on a dark, jagged hill. The background is a bright, warm sunset or sunrise sky with a gradient from yellow to orange. The text is overlaid on the sky in a bold, black, sans-serif font, tilted to match the angle of the crosses. The tallest cross is in the center, flanked by two shorter crosses.

**Physical, mental,
and spiritual
healing**

**Deliverance from
habits that bind or
situations that
imprison**

**Freedom from
fear or oppression**

Forgiveness of sins

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Wash **one another's feet**

A CHALLENGE TO HUMBLY SERVE

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Washing the Saints Feet

An ancient custom of hospitality – *common practice*

When visiting someone's home, visitors were given a basin of water to wash their own feet.

Genesis 18:4 – Angels came to Abraham

Genesis 19:2 – Angels came to warn Lot

Examples also in Genesis 24:32 & 43:24

Washing the Saints Feet

Household servants would wash the feet of visitors

1 Samuel 25:41 – When Abigail presents herself to become King David's wife, she states that she will wash the feet of his servants.

It is a way of expressing love and servanthood

Washing the Saints Feet

Jesus at the home of a Pharisee named Simon

John 7:36-50 – A sinful woman came & washed the feet of Jesus with her tears & dried them with her hair. *No one had washed Jesus' feet.*

Simon the Pharisee & others objected to this.

The woman loved Jesus and needed forgiveness.

Washing the Saints Feet

Jesus in the home of Lazarus, Martha & Mary

Luke 10:38-42 – Mary washes Jesus' feet with an expensive perfume and wiped his feet with her hair.

Judas objected to this.

Jesus said the act was done for my burial.

Washing the Saints Feet

Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper at Passover

Luke 22:24 – Just after the Last Supper Meal the disciples disputed who was the greatest.

Jesus overheard & stated that the greatest must be the least/slave/servant of all.

Washing the Saints Feet

John 13:4-5 – Jesus arose from the meal, removed His outer garment, wrapped a towel around His waist, poured water in a basin, then washed the feet of His disciples.

Jesus did this to model what it means to be a leader in the Kingdom of God.

John 13:14-17

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Washing the Saints Feet

This sacrament can be practised in 2 ways:

1. Foot Washing Service

- **Give thanks that Jesus came as the Servant of all;**
- **Declare that it is our joy to serve one another.**

Washing the Saints Feet

2. Practice Hospitality - Romans 12:13

Foot washing is an act of hospitality

*Any act that expresses hospitality,
benevolence, & kindness to each other,
fulfils the command of Christ to serve one
another.*

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