



Tues 22/ Weds 23 November 2022: Luke 22v7-38 – A Meal of Salvation

1. Take a few moments to share your personal experiences of Communion – maybe different ways you’ve heard it referred to or seen it carried out in different church or denominational expressions.
(The point here isn’t to debate which way is “better” – rather to recognise that across the board, followers of Jesus have made ways to observe this meal and although it might look very different in some contexts, the heart has always been to “remember me”)

Looking back: The Last Supper

2. If you had to explain to a friend why Jesus died, in His own words from Luke 22, what would you say?
See the symbolism and time of year in v.7-8 and v.15, and the enacted teaching in v.19-20.
3. How does the physical act of taking, eating and drinking bread and wine, with empty hands, help us grasp more of its meaning?
4. ‘You are what you eat – we depend entirely on the food we eat’. How can we daily and weekly remind ourselves, and each other as a CG, to depend on Jesus’ death for us (to “feed on Him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving”)? In what ways do we find dependence a hard thing..?

Looking ahead: The Future Banquet

5. Look at v.15-16, 17-18, 29-30. In what ways is this meal a foretaste, a pointer, to the heavenly banquet when Christ returns? Does that future hope feature much in your life? What difference would it make if it did..?

Looking around: Serving others

6. V.24-27: Jesus show his self-giving, sacrificial love He’s about to show on the cross is also the pattern for his disciples. What could that practically look like for us this week – at home, work, in church and CG? *(eg Signing up to Robes or giving a Love Christmas Parcel could be some practical ways in the next couple of weeks)*
7. Communion is a sign of the “new covenant” - God’s pledge to us to be faithful to His promises to forgive us and make us His people. But it’s also a sign of our re-commitment to trust in that promise and live for Him. Do you see Communion in that way – not just remembering but also re-committing?
Author John Hicks wrote: “When we eat and drink we renew our covenant with God. We pledge ourselves to keep the covenant. It is a moment of rededication and recommitment. In the context of the worship experience, we voice our commitment to live worthy of the gospel. We vow to take up our cross, call Jesus Lord and follow him into the world as obedient servants.”

Take time in prayer to thank God for the remarkably personal and corporate gift that Jesus’ death, remembered in Communion, is to us. Maybe say sorry if we have devalued it or been preoccupied by debates about it. Pray that at HTC we love remembering and rejoicing in Christ’s death, and in response and, in the Spirit’s power (a gift of the New Covenant!) live cross-shaped lives.