SCRIPTURE READINGS

Communion Scripture

Readings for the Lord's Supper from the Gospels, 1 Corinthians and the Old Testament, with three prayers.



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Communion Scripture from the Gospels

READ MATTHEW 26:26-29

> 26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, spoke a blessing and broke it, and
> gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is My body.” 27 Then He took
> the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you.
> 28 This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the
> forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now
> on until that day when I drink it anew with you in My Father’s kingdom.”

READ MARK 14:22-25

> 22 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, spoke a blessing and broke it, and
> gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take it; this is My body.” 23 Then He took the
> cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. 24 He said to
> them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. 25 Truly
> I tell you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I
> drink it anew in the kingdom of God.”

READ LUKE 22:14-20

> 14 When the hour had come, Jesus reclined at the table with His apostles. 15 And
> He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before My
> suffering. 16 For I tell you that I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the
> kingdom of God.” 17 After taking the cup, He gave thanks and said, “Take this
> and divide it among yourselves. 18 For I tell you that I will not drink of the fruit
> of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes.” 19 And He took the
> bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body,
> given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 20 In the same way, after supper
> He took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is
> poured out for you.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 and the warning that follows

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-29

> 23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on
> the night He was betrayed, took bread, 24 and when He had given thanks, He
> broke it and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of
> Me.” 25 In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, “This cup is the
> new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of
> Me.” 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the
> Lord’s death until He comes. 27 Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the
> cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the
> body and blood of the Lord. 28 Each one must examine himself before he eats of
> the bread and drinks of the cup. 29 For anyone who eats and drinks without
> recognizing the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:16-17

> 16 Is not the cup of blessing that we bless a participation in the blood of Christ?
> And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?
> 17 Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of
> the one loaf.

Old Testament Scripture for communion

READ EXODUS 12:21-27

21 Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and told them, “Go at once and
select for yourselves a lamb for each family, and slaughter the Passover lamb.
22 Take a cluster of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin, and brush the blood
on the top and sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out the door of his
house until morning. 23 When the LORD passes through to strike down the
Egyptians, He will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will
pass over that doorway; so He will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses
and strike you down. 24 And you are to keep this command as a permanent
statute for you and your descendants. 25 When you enter the land that the LORD
will give you as He promised, you are to keep this service. 26 When your children
ask you, ‘What does this service mean to you?’ 27 you are to reply, ‘It is the
Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in
Egypt when He struck down the Egyptians and spared our homes.’” Then the
people bowed down and worshiped.

READ ISAIAH 53:4-6

4 Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows; yet we considered
Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was pierced for our
transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought
us peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. 6 We all like sheep
have gone astray, each one has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid
upon Him the iniquity of us all.

READ PSALM 116:12-14

12 How can I repay the LORD for all His goodness to me? 13 I will lift the cup of
salvation and call on the name of the LORD. 14 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all His people.

Short communion verses

READ JOHN 6:35

> 35 Jesus answered, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never hunger, and whoever believes in Me will never thirst.

READ JOHN 6:47-48

> 47 Truly, truly, I tell you, he who believes has eternal life. 48 I am the bread of life.

READ JOHN 6:51

> 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And this bread, which I will give for the life of the world, is My flesh.”

READ 1 PETER 2:24

> 24 He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. “By His stripes you are healed.”

READ HEBREWS 9:27-28

> 27 Just as man is appointed to die once, and after that to face judgment, 28 so also Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await Him.

READ REVELATION 19:9

> 9 Then the angel told me to write, “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”

READ PSALM 34:8

> 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:7

> 7 Get rid of the old leaven, that you may be a new unleavened batch, as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

Scripture to read before the bread and before the cup

Invitation to the table

READ ISAIAH 55:1

> [1]"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you without money, come, buy, and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost!

Confession

READ 1 JOHN 1:8-9

> [8]If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9]If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Before the bread: 1 Corinthians 11:23-24

Before the cup: 1 Corinthians 11:25-26

Thanksgiving after the cup

READ COLOSSIANS 3:15-17

> [15]Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, for to this you were called as members of one body. And be thankful. [16]Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. [17]And whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Communion prayers

Before the bread

PRAYER Father, you gave your Son to die for our sins and raised him for our justification. As we eat this bread, we remember his body given for us. Make us one body in him, as we share one loaf. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Before the cup

PRAYER Father, this cup is the new covenant in the blood of Jesus, poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Cleanse our consciences by his blood and give us confidence to draw near to you. Let us drink in faith. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Thanksgiving after the cup

PRAYER Father, we give you thanks for your Son and for feeding us at his table. We have eaten the bread and drunk the cup, and proclaim his death until he comes. Keep us in your Spirit's fellowship and send us to serve your church. In Jesus' name, Amen.