



West Hartsville Baptist Church

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Call to Worship

The Congregation Sings

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

At Calvary

Children's Sermon

The Congregation Sings

Jesus Messiah

Nothing but the Blood

Communion

Remembering the Lord's Supper

Victory in Jesus

Benediction

Today's Deacon: Lane Lewis (843-858-4494)

Why We Celebrate

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise, the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

As Christians, we are used to celebrating communion (The Lord's Supper), but have you ever wondered why? It is a command because Jesus says, "Do this in remembrance of Me", and it is a central act of Christian worship, but it also has a practical component.

1) We celebrate communion to give thanks. Many Christian traditions refer to it as the Eucharist. *Eucharisto* is the Greek word for giving thanks.

2) We celebrate Jesus' sacrifice. We gather together and celebrate that Jesus went to great lengths and had His body broken for. ("By His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5)

3) We celebrate a New Covenant. Through the shedding of the blood of the perfect Lamb of God, we now have a new and eternal relationship with God the Father.

4) We celebrate by fellowshiping with one another. The word communion comes from the Greek word *koinonia* which means to share or fellowship. As we share in this most solemn Christian act together, we strengthen our Christian bond with one another.

5) We celebrate by renewing our relationship with God. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 11:28, "*Let a person examine himself, then, so eat of the bread and drink of the cup*". We must examine our own hearts and say with David, "*Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me and lead me in the way everlasting!* (Psalm 139:23-24)

So, you see? We should never take the opportunity to celebrate communion for granted. It is a vital part of our Christian worship and practice.

Pastor Kevin