



Until His Return

By Lucy Wall

My Father-in-law, who also happens to be my Pastor, came to me one day and asked if I had a poem that focused on the theme of Communion. I had a think about his request and realised that although many of my poems talk about Christ's sacrifice, they weren't specifically in the context of Communion.

I went on to ask what his inquiry was for and he explained that he thought it would be good to have an appropriate poem to share at our Church's Communion service, taking place that coming Sunday. I love it when a gap is discovered within the topics that my poems cover so I suggested he leave it with me and decided I'd pray for inspiration!

As I researched the origins of Communion, I found myself reading the Bible verses that talk about the first Communion to take place which was led by Jesus at the Last Supper. One particular section of Scripture I was looking at was Luke 22:19-20 which reads,

"And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."

Delving into the topic of Communion reminded me of the symbolic truths behind it. I could see how Jesus was taking the Old Covenant of Passover and showing how He would be the fulfilment of the Prophetic picture of the Sacrificial Lamb. Passover required the death of a lamb, a lamb that had to be sacrificed while the ceremony looked forward to the coming of the Lamb of God who would die to take away the sins of the world.

Through the Scriptures, I was shown again how Jesus was highlighting that He was the long awaited Lamb of God whose death would take away the sins of the world. He was making it clear that the old sacrificial system was no longer needed and the new covenant that He was bringing would replace the old.

Reading Christ's words in Luke 22 where He says, "Do this in remembrance of Me," suggests that there is a time limit on the ceremony of Communion. The Apostle Paul also spoke of Communion in 1 Corinthians 11:26 which reads,

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."

These statements indicate a ceremony that will continue into the future until Christ's return. It was this thought that gave me the title to my poem and I praised the Lord that He answered my prayer for inspiration as I soon found myself writing about the significance of Communion!

I pray this poem can be a blessing to our hearts as Communion is an integral part of Christian worship. It asks us to recall what Christ did for us but is also a celebration of what we receive as a result of His sacrifice. Communion causes us to remember our Lord's death and resurrection while reminding us to look to His glorious return in the future!

Lord, we come before You with praises in our heart,
Prepare us now for quiet contemplation.
Still our thoughts and empty us as we approach Your Throne,
Remembering the price You paid to win our soul's salvation.

We enter this Communion with reverence of spirit,
Offering our thanks with every breath.
Though often times we celebrate Your life and many teachings,
Today we will commemorate the *value* of Your death.

Help us now examine Lord, our heart's true motivation.
May we grasp the sacrifice You made.
Let no one enter hastily with disregard for meaning
But fully comprehending the tremendous price You paid.



Remembering the punishment Your body bore to save us,
Beyond all recognition, You were broken.
Taking up the bread, we now partake in this together,
Recalling what Your flesh endured with this symbolic token.

As we lift the cup to drink, let us take a moment
For here we see a picture of Your blood;
The sacrifice You freely gave to gift us with redemption!
May gratitude and joy flow through Your people like a flood.

Oh how our hearts can celebrate and rest within Your efforts!
United in a Covenant that's new.
Bound by ties unbreakable, sealed by Heaven's promise
And so we take Communion in remembrance of You.

This monument is not in stone or carved from any marble.
No moulded brass will speak of things Divine.
The ceremony we observe praises God eternal!
The Risen Lamb is honoured as we take the bread and wine.

Receive our act of worship as we glorify our Saviour.
Fill our hearts and may our spirits burn!
Honouring Your sacrifice, we look now to the future,
Partaking in Communion as we wait for Your return!

1 Corinthians 5:7

"Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us."

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

"Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

Hebrews 9:24-28

"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another— He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation."