

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Communion In Worship February 23, 2021 Suzi Armstrong

Communion is defined as the sharing of intimate thoughts and feelings. This describes the heart of worship. In worship we are enveloped in God's presence as we ascribe glory and honor to Him – the One and Only True God, Maker of the heavens and the earth. When we give ourselves over to God in worship, deep intimacy draws us into communion. Worship is an attitude of the heart that reflects great desire for more of Him.

Worship is more than music and songs; it is a place of deep encounter with God Almighty. We were created to encounter God, to know Him intimately, to be empowered by Him, united with Him. Romans 12 instructs us to offer our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is true and proper worship. Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. In this place of worship we will know what God's will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.

God inhabits the praises of His people. As we worship and turn our face to Him, He will come and make His presence known. The presence of the Lord is filled with the essence of who He is – His character, His thoughts, His desires, and His glory will radiate throughout.

Habakkuk 3.2-4 NIV

² LORD, I have heard of your fame;

I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD.

Repeat them in our day,

in our time make them known;

in wrath remember mercy.

³ God came from Teman,

the Holy One from Mount Paran.

His glory covered the heavens

and his praise filled the earth.

⁴ **His splendor was like the sunrise;**

rays flashed from his hand,

where his power was hidden.

Abraham walked throughout the land of Canaan to see the promise of God; he would stop periodically and build an altar to God and worship. When Noah got off of the ark after the flood the first thing he did was build an altar and worship God. Joseph in his senior years would lean on his staff and worship God. Jesus would withdraw Himself to a secluded place and worship God. Paul and Silas found themselves in a dungeon prison and worshipped God. David, Daniel, Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego worshipped God. They ascribed glory to His name. In worship they saw His beauty and His fire and they were in awe. In response, God would rend the heavens and come down.

Luke 5.26 NIV

²⁶ **Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe** and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

Psalm 29.2 NIV

² **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.**

In worship you cease your own efforts. No striving. No fear. No condemnation. In worship there is incredible freedom. False boundaries are broken. Chains fall off. You enter the truth and reality of the living word of God. You are filled with wonder and awe of who God is. Your worship aligns with worship around the throne, as the Seraphim cry holy your heart cries holy. As you go deeper into worship you start to become filled with overwhelming reverence for God as the reality and experience of who God is becomes deposited in your heart. This is a place of complete surrender to God alone. This is a holy place and a place of activation and equipping. This is a life-changing place as you are going from strength to strength and glory to glory.

Psalm 16.11 TPT

¹¹ **For you bring me a continual revelation of resurrection life, the path to the bliss that brings me face-to-face with you.**

Psalm 18.32-34 TPT

³² **You have wrapped me in power,**
and now you've shared with me your perfection.

³³ **Through You I ascend to the highest peaks of your glory
to stand in the heavenly places, strong and secure in you.**

³⁴ **You've trained me with the weapons of warfare-worship;
now I'll descend into battle with power**
to chase and conquer my foes.

There is no space between us and God – it is easy to trust. For You God are closer than my skin. You are in the air I am breathing in. And I release this declaration and prayer over Detroit and the United States of America.

Psalm 33.18-22 TPT reworded

¹⁸ **But the eyes of the LORD are on the city and nation that fears him,
on whose hope is in his unfailing love,**

¹⁹ **to deliver them from death
and keep them alive in famine.**

²⁰ Detroit and our nation wait in hope for the LORD;
he is Detroit's and our nation's help and shield.

²¹ In him **Detroit and this nation rejoices,**
and **trusts** in his holy name.

²² **May your unfailing love be with Detroit and the United States, LORD,
even as they put their hope in you.**

Isaiah 45.8 NIV reworded

⁸ **You heavens above Detroit and the United States of America, rain down righteousness;
let the clouds shower it down.**

**Let Detroit and the USA open wide,
let salvation spring up,
let righteousness flourish with it;
I, the LORD, have created it.**

We release the penetrating power of God's word into the foundations of our city and nation.
We declare that Detroit and the USA belong to the Lord! By God's design Detroit and our nation will fulfill their destiny and out of our land will be released the sound of righteousness into the earth.