

# The Watford Word

[www.watfordchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watfordchurchofchrist.org)

## What's on

**Sunday 8th Sept:** 'Thank you' service  
**Saturday 14th Sept:** AIM UK&I - "Family Life"  
**Sunday 15th Sept:** Congregational vision workshop  
**Sunday 22nd Sept:** 10:30 AM service.  
**Sunday 29th Sept:** 10:30 AM. Speaker Bruce Miller  
**Sunday 03rd Nov:** 10:30 AM service.  
**Sunday 10th Nov:** 10:30 AM. Remembrance Sunday  
**Sunday 17th Nov:** 10:30 AM. "Safeguarding Sunday"  
**Sunday 24th Nov:** 10:30 AM. service  
**Sunday 01st Dec:** 10:30 AM. service  
**Saturday 7th Dec:** AIM UK&I - "World Views"  
**Sunday 08th Dec:** 10:30 AM. service  
**Sunday 15th Dec:** 10:30 AM. service  
**Sunday 22nd Dec:** 10:30 AM. Carol service  
**Sunday 29th Dec:** 10:30 AM. service

## Prayer Requests

Last Sunday, we wrote down prayer requests in the service. God encourages us to pray for authorities and ourselves, but we must not neglect to pray for one another:



*"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." (Ephesians 6:18 NIV11)*

The list of prayer requests has been circulated. If you missed it, email me at the church email address, and I will send it to you on the understanding that you will not distribute it further. I have not included some of the prayer requests handed in because they contained instructions not to be circulated. I have taken personal responsibility to pray for those requests every day this week.

Malcolm

Charity number : 1207942

## Guidance For Those Hosting Parts of Sunday Worship - Part 7.

### "The Lord's Supper"

Today, we continue a series exploring why we do what we do at a Sunday gathering. Last week, we focussed on testimonies. Today's topic is the Lord's Supper.



### Details

This article is not about the 'how' of the Lord's Supper—how many prayers, wine or juice, where in the service order it is best placed, and whether visitors and children should be allowed to participate—that's another topic. Instead, we will focus on the role of the speaker.

### Good News

Remember that what you are talking and praying about is good news. There is a difference between being sober (taking something seriously) and sombre (making us gloomy). Help us to be grateful and rejoice. Our sins are no more! The Lord's Supper took place around a table, not on an altar. When we gather round the 'table', we are communion-ing with one another and God through Christ. That's something worth celebrating.

*“Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)*

## Jesus

Make Jesus the focus, not our sins. Jesus said, “Remember me”, not “Remember your sins”.

*“And when He had taken some bread and 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.”” Luke 22.19*

It is important that your hearers make a personal application of the Lord’s Supper for themselves. However, the critical question is, “What are we left thinking about when you’ve finished your sharing—ourselves or Jesus?”

## Together

Convey that this is a collective remembrance. While there is a place for personal reflection, we are taking the meal together as a spiritual family.

*“So then, when you come together, it is not the Lord’s Supper you eat, for when you are eating, some of you go ahead with your own private suppers. As a result, one person remains hungry and another gets drunk.” (1 Corinthians 11:20-21)*

The Corinthians had many problems in their gatherings (understatement!), but the one thing they were getting right was that they met *together* to take the Lord’s Supper. In “Come to the Table”, John Mark Hicks notes:

*“Table...is not simply about vertical communion with God. On the contrary, to sit at the table is to commit to serving those who sit at the table with you.”*

When planning your talk, consider how you can make it a shared and personal experience.

## Priority

Is the Lord’s Supper the *most* essential part of the service? Some would say it is. Christian traditions have differing views. The New Testament does not tell us the order of significance between singing, prayer, learning from the Word, fellowship and the Lord’s Supper. Perhaps that is deliberate. If they are all important and regularly thoughtfully practised, then none of them will become an unintentional idol. Suffice it to say, the Lord’s Supper is a vital and integral part of meaningful, Christ-focused worship.

## Conclusion

A well-thought-out talk about the Lord’s Supper has the potential to refresh our faith and gratitude. What will your next Lord’s Supper talk contain to help us walk into the week ahead with hope and love?

I have written and recorded on this topic previously. This video is the first in a five-part series on talking about the Lord’s Supper: [https://youtu.be/lhP8CgFKisk?si=TO5w\\_vIA-jFXXpMg](https://youtu.be/lhP8CgFKisk?si=TO5w_vIA-jFXXpMg).

Any thoughts? Please speak to me. Next time, we will explore the ‘closing prayer’.

God bless, Malcolm

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## Watford Contribution Details

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**Church bank account:** Three Counties churches of Christ HSBC

**Sort Code:** 401915

**Account Number:** 04759613

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## Watford Media

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**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/watfordchurchofchrist6708>

**Podcast:** <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-raef90>

