

Officer Training



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

The Sacraments

How many Sacraments are there?

- Baptism

- Eucharist: The Lord's Supper

Sacraments

- WSC #92 What is a sacrament?
- A sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ, wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.
- Gen. 17:10; Rom. 4:11

What is a Sacrament?

- To put it another way, Sacraments are means by which God ministers to and becomes tangible to his people. They are external representations of the work of the inward work of the Holy Spirit.
- The Sacramental Union
- Sacraments are "Means of Grace".

What is a Sacrament?

- We could also say Sacraments are the opposite of Idols
- What is an Idol? - An idol is a device whereby we try to reach and control God.
- Exodus 32:1-6

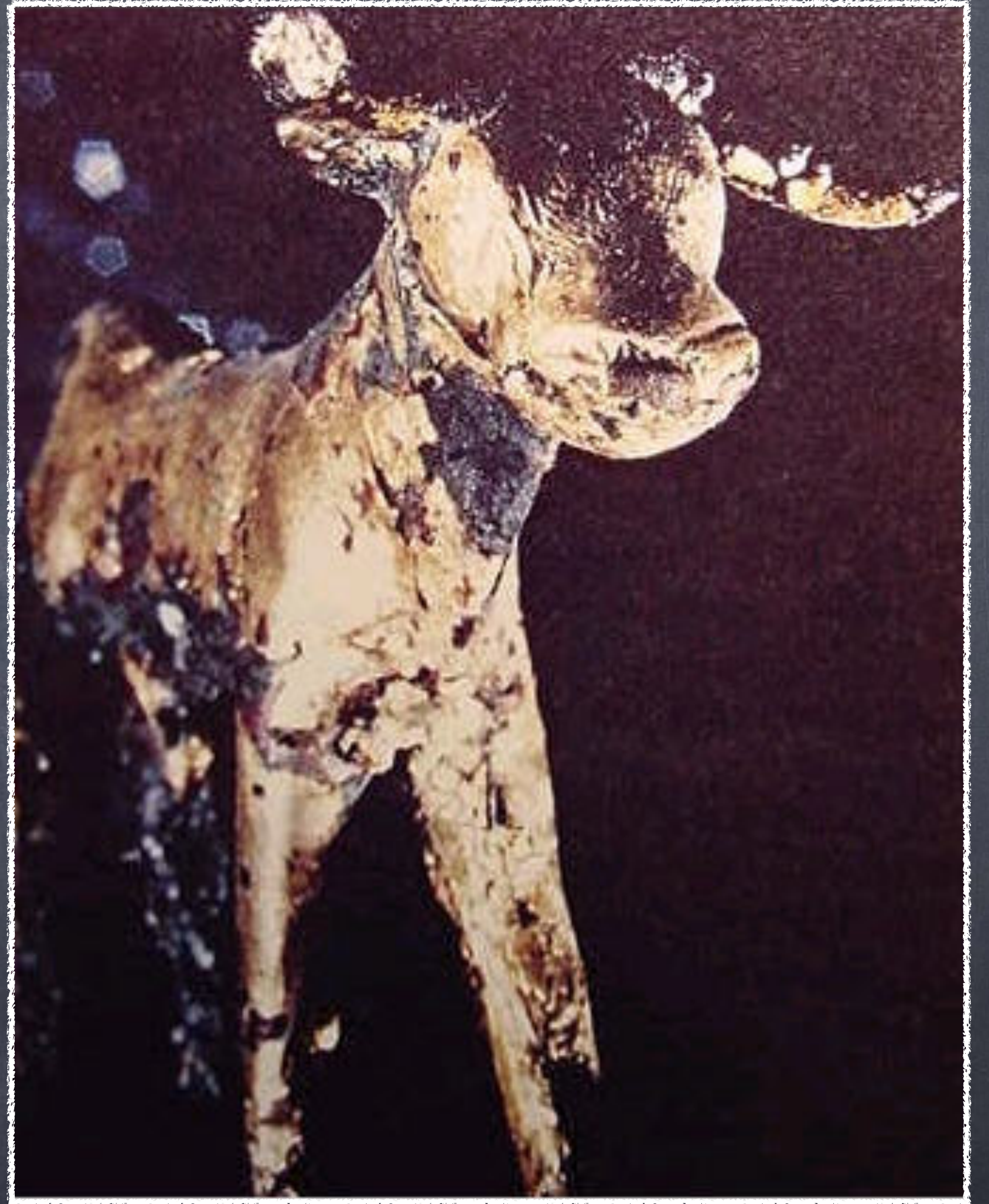
Egyptian Idols

Statuettes of the
goddess Hathor



Phoenecian Idol

Bronze &
Gold Leaf Bull
from Byblos



Canaanite Idol

Bronze & Silver
Bull from
Ashekelon



Baptism

WSC#94. What is Baptism?

- Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, doth signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.
- Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:3, 4

Baptism Replaces Circumcision in the New Covenant

- Romans 4:11

- Colossians 2:11

Why Do We Baptize Our Children?

- Gen. 17:7, 9-11 - Circumcision given to Abraham
- In the NT Jesus replaces Circumcision with Baptism as the sign & seal of the covenant. Matt. 28:18-20
- Acts 2:38ff - Peter uses the same language.
- Acts 16 - Lydia's entire household is baptized.
- 1 Cor. 7 - Paul shows that the children of believing parents are holy or set apart

The Lord's Supper

WSC#96. What is the Lord's supper?

- The Lord's Supper is a sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's appointment, his death is showed forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment, and growth in grace.

The Lord's Supper

- Luke 22:14-20 - Institution by Christ
- 1 Cor. 11:17-34 - Instructions for the meal

2 Ways to Look at The Supper

- Close Up - Microscope

- Big Picture - Wide Angle Lens

What Happens in
The Lord's Supper?
Microscope

Through the Microscope

- Transubstantiation: The Catholic View
- Consubstantiation: The Lutheran View
- Memorial: Zwingli's View
- Real Spiritual Presence of Christ:
Calvin's View

Transubstantiation: The Roman Catholic View

- This view maintains that the sacramental union of the bread and wine with what it signifies is physical, that it actually becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ during the Eucharist.

Consubstantiation:

The Lutheran View

- According to Luther the bread and wine remain what they are, but in a mysterious way they are surrounded by the real physical (local) presence of Christ. Christ's body and blood are "in, under, and along with, the elements."

Memorial: Zwingli's View

- According to this view the LORD's supper is merely a bare symbol of the work of Christ on behalf of sinners. There is no mystical union with Christ in the meal, only a commemoration.

Real Spiritual Presence of Christ:

Calvin's View

- In this view the bread and wine remain physically as they are, but by partaking of them, we are spiritually partaking of our risen LORD and participating in him by the power of the Holy Spirit. Taken in this sense we are united to Christ in the meal not only in his death, burial, and resurrection, but also in his present reign. Finally, we also look forward to his wedding feast.

What Happens in
The Lord's Supper?
Big Picture

The LORD's Supper as a Rite

- Pulling the zoom lens back and looking at the Eucharist as a rite shows us a number of things:
- It's an exclusive feast. Only believers participate.
- There are no socio-economic, or racial, distinctions.

The LORD's Supper as a Rite

- There are table manners.
- This is a meal that unites us.
- It's a real meal, with real bread and wine.
- This is a meal of luxury, not sustenance, per se. (1 Cor. 11)

Fencing the Table

- The Sacraments are signs and seals of the Covenant. They are the means by which we are admitted to and participate in the Covenant of Christ.
- As such, it is not appropriate for just anyone to partake of the LORD's supper. It is for HIS people only, for those that have professed him as LORD and been baptized into his Covenant.

Fencing the Table

- "Hard" or "strong" fence of the table limits the meal to those the session of the church have explicitly vetted.
- "Soft" or "ecumenical" fence places the burden of the decision to participate in the meal upon the communicant.
- Baptized Children need to be admitted to the table by the session.

Questions: The Sacraments

- What do the sacraments DO? Baptism? The Lord's Supper?
- How do the sacraments DO that?
- How do the sacraments function in the church?
- Who can administer the sacraments? Why?

Reading

- Frame, chs. 21

- Sproul, Sec. VIII