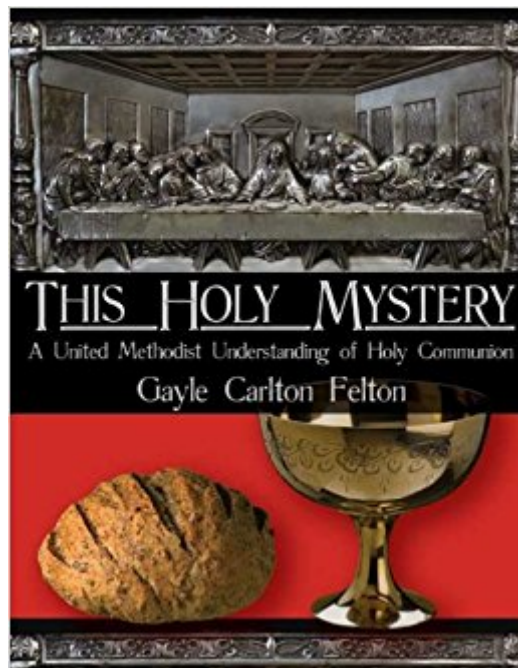




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# This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding Of Holy Communion



## Synopsis

This is the body of Christ. This is the blood of Christ." It's Communion Sunday. The service is a little longer, and the sacrament is observed with gravity. You know it's important, but the wonder is lost. What does it all mean, really? According to the results of a survey, you're not alone. United Methodists have a strong sense of the importance of Holy Communion, but they also lack a meaningful understanding of the theology behind it. Reclaim a richer sacramental life in your congregation through a group study of *This Holy Mystery*. In 2004, the General Conference of The United Methodist Church adopted an official interpretative document on Holy Communion. (Go [here](#) to download a copy.) For the first time in our history, the denomination has an official, comprehensive statement of the practice and theology of the Lords Supper. Now, it's time for congregations to help members understand the observance. "We believe that study of this document will yield increased appreciation for the sacrament in the worship experience and enable United Methodist people to draw nourishment and strength for their ongoing journeys of faith," writes Felton. *This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion* is a study guide of the General Conference approved document. An all-in-one resource, this book is for both participants and leaders. It's divided into seven sessions, providing commentary on the history, practice, and principles of Holy Communion in United Methodist congregations. It also points to implication of the sacrament for ministry and mission. We come to the Table of the Lord seeking to have our spiritual needs met. The benefits include forgiveness, nourishment, healing, transformation, ministry and mission, and eternal life. Renew your appreciation for the divine grace made available through this sacrament. Readers of *This Holy Mystery* are encouraged to download four articles from *Quarterly Review* available [here](#). *This Holy Mystery: A Study Guide for Children and Youth* is now available.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A clergy member of the North Carolina Annual Conference, the Rev. Gayle Carlton Felton is a consultant to the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, Chair of The Board of Directors of The Reconciling Congregation Program, and author of *The Coming of Jesus*, *This Gift of Water*, and *By Water and the Spirit*. Retired from the faculty of Duke Divinity School, she is now living in Rougemont, North Carolina, where she is a writer, consultant, and speaker.

This is not your ordinary book for Sunday School which is where we are using it. It is better for a study group, but we are finding that it has a tremendous amount of information, to help us understand the United Methodist Church's stand on the Lord's Supper, as well as that of historical Methodism, back to John Wesley. A job well done. J. Robert Ewbank author "John Wesley, Natural Man, and the Isms" "Wesley's Wars" and "To Whom It May Concern"

A well done work for those who wish to work through the mystery.

Good book....excellent for class I'm taking.

I used this as the text for a Lay Servant class. It was very well accepted as a learning guide for the students wanting to serve as Eucharistic Ministers.

Should be a mainstay for Lay Training.

Excellent resource for understanding the richness of this sacrament for all denominations, with particular emphasis on celebrating the ritual from a United Methodist perspective.

I purchased this as a textbook but have used it to prepare teaching sermons on communion. It is full of helpful information and is easy to understand. It is designed so that it could be a short-term Bible study as well as a class curriculum.

The meaning of the sacraments in all churches has gone by the wayside. This tome was used in a class study to bring back the meaning of this Sacrament to the congregation.

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