

Through the Spirit Christ Meets Us at His Table

He was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Luke 24:35

On the day of his resurrection from the dead Jesus revealed himself to his disciples at table with them. First in Emmaus; then in Jerusalem.

"When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight" (Luke 24:31-32)

Later, that night we read "he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, 'Have you anything to eat? They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it before them.'" Luke 24:40-43

Perhaps this explains why the Lord's Supper is so often referred to as "the breaking of the Bread. Acts 2:42 They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and prayer.

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread,.. Acts 20:7.

Jesus after meeting with his disciples over 40-day period ascended back to Father so he is physically absent from us. Yet he and the Father sent the Holy Spirit as another Paraclete, to abide with us forever. The Holy Spirit is thus the Spirit of Jesus. He conveys the presence of Christ Jesus to us. John's record of Jesus teaching after the feeding of the 5,000 was that he said, it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ... "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will not be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Paul later connects the bread and cup of the Lord's Supper with the spiritual fellowship, communion, participation in Christ body and blood.

Paul asserts that the bread has fellowship with the body of Christ while the cup has fellowship with his blood Paul. He explains: "The cup of blessing that we bless—is not the cup fellowship (κοινωνία) with the blood of Christ? The bread which we break—is not the bread fellowship (κοινωνία) with the body of Christ?" (1 Cor 10:16).

Let us pray. *Lord, the feast is yours, not ours. It is your table to which we are come, to be your guests. It is your presence we seek, your body and blood of which we partake. Help us draw near with expectant hearts and a living faith, to receive as from your hands the bread of life, the cup of salvation, and so find refreshment, strength and peace; for your loves sake. Amen* (Frank Colquhoun)

Breaking and Passing of the Bread

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven, ministered to you by the power of the Spirit.

As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them.

"This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Song: 649P **Come, O Everlasting Spirit**

Come, O everlasting spirit,
bring to every thankful mind
all the Savior's dying merit,
all his sufferings for mankind:

2. True Recorder of his passion,
now the living faith impart,
now reveal his great salvation,
preach his gospel to our heart.

3. Come, O Witness of his dying;
come, Remembrancer divine!
Let us feel your power, applying
Christ to every soul, and mine!
Text- Charles Wesley

Pouring and Passing of the Cup

The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation, ministered to you by the power of the Spirit

" In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying,

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

.Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for you, and be thankful.