



The Eucharistic Revival

The Eucharist, did you know?

How does God's presence continue after the death and resurrection of Jesus?

Paul whose letters are the oldest writings in the New Testament, identifies several ways that Christ continues to be present after his resurrection:

- In the community, which is identified as the new earthly body of Christ and so the place where Jesus continues to reveal God's work of salvation.
- In individual Christians, who through grace (God's life in us) and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit (God's power at work in us) continue Jesus' saving mission.
- In the Eucharistic meal in which the community experiences the unique presence of Jesus who promised to be with us as the bread and wine when we do this action in his memory.

Each gospel also shares the belief in the risen Christ's continuing presence to the community of disciples. Only Luke has the Ascension of the Risen Christ to heaven (Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-11). The other gospels describe Jesus' continuing presence in the community here on earth:

- Matthew: the risen Christ promises to be with the disciples in their mission (28:16-20)
- Mark: angels in the tomb tell the disciples that they will meet Christ in Galilee as he promised (16:7)
- Luke: Christ will be with us hidden in the scriptural word, the Eucharist and in other persons who share our journey (24:13-35)
- John: Jesus will send the Holy Spirit who will continue the presence and work of the absent Jesus (16:5-11). Used with permission from God's Real Presence, by Steve Mueller. Published by Living with Christ. All rights reserved.

