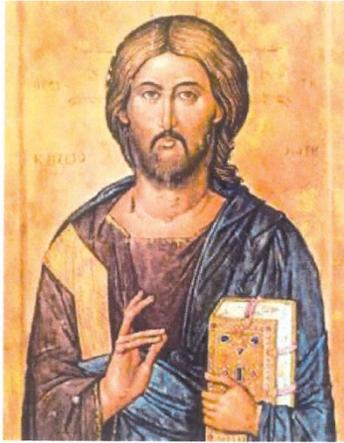


## Dining in the Kingdom:



### A look at meals and Communion in Luke's Gospel.

We will explore a different meal scene from Luke's gospel each week – with online teaching, and a brief handout for reference. My thoughts are based on the book, "dining in the Kingdom of God," by Father Eugene LaVerdiere. (If I quote the text directly, it will be in quotations.) We will see the roots of Holy Communion in each of the meals we visit.

#### Actual words of institution:

#### 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

#### The Institution of the Lord's Supper

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for\* you. Do this in remembrance of me.' <sup>25</sup> In the same way he took the cup also, after supper saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

#### Luke 22:19-20

<sup>19</sup> Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had 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.' <sup>20</sup> And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.'\*

Those words took place in a single moment, but were the summation of Jesus's entire life and ministry.

## **Meal fellowship:**

Sharing meals came first – for the disciples, for the early Christian Community, and for each of us.

## **A story of meals and journeys:**

**A Story of Meals and Journeys** the gospel of Luke tells the story of the eucharist in a story of meals and journeys with Jesus, son of God and Son of Man. Unlike foxes who have dens and the birds of the sky who have nests, Jesus the Son of Man "has nowhere rest his head" (9:58). His entire life is thus one great journey in which meals and simple hospitality play a critical part for him as well as for his followers. Jesus, his disciples, all who would follow later, and the church itself are a people on a journey, a people of hospitality, both offered and received. The eucharist is the supreme expression of that hospitality, sustain them on their journey to the kingdom of God.

– LaVerdiere, p. 9

## **Schedule of Lessons:**

- Week One: (April 1) Luke 5:27-39 - Dinner at the house of Levi
- Week Two: (April 8) Luke 7:36-50 - Dinner at the house of Simon
- Week Three: (April 15) Luke 9:10-17 - 5,000 on a hillside.
- Week Four: (April 22) Luke 10:38-42 - Mary and Martha of Bethany.
- Week Five: (April 29) Luke 22:7-38 - The Last Supper.
- Week Six: (May 6) Luke 24:13-35 - On the road to Emmaus.