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How Did Jesus Want Eucharist?

A Look Back to the Future

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- A new chance for ecumenism
- Results of Biblical research

Israel already ate the bread of life on its way through the desert and raised its wine glass to its liberation in the Holy Land. At the Last Supper with his disciples, Jesus also thought more about life than death: for him, the focus was on the shared meal and eating together – and not on atonement. Accordingly, people gathered for meal celebrations in the early days of Christianity. This is where they experienced the presence of the Resurrected as real. These celebrations had different forms and yet were connected in unity. A look at the Bible shows: The role of women, ministry and ecumenism in the Eucharist must be rethought in modern times. The Biblical roots open new paths to unity within the Church.



About the author

Dr. Ansgar Wucherpfennig SJ has been a Professor of New Testament Exegesis at the Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology in Frankfurt am Main since 2008; from 2014–2020, he was the rector of this graduate school. Among other issues, he is committed to a new sexual morality and the separation of powers within the Church, the voluntary nature of celibacy and the admission of women to the priesthood.

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