

On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight. There were many lamps in the upstairs room where we were meeting. Seated in a window was a young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on. When he was sound asleep, he fell to the ground from the third story and was picked up dead. Paul went down, threw himself on the young man and put his arms around him. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "He's alive!" Then he went upstairs again and broke bread and ate. After talking until daylight, he left. The people took the young man home alive and were greatly comforted.

(Act 20:7-12 NIV)

Dear friends of our Lord and saviour IX: Do you remember: "Where the Lord leads, blessings follow!" Do you understand, what Pastor Engelbrecht was doing?

1. Well, our daily devotion follows that kind of rhythm too – at least the biblical lessons (the Lectionary) follow that pattern and elaborate a certain theme. This week the theme is: **The Lord's Supper**. We've been given several perspectives on this by the lessons of the lectionary:
 - 1.1. Ex.24: Elders & Moses go and eat in the presence of the Lord on Mt. Sinai
 - 1.2. Joh.6: IX is the bread of life and Mk.16: Feeding of 5k
 - 1.3. Ex.16: Feeding with 1. Manna and 2. Quail: Where the Lord leads, blessings follow!
 - 1.4. Joh.15: Being in God and God in us – like Jesus in the Father, we in him...
2. See, the blessed evangelist and gifted Physician the **holy St. Luke** uses this same method of Keywords or topical ideas, we could say pictures or illustrations. The one which fits this weeks topic of the Lord's supper is his "**breaking of bread**" (κλάσαι ἄρτον Act 20:7). He uses this formula 6x in his rendering of IX's gospel and acts of the apostles and with each he gives us another perspective of the Lord's supper i.e. "breaking of the bread".
 - 2.1. Lk.9: 16 **Godly abundance and eschatological feast in the desert...** Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. **They all ate and were satisfied**, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. (Luk 9:16-17 NIV)

- 2.2. Lk.22 **Institution of the Lord's Supper:** And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." (Luk 22:19 NIV)
- 2.3. Lk.24 Emmaus Disciples: **Recognition of IX in the LS:** He gave himself for us into death, so that we would have life. Without IX crucified, we misunderstand him – perhaps as bread king or provider of prosperity. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight...
35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread. (Luk 24:30-35 NIV)
- 2.4. **Ac 2: Notae ecclesia:** Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, (Act 2:46 NIV)
- 2.5. Ac 27 **Salvation from the storm** "After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. (Act 27:35 NIV)
3. Today's reading: Ac 20:7-12 Euthychus and resurrection/eternal life/pharmakon
athanasian: Then he went upstairs again and broke bread and ate. After talking until daylight, he left. (Act 20:11 NIV)³
- 3.1. Life: Jesus is the Bread of life! (Framework: Beginning and end)
- 3.2. Death: On the brink and falling into death!
- 3.3. Great comfort: **I will not blot out his name out of the book of life!** (Watchword: *He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.* (Rev 3:5 KJV)
4. So let's praise God with the holy apostle St.Paul: *Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!* (Rom 11:33 NIV) and follow him in praying: *"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ-- to the glory and praise of God.* (Phi 1:9-11 NIV)

Hymn 619,1-5 *Thy body, given for me, o saviour...*