

# **Eucharistic Homily**

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
7/1/18

Psalm 1 describes the fundamental difference between the righteous and the wicked: the wicked reject God's word in favor of their own "wisdom" while the righteous man delights in God's law and savors it like fine food. He meditates on God's word and puts down roots deep into the soil of Scripture so that he is able to withstand all sorts of hardships and bear fruit in season. It is the word of God, the gospel of Christ, that gives life, sustains the soul, and makes us fruitful.

But we dare not overlook the fact that Jesus has not only given us an audible gospel; He has also provided us with an edible gospel. This New Covenant feast, the Lord's Supper, is no less important than the Scriptures as a source of life, sustenance, and fruitfulness. In John 6, Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him."

There's nothing magical about this bread or this wine, but when we receive the Lord's Supper in faith, the Spirit imparts to us all the benefits of Christ's broken body and shed blood so that we truly commune with our Savior and receive His life, His glory, and His grace. Word and sacrament are an inseparable pair. They are both indispensable means by which God blesses us, nourishes us, and communes with us. Apart from Jesus we can do nothing, but as we abide in Him and He is us (through word and sacrament), His life is formed in us and we bear fruit by the Spirit for His glory.

If you've been baptized into Christ and are seeking to live faithfully and obediently for Him, you are invited to partake of this feast that Jesus has prepared for us. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

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