

# **Eucharistic Homily**

Pentecost

5/20/18

Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost concludes with an amazing promise: "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself."

The promise of God, which we must receive by faith, is that the Spirit of God baptizes us into the body of Christ. The Spirit works through baptism to unite us to Christ. In 1 Cor. 12:13, Paul put it this way: "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, bondservants or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

What sense would it make for God to form the body of Christ by His Spirit through baptism but then do nothing to nourish that body? A body needs sustenance to survive. A body needs to be connected to its head. All the members of the body need to be held together and strengthened. It should come as no surprise then, that the body of Christ which is formed by the Spirit is also nourished and strengthened by the Spirit.

According to Paul, we who were baptized into one body by the Spirit also drink of that same Spirit. Bread and wine are just bread and wine. But the promise of God's word is that the Spirit imparts to us all the blessings of Christ's broken body and shed blood when we receive them by faith. The cup is communion in the blood of Christ, and the bread is communion in the body of Christ.

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.

*Pastor Jimmy Gill  
Christ Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
Live Oak, FL  
[www.crpliveoak.org](http://www.crpliveoak.org)*