EMMAUS INSTITUTE
BIBLICAL STUDIES

'EUCHARIST' AS A THEME THROUGHOUT SACRED SCRIPTURE

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m., February 21 – March 19, 2024
Instructor: Chad Steiner



In Remembrance of Me, by Walter Rane, courtesy Church History Museum

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this five-week course, we'll explore a whole-Bible treatment of the Eucharist—also called (Holy) Communion; a common and central practice throughout Christianity. In the Catholic Church, it is often described as the source and summit of our faith, and the 'real presence' of Christ in our midst. Although the story of Christ's institution of the Eucharist takes place in the New Testament, we will find that the Old Testament already presents the Eucharist as a major theological theme long before Jesus takes the bread, gives thanks, and breaks it. In this course, our aim will be to investigate this theme by looking together at various passages in both the Old and New Testaments that fill up full the significance of the Eucharist as the principle moment of encounter between the human and the divine.

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course aims to help the student:

2.1. Become familiar with various texts in which the theme of Eucharist is developed, and in so doing, become more familiar with the structure of the Bible;

2.2. Expand our biblical vocabulary so that the words of Scripture are less mysterious to us, and so that we'll begin to recognize those very words as they come up in the Mass and interact with them more deeply;

2.3. Discover how the Old and New Testaments are *essential* for understanding the fullness of the Eucharist;

2.4. Become familiar with different genres of biblical texts and the ways they communicate meaning;

2.5. Develop a passion for the study of Sacred Scripture as an act of worship, consistent with the Church's existence as a *listening* community of those who hear and honor the voice speaking in Scripture and who recognize themselves as those who are addressed in its pages;

2.6. Develop a Christological radar calibrated to identify Jesus' influence—even at times, his presence—in texts that may not mention his name, so as to cultivate our ability to discern him in something that does not look like his body;

3. COURSE TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS

Sacred Scripture, the Bible (preferably RSVCE 2nd edition or ESVCE)
Instructor's notes (provided and included in the registration cost)

4. COURSE SCHEDULE AND SUGGESTED READINGS

SESSION | DAY		TOPIC/PASSAGE	SUGGESTED READING
1	9/8	Part 1: Mapping out our Study Part 2: The Eucharist in Genesis	Genesis 6-8 (esp. 8:20-22); 12:1–9; 13:1-4, 14-18; 14:17-24; 22:1-19
2	9/15	The Eucharist in Exodus and Leviticus	Exodus 12:1-51; 16:1-36; 25:23-30; Leviticus 1:1-17; 22:33-24:9
3	9/22	The Eucharist in other OT Passages	Psalms 22-24, 116; Deuteronomy 12:4-7; Isaiah 25:6; 55:1-3; 65:11-13; Malachi 1:11; Proverbs 9:1-6
4	9/29	The Eucharist in the Gospels: The Last Supper as New Passover	Matthew 26:17-30; 27:32-54; Mark 14:12-25; 15:21-41; Luke 22:7-23; 23:26-49; John 19:17-37
5	10/6	The Eucharist in other NT Passages [The Scriptures in the Mass]	Luke 24//Genesis 3 1 Corinthians 11//Matthew 27//Acts 1 [Prayer(s) of Consecration]

5. CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

Chad Steiner
o. (402) 327-1671
c. (402) 570-5776
csteiner@emmausinstitute.net
Office hours: By appointment