

**Presence in the Breaking of the Bread**    Wednesday in the Easter Octave    March 30, 2016  
8:15 AM    Acts 3:1-10;    **Lk 25:13-35**    (It's important that we get a sense that there is an abiding presence within the body of believers, that the work of Jesus continues albeit in a new way.)

**“Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.”**

This was a long walk, and it took a long time for him to explain all that referred to him. Now the “him” is not Jesus. There is no Jesus in the stories about Moses or any of the Old Testament. **What “him” refers to is Yahweh, Yahweh, the God who enters into human experience out of the blue, so to speak, as it were through a veil, coming and going unexpectedly.** That's Yahweh.

Now in the story of Gideon, Yahweh doesn't actually appear, but an angel appears, but Yahweh speaks. And even after the angel disappears, Yahweh continues to speak and Gideon hears him. Here we have Jesus in the flesh, as it were, but not recognizable. So this is a manifestation something like an angel. It's not your everyday person. And as Jesus engages with them, they feel his presence. Their hearts are contacted, but their minds are not clear. **In the breaking of the bread suddenly they do see; they recognize who he is, but he disappears just like the angel at the time of Gideon.** But there's something that remains in the breaking of the bread, a sense of presence, just like Yahweh continued to speak to Gideon after the angel disappeared. **Now as the resurrected Christ disappears, yet he remains in a sacrament, in the breaking of the bread.**

Now it was Luke who originally said, through the angel Gabriel, **“He shall be called Son of the Most High.” That of course is one of the titles of Yahweh.** So this is coming full circle from the Annunciation. He is now identifying himself in his resurrection, letting people see who

he really is, and giving us a sense of his presence in the breaking of the bread. **So the Church nourishes itself with this sense of Jesus' abiding resurrected presence in the breaking the bread.** The evangelists had different ways of talking about this mysterious event: the resurrection of Christ. But **it's important that we get a sense that there is an abiding presence within the body of believers,** that the work of Jesus continues albeit in a new way. In fact, he feeds his flock, **he feeds his disciples with the very substance of his own life so that they can continue the work he began.** That's the very idea of the Acts of the Apostles: the work of Jesus continues. This is the very idea that Luke is introducing here that he continues in the Acts of the Apostles. That of course was the first reading. **So we continue with the Eucharist and hopefully our eyes will be opened.**