

Adult Faith Formation  
Lent – Year A – 2023  
The History & Development of the Mass

Week – 1: The Passover Seder and the Origin of the Mass

Passover

- 15<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan (first month of spring)
- Seder Supper: eve of the 15<sup>th</sup> day (2023: April 6)
- Seder carries out the Mitzvot of Ex. 13:8
- Order of the supper comes from the Haggadah
  - Kiddush
  - Urchatz
  - Karpas
  - Yachatz
  - Maggid
  - Rach'tzah
  - Motzi
  - Matzah
  - Maror
  - Koreich
  - Shulchan
  - Tzafun
  - Bareich
  - Hallel
  - Nirtzah
- 4 cups of wine (Ex. 6: 6-7)
  - 1) Kiddush: cup of sanctification (“I will bring out”)
  - 2) Maggid: cup of blessing over the story teller (“I will deliver”)
  - 3) Birkat Hamazon: cup of redemption (“I will redeem”)
  - 4) Hallel: cup of praise and thanksgiving (“I will take”)

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The Early Christian Church (First Century CE)

Fundamental acts of worship from direct commands of Jesus: Eucharist; rites of Sacraments;  
Prayers in community; liturgical sermon...all taken from Jewish practice.

Jewish Tradition

- 1) Service of the Word (from Sabbath morning service) 2 lessons, Psalm, prayers, sermon
  - 2) structure of Eucharistic Prayer (from Hymn of Praise at conclusion of Sabbath morning service)
  - 3) Intercessory Prayer (from 18 Benedictions that open the Sabbath morning service)
  - 4) Day of Worship on Sabbath (transf. to Sunday) and festival days such as Easter,
- Pentecost
- 5) Cult of Martyrs
  - 6) simple Prayer format of the Hours

- 7) custom of concluding prayer with doxology or ascription of praise
- 8) Tersanctus: Hymn of the Seraphim (Isaiah 6:3)
- 9) congregational responses and acclamations
- 10) paradigmatic prayer: appealing to God by recalling his mighty acts
- 11) laying on of hands

Graeco-Roman Tradition (predominantly Gentile congregations)

- 1) Christian Rite of Initiation (baptism with exorcism and anointing)
- 2) Rite of baptism at Easter Vigil
- 3) “disciplina arcana” secrecy of sacred formulae
- 4) formulae of prayers conform to Greek laws of rhetoric and symmetry
- 5) turning east for prayer
- 6) liturgical technical terms
- 7) formulae such as litany/acclamations such as “world without end”

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First-Century Church

2 forms of worship:

Service of the Word (Sabbath to Sunday) early morning

Agape meal: Friday evenings (celebration of Eucharist within context of full meal)

Second-Century Church

Eucharista and Service of the Word joined into one service

Language still Greek

Extemporaneous Eucharistic Prayer by bishop or leader of congregation

Justin Martyr “Apology” (155-157 CE)

Jesus Christ as the Logos

Defense of Christians to the Emperor

Baptism

Transubstantiation

Weekly worship by Christian communities

Third-Century Church

/Pre-World War II/ Leonine Sacramentary considered oldest liturgical book

1910-1916 discovery of the writings of Hippolytus

“Apostolic Tradition”(220 CE)

Eucharistic Prayer format given and put an end to extemporaneous Prayer: 2 formulae given: one for the Rite of Baptism; and one for consecration of a bishop

Baptism

Baptism of infants and children as well as converts

Not Trinitarian but in the name of the Lord

Anointing with oil to indicate the Holy Spirit

Mystagogy for new Christians

Anaphora: Eucharistic Prayer for the Consecration of a bishop

Basis for contemporary Eucharistic Prayer II

No Sanctus or Trisagion

Epiclesis does not totally affirm transubstantiation (Fourth Council of The Lateran 1215)

### Anaphora

- 1) gifts brought forward and blessed
- 2) Preface: Sursum corda
- 3) Thanksgiving: Eucharista
- 4) Words of Institution
- 5) Anamnesis and Oblation
- 6) Epiclesis
- 7) Doxology.....per ipsum
- 8) Bread is broken and distributed
- 9) Consecrated chalice given to people
- 10) Extra chalices at Easter Vigil for newly baptized: one of milk and honey; and one of water

### Evening Agape Ceremony

- Ceremony of bringing in lighted lamps
- Special prayer of blessing said over the lamps. This custom led to the "Lumen Christi" of the Easter Vigil