



Agenda

- ☆ At the time of Jesus
- ☆ Soon after Jesus
- ☆ Longer after Jesus
- ☆ What this means for us today
- ☆ What's next?

At the time of Jesus

- Began in the Jewish faith
- Continue Jewish law and add to it
- Simple Baptism, maybe in a river
- Simple Eucharist meal with emphasis on bread and wine



Soon after Jesus

- Steeped in Jewish tradition
- Desire to escape some of Jewish law (e.g. circumcision and food)
- Desire to hold to some of Jewish law (e.g. morality and monotheism)
- Simple Baptism and admission to special Eucharistic meal

Longer after Jesus

- No contact with Judaism
- Worship on the first day of the week, split into service of the Word and service of the Table
- Co-existent with polytheistic cultures
- Membership began with catechumenate (2 year process)
- Initiation rite of Baptism began 3 ½ weeks before Easter
- Catechumenate intensified prior to Easter Vigil service of Baptism
- Elaborate initiation consisting of exorcism, confession of faith, Baptism, and chrismation
- Significance of rite was explained after completion

What does this mean for us today?



The *content of our faith* has remained relatively static

How does this inform us of our process of membership today?



***Intercessory prayers* have been around since inception**

Are we still of a belief that we are part of a priesthood of all believers?



How has the church's *understanding* of Baptism and Eucharist changed?

What's up next?

How did the Reformation change our theology and understanding?

How do Scriptures inform our understanding of Baptism and Eucharist?
