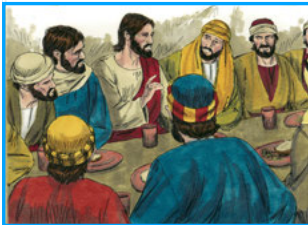


What is the Eucharist?

The word 'Eucharist' comes from a Greek word meaning 'thanksgiving' and refers to both the Last Supper when Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples and the modern practice in churches today of sharing bread and wine in remembrance of the Last Supper. Depending on what kind of church a Christian belongs to, the Eucharist might also be called Holy Communion, the Sacrament of the Table, The Lord's Supper, or the Blessed Sacrament.

What happened at the Last Supper?

When Jesus knew that he was going to be put to death, he gathered his disciples together for a special meal so he could explain to them what was



happening. He shared bread with them and told them that the bread was his body. He drank wine with them and said that the wine was his blood which was to be spilt so that mankind could be forgiven. He was trying to show that he was giving his body and his blood so that all the sins that man committed would be forgiven by God.

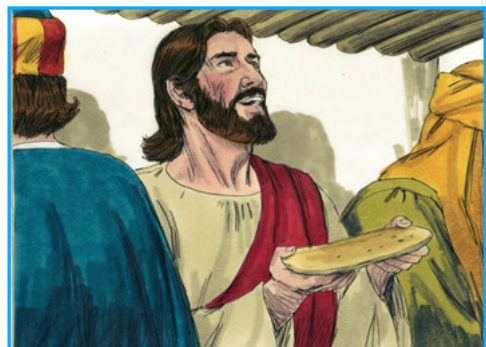
What happens during the Eucharist today?

In churches today, Christians share bread and wine together as a community. In some churches, the congregation walks up to the front of the church to be fed the bread and wine by the priest or minister. In other churches, people hand out the bread and wine to the congregation while they are sitting so everyone can eat and drink together. Prayers are said before the bread and wine is consumed.



Why do Christians celebrate the Eucharist?

During the Last Supper, Jesus told his disciples that they should copy his example and share bread and wine together in remembrance of him. This has carried on in churches today. Some denominations believe that the bread and wine physically turn into the body and blood of Christ once they have been eaten. Other denominations believe that the bread and wine are just symbolic. Either way, the Eucharist reminds Christians that Jesus had to die for their sins and shows that they accept Him into their lives as their Lord and Saviour.



Name: _____ Date: _____



What does the word 'Eucharist' mean?

What other names for the Eucharist are there?



What does the bread in the Eucharist represent?



What does the wine in the Eucharist represent?



What happens during the Eucharist in churches?



Why do Christians celebrate the Eucharist today?



What does the Eucharist remind Christians of?

