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organised by the Department for the Study of Ancient and Medieval Thought in cooperation with the Centre for Medieval Studies and the Centre for Classical Studies (Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences).



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# Prozymites and Utraquists at the Council of Basel: Hermann Zoest and the Quarrel over Unleavened Bread

June 21, 2022, 2 PM CET

Academic Conference Centre  
Husova 4a  
11000 Prague

and on ZOOM

### Abstract:

From the execution of a dozen monks in Nicosia in 1231 to the quasi mooning of the Latin Eucharist in Nicosia in the presence of John-Jerome of Prague in 1430, the quarrel over leavened and unleavened bread in the Sacrament of the Altar was the most heated of the religious disagreements between Greeks and Latins. One of the three big doctrinal issues dividing East and West since 1054, along with the Filioque and papal primacy, to be joined by purgatory after 1231, the subject of Eucharistic bread was on the agenda at the Council of Basel shortly after John-Jerome's return from the East. In preparation for discussions with the Byzantines at Basel, the Cistercian Hermann Zoest took it upon himself to investigate the type of bread that Jesus broke at the Last Supper more thoroughly than anyone else had done until his time, composing in 1436 his *De fermento et azimo*, the critical edition of which is only now being printed. His shocking conclusions could not be implemented at a time when the Hussite Utraquists had their own Eucharistic demands at Basel and Pope Eugene IV had called a rival Council at Ferrera and then Florence.

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