

Worship & Liturgy

WORSHIP-What is it?

- A _____ of faith for everything we do
- For Lutherans, worship stands at the _____ of our life of faith, Through God's word, water, bread and prayer we are nurtured in faith and sent out into the world.
- Worship _____ us in the presence of God when the word is read/taught and the sacraments-both Holy Baptism and Holy Communion-are celebrated.
- There is also a basic pattern:

We _____

We encounter _____ word

We share a _____ at the Lord's table.

And we are _____ into the world.

- Worship is fundamentally about what _____ has done/is doing and our response to God's action. Worship is an encounter with God, who saves us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Worship in the Christian assembly is _____. From ancient times the church has read publicly from the Old and New Testaments and has drawn upon the scriptures to shape the whole of worship. Biblical language and imagery have historically been adapted and shaped to form the language through which God's people pray, sing and address both God and one another. (From ELW p. 1154)
- Faith is _____ (something people do together)...so is worship

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

- **Leviticus**-provides guidelines for worship while God's people wandered in the wilderness and once they entered the promised land in which they would settle
- **King Solomon** (1 Kings, 1 Chronicles) builds a Temple for people to gather for worship and sacrificing to the Lord
- **Prophets**-warn God's people against praising God on the Sabbath and then acting unethically toward their neighbor every other day
- **Luke 4:14-21**-Jesus serves as the guest preacher in a synagogue, where people who lived far away from the Temple would gather on the Sabbath for worship
- **Acts 2:40-47** Believers came together around Jesus' apostles' teaching, prayers and the breaking of bread

ORDER FOR WORSHIP (ELW p. 92-93)

Gathering → Word → Meal → Sending

Worship is ACTIVE. Worship engages our SENSES. Worship is not a PERFORMANCE or ENTERTAINMENT but it is an EXPERIENCE of God's presence and all of God's gifts to us.

FOR SMALL GROUP TIME:

1. Worship is an experience full of action. Look through each part of the worship booklet in front of you.
What happens at each point in the worship? (ex. Standing, sitting, singing, movement of some kind)
Who is doing things at each point in worship? (ex. Choir, pastor, people, lector, acolyte)
2. What parts of worship most powerfully remind **you** about God's gifts of love and forgiveness for **you**?
3. Based on what you experience in worship, what are we "sent" from worship to do in our daily lives?