

Christ-Centered Worship



Jesus is at the center of liturgical worship. Some parts of the liturgy stay the same each Sunday. This is to make sure that Jesus is proclaimed and praised during every service. Some parts of the liturgy change every week. These changes are based on the appointed calendar of the church. This calendar makes sure that we cover the important events and teachings of Jesus every year.

➔ What are the parts of the liturgy?

1. INVOCATION

Each service begins “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” These are the words spoken at your baptism. They show that we enter God’s presence to worship him because

➔ 2..CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION ➔

In each service we humbly confess our sins to God and then gladly hear his proclamation that each one of them has been forgiven. It’s included in every service because we can never hear those amazing, com-

3. SONG OF PRAISE

In response to the forgiveness so freely to us, we join our voices in a song of praise to God.

4. PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray the appointed prayer for that Sunday of the church year. The prayer fits the theme for the day.

➔ 5. FIRST LESSON ➔

The first lesson is usually taken from the Old Testament. Many times we will hear about a prophecy that was fulfilled by Christ in the Gospel lesson for the day.

6. PSALM OF THE DAY

For 3,000 years believers have worshiped God by singing and reciting psalms.

7. SECOND LESSON

The second lesson is usually taken from the Epistles—the part of the New Testament after the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Typically they apply God’s Word specifically to the believer’s life.

➔ 8. THE GOSPEL ➔

The entire service revolves around the Gospel lesson. We stand to hear the words of Christ our King, just like people stood in the presence of royalty in ancient times.

9. SERMON

The pastor preaches a message based on one of the lessons or the gospel for the day. The sermon teaches how God’s word applies to our Christian life.

10. CNFESSION OF FAITH

We proclaim what we believe—what the Christian Church has always believed. To do that we use the words of the Nicene and Apostles’ Creeds—both of which have been used in the Christian

➔ 11. PRAYER OF THE CHURCH ➔

We join to pray to God about specific joys and troubles in our church and in the Church around the world. This is followed by the Lord’s Prayer.

12. LORD’S SUPPER*

BENEDICTION

We receive the same blessing spoken over God’s people for 3500 years. (See Numbers 6:27)

* Offered the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month. We receive Jesus’ true