

The Divine Service

November 8
Historical Introduction to the Divine Service
A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

How would you describe our worship style?

What do we mean by the *Divine Service*?

"The name for the regular, weekly service that includes the celebration of the Lord's Supper." – *The Explanation of the Small Catechism*

"So the worship and divine service of the Gospel is to receive gifts from God." – *The Apology of the Augsburg Confession*

"In the Divine Service, God is providing His Service for us. In the reading, the preaching, and the proclamation of His Word and in His Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, God comes to us. In worship, God gives His grace, and then we respond with thanks and praise." – *Worshipping with Angels and Archangels: An Introduction to the Divine Service*

"Our Lord serves us today through His holy Word and Sacraments. Through these means He comes among us to deliver His forgiveness and salvation, freeing us from our sins and strengthening us for service to one another." – *Lutheran Service Book*

The Preparation

- Opening Hymn
- Invocation
- Confession
- Absolution

Service of the Word

- Introit
- Kyrie
- Hymn of Praise
- Salutation and Collect of the Day
- Old Testament and Epistle
- Holy Gospel
- Hymn of the Day
- Sermon
- Creed
- Prayer of the Church
- Offertory

Service of the Sacrament

Preface
Sanctus
Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Words of Our Lord
Lord's Prayer
Pax Domini
Agnus Dei
Distribution
Post-Communion Canticle and Collect
Benediction
Closing Hymn

What is the liturgy?

Where does this order come from?

Numbers 6:24-26 The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Matthew 18:20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

John 20:23 If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.

Luke 2:14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

Acts 2:42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

1 Timothy 4:13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

Didache, AD 70-100

"On the Lord's own day gather together and break bread and give thanks, having first confessed your sins so that your sacrifice may be pure."

Clement of Rome, AD 96

"Continue to gather together in one faith and one Jesus Christ, breaking one bread, which is the medicine of immortality, the antidote we take in order not to die but to live forever in Jesus."

The First Apology by St. Justin Martyr AD 165

Lengthy continuous Scripture readings from the Old Testament and New Testament
Preaching by the presider
General prayers
Greetings with the kiss of peace
Bread with a cup of wine brought to the presider
Eucharistic prayer with congregational Amen
The Words of Institution
Distribution to those present, with elements also carried to the absent
Offerings brought to the presider for distribution to the needy in the congregation

The Anaphora of St. John Chrysostom AD 347-407

The priest says: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of the God and Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
People: And with your spirit.
Priest: Let us lift up our hearts.
People: We have them with the Lord.
Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord.
People: It is fitting and right to worship the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the consubstantial and undivided Trinity.

Other Early Documents with Complete Liturgies

Apostolic Tradition by Hippolytus of Rome AD 165
The Rite of Addai and Mari Third Century

Do the traditions of the Church Fathers matter?

1 Corinthians 11:2 Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you.

2 Thessalonians 2:15 So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

"Tradition means giving votes to the most obscure of all classes, our ancestors. It is the democracy of the dead." - G.K. Chesterton

"Therefore with angels and archangels and will all the company of heaven…" *-The Preface*

In what ways should the Church adapt our liturgy in the 21st Century?