

# LIVING THE LITURGY: THE WORK OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8 (NIV)

# LIVING THE LITURGY: THE WORK OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

Worthily magnify your holy name: What God Requires

Delight in your will: Loving Mercy

He won for you a holy people: Acting Justly

Go forth in peace: Walking Humbly

## LIVING LITURGY: THE WORD

We come to hear from God (not just about God)

Dynamic of dialogue: revelation and response

The Spirit of the Word

- Attentiveness
- Participation
- Expectation

# LIVING THE LITURGY - SILENCE

## LIVING THE LITURGY - CONFESSION/ABSOLUTION

Without confession we lose a "counter-formative aspect of the gospel that pushes back on secular liturgies of self-confidence that, all week long, are implicitly teaching you to "believe in yourself" – false gospels of self assertion that refuse grace." (Smith, You Are What You Love, 97)

Without the pronouncement of forgiveness, our lives, exposed and raw, are stuck in a kind of spiritual ellipsis of waiting for the text that never comes . . .

# LIVING THE LITURGY - CONFESSION/ABSOLUTION

The practice of confession and absolution together form us to be people who love mercy, because we are wonderfully put in our place as recipients of mercy

#### LIVING THE LITURGY – A WORD ABOUT BAPTISM

"The community inquires whether those who join are willing to have their worldviews and lives changed. The community passes on the words of the faith. The community prays with those who are joining, passing on thereby the pattern of prayer. Then the candidates are washed, and the washing is greater than anything the teaching could say. It is a great leveler. The learned are welcome and so are the unlearned." (Lathrop, Holy Things, 60)

## LIVING THE LITURGY – A WORD ABOUT BAPTISM

"while it may occur in a moment in time, [baptism] is a state of *continual being*" (Webber, *Divine Embrace* 153)

"Baptism is instead a life-changing covenant, a *call* to live deeply into the pattern of death and resurrection in every area of life." (Webber, *Divine Embrace*, 183)

How do we live that call?

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help

Celebrant Will you strive to safeguard the sanctity of God's creation and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the earth?

People I will, with God's help

**Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada** 

## LIVING THE LITURGY – A WORD ABOUT BAPTISM

"Sins are forgiven – so how shall we live with one another? We are incorporated into Christi's body on earth – so how can we show that we belong to him? We have union with Jesus' work – so how can we be Christ for a broken and starving and death-bent world? We have received the gift of the Holy Spirit – so how shall those gifts for ministry and all fruits of the Spirit be manifested in our lives? We have been born anew - so how shall we grow toward maturity and into the full stature of the humanity of Christ? (Saliers, Worship and Spirituality, 50

# LIVING THE LITURGY - PRAYERS



#### WRITING A COLLECT

- A prayer of assembly or gathering
  - 1. Address (names God)
  - 2. Acknowledgement (tells what God does)
  - 3. Appeal (makes a request)
  - Aspiration (result clause or hoped for outcome usually begins with "that")
  - 5. (closing)

You/Who/Do/To

- 1. Almighty Father,
- 2. who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:
- 3. give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
- 4. that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
- and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
- 5. through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

- 1. God of glory,
- 2. by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell:
- 3. fill your Church with faith and hope;
- 4. for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open
- 5. in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

#### WRITING A COLLECT EXERCISE

- Use a metaphor or title for God that is not your default
- (hint use adjectives, or a passage of Scripture)
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You/Who/Do/To