

Sanctus

Lenten Checklist

Ash Wednesday is February 17, and as we enter the season of Lent, it's a good time to make those liturgical adjustments to focus us on our penitential journey to the font and the empty tomb of Easter morning. Here's a list of things to consider as you plan your Lenten liturgies:

The Color Purple

The color purple is used throughout Lent (except during Holy Week).

The color reminds us that the crucified One is our King and calls us to repentance.

Omit the Alleluias

Check hymns, anthems and liturgical pieces to make sure the Alleluias are gone.

Farewell to the Alleluia

A good way to end the liturgy on Transfiguration Sunday.

See below for a Farewell to the Alleluia rite.

Omit Processions

Processions are a festive element in the liturgy.

Omitting them observes the more solemn tone of Lent.

Silence

Provide more time of silence for individual reflection and meditation.

Times of silence may be used during the Rite of Confession and Forgiveness, the intercessory prayers, following readings and the sermon, and during distribution of Holy Communion.

Rite of Confession and Forgiveness

Include the rite each Sunday.

You may use the seasonal rite from *Sundays and Seasons* or an amended form of the Ash Wednesday rite. Be sure to allow for longer periods of silence.

Save the words of absolution (As a called and ordained minister ...) for the Maundy Thursday liturgy to underscore the entire season of Lent as a time of repentance.

Use the Kyrie; omit the Hymn of Praise

In the Gathering Rite, the Hymn of Praise – a festive element – may be omitted.

Announce the Peace

You might consider announcing but not sharing the Peace during Lent.

While not announcing absolution underscores the brokenness of our relationship with God, not sharing the peace underscores the brokenness of our relationship with one another. The Peace is shared again by the assembly at the Maundy Thursday liturgy.

Time to Purchase

Order the palms for Passion Sunday and the paschal candle for the Vigil

+ Farewell to the Alleluia +

On Transfiguration Sunday the church bids farewell to the alleluia. Normally, the next time the assembly gathers is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Here are a couple of ideas for saying farewell to the alleluia.

Use the Children's Sermon time to "bury the alleluia." If you can, have the Sunday School classes make alleluia drawings – either earlier that morning or the previous week. You could roll out some newsprint in Sunday School and let the kids draw and color alleluias all over it. Then in the Children's Sermon, put all the drawings (or large newsprint, folded up) into a box and seal it. Tell the kids you are going to "bury" it someplace in the worship space, and on Easter morning they can hunt for it and open it up. You could sing one of the alleluias from *ELW* – 168-175.

At the end of the day's liturgy, following the blessing, you could use the following Farewell:

- P We are an Easter people. **C And Alleluia is our song.**
- P Alleluia! Alleluia! **C Alleluia! Alleluia!**
- P The author of Ecclesiastes writes:
For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.
- A A time to be born and a time to die.
C A time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted.
- A A time to break down and a time to build up.
C A time to weep and a time to laugh.
- A A time to mourn and a time to dance.
C A time to keep silence and a time to speak.
- P As a sign of our repentance, we now say Farewell to the Alleluia
until our rejoicing at the resurrection of our Lord.

Hymn 318 (*ELW*) – "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" is sung during the recessional.

After the hymn:

- A How good it is for us to be here.
C Amen! Alleluia!
- A And we have seen the glory of the Lord.
C And we are all being transformed from one degree of glory to another.
- A It is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, so go in peace and courage
to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
C Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Evangelical Lutheran

Worship

New publications:

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Occasional Services for the Assembly, (second volume of material called “occasional services”; volume one is *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Pastoral Care* – see below) **Item No:** 9780806696355

Includes occasional services related to the life of the Christian community, for use throughout the church (congregation, institution, synod, churchwide) within assembly worship. The proposed materials include services related primarily to the congregation's life and mission (such as the installation of a congregation council) and orders related to the church's ministries especially as carried out by rostered leaders (such as ordination). This volume will be published in a larger format suitable for use in public worship. Some overlap of contents between the two volumes is envisioned. You may view the table of contents by going to the ELCA worship page, then scrolling down and clicking on “download the synod resources”.

Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days **Item No:** 9780806670416

This guidebook includes insights, images and practical tips to help deepen your congregation's worship life during the days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Resources include reflective commentary on the Lenten and Holy Week services from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, images and ideas for preaching and preparing meaningful worship on these days, practical and creative suggestions for engaging all the senses in worship through art and environment, and helps for using music in the worship services.

Music Sourcebook for Lent and the Three Days **Item No:** 9780806670409

An essential companion resource to the Worship Guidebook above, this collection expands the repertoire of resources for the song of the assembly and its leaders during the days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Most materials are newly composed in a broad range of styles. Included also are time-tested music selections from a variety of other sources and publishers. There are over 100 songs and responses. Most selections are reproducible, and an enclosed CD-ROM includes assembly parts.

Because of production delays, the Music Sourcebook for Lent and the Three Days will not be in purchasers' hands until after Ash Wednesday. **Therefore, sample files of music for Ash Wednesday and the Sundays in Lent will be posted on the Music Sourcebook page at Augsburg Fortress by February 5, 2010, and may be reproduced for congregational use during the upcoming Lenten season.** Order the Music Sourcebook by March 8 to be assured of receiving it before Holy Week and the Three Days begin.

What's on the calendar:

A Still More Excellent Way: *Contemporary Music, Luther, and the Future of the Church*

Participants at the Worship for Mission Event – A Still More Excellent Way: Contemporary Music, Luther, and the Future of the Church – will get deeper into the second principle of worship, Music and the Christian Assembly (from *Principles of Worship*). Participants will investigate the role of music in worship and how Lutherans can experience and enjoy a variety of styles. They will experience worship that is both liturgical and lifts up different styles of music. Workshop topics include:

“*Contemporary and Lutheran: The Next Steps*”

“*Foundations for Building a Contemporary Repertoire*”

“*Using Technology*”

“*Principles of Worship: Music*”

“*Options for Liturgical Planning*”

There are two opportunities to attend this Worship for Mission Event:

- March 13, 2010, at Faith in Jeffersonville, Indiana
To register, visit <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=815538>
- April 24, 2010, at Holy Trinity in Lafayette, Indiana
To register, visit <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=812215>

These two opportunities are intended for any member of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod who is interested in learning more about Evangelical Lutheran Worship and participating in conversations about worship renewal in the life of a congregation or ministry site.

February 16

Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis

Saltsburg Worship Workshop

Presenter: John Bell

Information: www.cts.edu/events

“Singing with the Global Church: The Gift of Music from Other Cultures”

April 12-14

Institute of Liturgical Studies

“All of Us Go Down to the Dust: Worship Life at the Time of Death”

Valparaiso University, Indiana

Information: www.valpo.edu/ils

April 20-22

Academy of Parish Clergy 2010 Conference

“Have You Been to the Tomb Lately?” with Dr. Craig Satterlee

Siena Center, Racine, WI

For more information visit www.apclergy.org

June 16-20

The Festival of Liturgical Arts of the Western Reserve

Hudson, Ohio

For more information and on-line registration go to www.flawr.org

July 29 – August 1

North American Association for the Catechumenate (NAAC)

Delray Beach, Florida

For more information, go to www.catechumenate.org