

Narrated Eucharist
Christ Church Vero Beach
October 18, 2020
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Liturgy (leitourgia) action or work of the people. “It meant an action by which a group of people become something corporately which they had not been as a mere collection of individuals – a whole greater than the sum of its parts.” (Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World*, p. 25)

“The liturgy of the Eucharist is best understood as a journey or procession. It is the journey of the Church into the dimension of the Kingdom.” (Schmemmann, p. 27)

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RENEWED ANCIENT TEXT
Book of Common Prayer 2019

THE PROCESSION

The cross leads the procession as it is a tangible reminder that we have come to worship the Lord. He is the object of our worship. The Scripture follows as it is His Word to guide us in worship and life.

The celebrant and altar party come, clothed for the journey in vestments, and reverence at the altar. The altar is the doorway into our reconciled relationship with the living God. Through the sacrifice of Christ, we are welcomed into the presence of God.

“Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

And blessed be His Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen. (BCP 2019, p. 123)

The destination of our journey is that of the Kingdom. We are leaving the fallen world on a journey to the holy of holies and an encounter with our God. We are following Christ into the throne room of God to sup with Him there.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, (p.124)

We begin with the recognition that we are not fit for worship apart from the grace of God the Holy Spirit to cleanse us and fit us for the task.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God... (p.124)

The Summary of the Law reminds us of God’s call to those who would follow Him to love Him and to love others.

THE KYRIE AND THE GLORIA

Lord have mercy upon us... (p. 124)

Glory to God in the highest... (p. 125)

The Kyrie declares our need for God's mercy and the Gloria calls us to join in the angelic praise of the One who has come to bring us mercy and grace – The Lord Jesus Christ

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you

And with your spirit. (p. 125)

The Collect of the Day serves to “collect” or unite our hearts and minds around a theme for the day's worship. This theme will be brought to our hearts and minds through the readings and the sermon.

THE LESSONS

The reading of Old Testament, Psalm, New Testament, and Gospel passages are read as a way to declare the will of God from the Word of God to the people of God. The Word is to guide and shape our lives, so that we might live to the glory of God.

THE SERMON

The priest, fulfilling his role as Christ's representative speaks the Word, as he seeks to bring context and understanding of the biblical theme and to make application for how to live out the truth of God's will in our current circumstance and culture.

“The proclamation of the Word is a sacramental act par excellence because it is a transforming act. It transforms the human words of the Gospel into the Word of God and the manifestation of the Kingdom.” (Schmemmann, p. 33)

THE NICENE CREED

Having heard the Word proclaimed and applied we join with the Church throughout the millennia to declare what we believe. The Nicene Creed is a summary of our Trinitarian faith.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people having worshipped God for who He is; and heard from God concerning His will for them; and then declaring their faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; now lay before the Lord their request and concerns in faith, knowing only He can act in these circumstances and bring about good.

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28, ESV)

THE CONFESSION, ABSOLUTION, AND PEACE

The people of God, in response to God's Word and in preparation for God's Table, examine their hearts and confess their sins. They confess both sins of commission and omission against a holy God and the failures to love others.

The priest, acting as Christ's representative, declares to the people their absolution. He does this by the authority of Christ and based on his finished work of redemption.

Having received God's forgiveness for sin we now turn to and extend peace to one another. We do this prior to coming to the altar, so that we all being at peace with God and one another can receive the sacrament in joy.

“So if you are offering a gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24, ESV)

THE SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

“It is the ascension of the Church t heaven.” (Schmemmann, p.37)

THE SANCTUS

We now, as part of the heavenly chorus of praise join our voices to proclaim glory to the Name of God.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
(BCP., p. 132)

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

...Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit t be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. (BCP, p.134)

[REAL PRESENCE]

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in Heaven... (BCP., p.134)

THE FRACTION

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. [PASSOVER LAMB]

Therefore let us keep the feast. (BCP., p. 135)

THE AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world

Have mercy on us. (BCP., p. 136)

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. (BCP., p. 136)

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [MANNA]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation [FOURTH CUP]

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

And for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.

And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

...the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen. (BCP., p. 136)

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.