

LAST THINGS

Liturgy, Duties, Preparing for the Supper, Generosity



PRAYER

O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

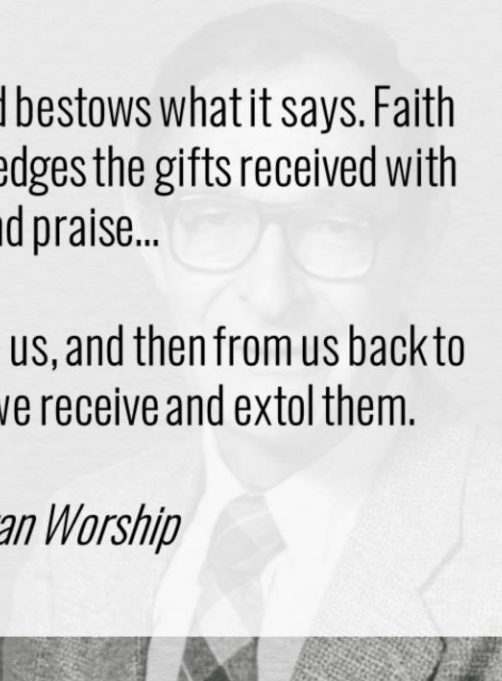
Collect for Trinity 16



NORMAN NAGEL

1925–2019



A faint, grayscale portrait of Norman MacLellan, an older man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, is visible in the background of the text area.

Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise...

NORMAN

MACLELLAN
The rhythm of our worship is from him to us, and then from us back to him. He gives his gifts, and together we receive and extol them.

1925-2019

“Introduction,” *Lutheran Worship*

Session 6: Bible

Fellowship | Acts 2:42–47 (p. 1082)

Examination | 1 Corinthians 10:14–22; 11:17–34 (p. 1138, 1139)

Anxiety | Matthew 6:24–34 (p. 964–965)

Generosity | 2 Corinthians 9:10–15 (p. 1150)



Session 6: Catechism

Martin Luther's Small and Large Catechisms

p. 67–73, 76–81

Didache

p. 1–10



Session 6: Hymnal

Divine Service | LSB 161–166

Settings | LSB 151, 167, 184, 204, 213

Daily Prayer | LSB 294–304

Other Prayers | LSB 305–318

Catechism | LSB 321–330

Prayers for Worship | LSB Front Cover

Confirmation | LSB 272–274



LITURGY & WORSHIP

God's Gifts





1. Liturgy & Worship

- a. Worship is not primarily about our activity for God, but God's gracious activity toward us.
 - i. The term "liturgy" derives from the Greek word *leitourgia*, which means "a service rendered on behalf of the people."
 - ii. Christian liturgy is the vehicle by which Christ's sacrifice for the life of the world is delivered to His people.
 - iii. Worship is primarily sacramental, where God delivers His good gifts through His Word, by a return to Baptism, and the distribution of His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.
 - iv. Only after receiving the gifts God, which renew and enliven us, do we respond with sacrifices of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

THE DIVINE SERVICE



1. Liturgy & Worship
 - a. Worship is not primarily about our activity for God, but God's gracious activity toward us.
 - b. The Divine Service brings us into the narrative arc of the life of Jesus.
 - i. The five pillars of the Divine Service - Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, Sanctus, Agnus Dei - move us from our need for a Savior through the Incarnation to the cross.
 - ii. We become participants in the story of Jesus through worship in the historic pattern.

ceremonies



1. Liturgy & Worship
 - a. Worship is not primarily about our activity for God, but God's gracious activity toward us.
 - b. The Divine Service brings us into the narrative arc of the life of Jesus.
 - c. The forms of worship help train the body for living a Christian life.
 - i. While specific external rites and ceremonies are not essential for worship, and need not be uniform across the Church, they do contribute to a bodily training for Christian living.
 - ii. Ceremonies such as kneeling, bowing, and making the sign of the cross serve as physical reminders to a Christian life lived under the cross of Christ.

TABLE OF DUTIES

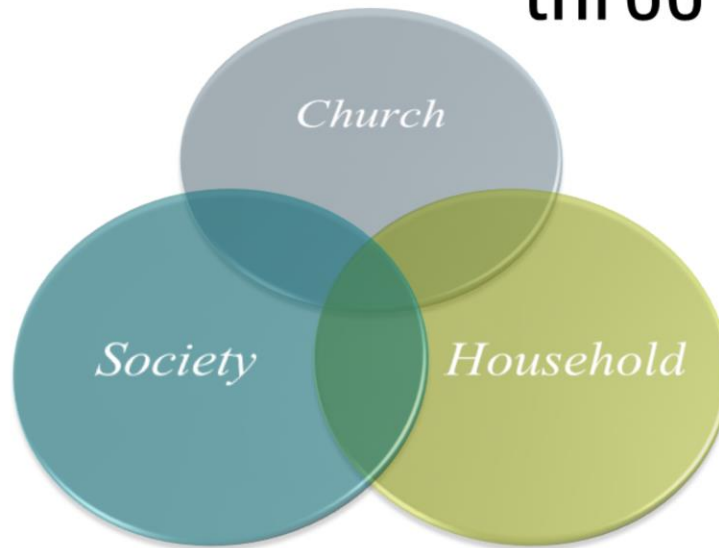
Christian Living





1. Liturgy & Worship
2. Table of Duties: Christian Living
 - a. The Table of Duties is a collection of Bible verses outlining Christian vocation.
 - i. "Vocation" is the Christian teaching that God calls Christians into service in the world to be agents of His divine providence.
 - ii. The call is anchored in Baptism and the various relationships we find ourselves in.
 - iii. Christians are called to many vocations at once and vocations can change throughout life.
 - iv. God sanctifies the everyday work we do because we bear His name and Spirit by virtue of Holy Baptism.

three estates



1. Liturgy & Worship
2. Table of Duties: Christian Living
 - a. The Table of Duties is a collection of Bible verses outlining Christian vocation.
 - b. The duties of a Christian are organized by the three estates - church, government, family.
 - i. Church: pastors and hearers
 1. Pastors are to preach the Gospel unconditionally and with a gentle spirit
 2. Hearers are to listen, obey, and support the ministry financially
 - ii. Government: rulers and citizens
 1. Rulers are to promote the good and punish the evil
 2. Citizens are to obey, except when government commands something contrary to God's Word
 - iii. Family: husbands & wives, parents & children, employers and workers
 1. Husbands - love their wives to the point of death and give themselves up for them
 2. Wives - submit to their husbands and recognize husband as a "mask of God"
 3. Parents - bring children up in the knowledge of the Lord
 4. Children - honor and obey parents
 5. Workers - obey and do good work without being lazy
 6. Employers - direct your workers as representing God without threat or favoritism
 - iv. Others: widows, youth, everyone
 1. Live with contentment and humility
 2. Love your neighbor as yourself

3. Offer prayer and thanksgiving to God

- a. In summary, Christians are called to live lives of love and self-sacrifice in the specific ways their relationships with others and the needs of their neighbors demand.

WORTHY RECEPTION

Preparing for Communion



Self-examination

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:16)

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)



1. Liturgy & Worship
2. Table of Duties: Christian Living
3. Worthy Reception
 - a. Because unworthy reception is guilt against the body and blood of Jesus (1 Corinthians 11:27), it is necessary to spend some time in preparation.
 - i. Christian Questions with Their Answers provides a pattern for self-examination.
 - ii. While a regular review of all 20 questions is beneficial, this examination can be simplified to:
 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner?
 2. Do I believe that the body and blood of Christ are given to me for the forgiveness of my sins?

Rite of Confirmation

Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

Yes, I do.

Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

I do.

Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

I do.



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 - b. Review of the Rite of Confirmation in the Easter Vigil.

Rite of Confirmation

Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

I do, by the grace of God.

Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

I do, by the grace of God.

Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

I do, by the grace of God.



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GENEROSITY

Supporting the Mission





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2. Table of Duties: Christian Living
3. Worthy Reception
4. Generosity
 - a. Christians have a financial obligation to the Church, to support the ministry and to show love for their neighbors.
 - b. Generosity does not begin with financial principles, but with the new life in Christ.
 - c. See "[A Catechism on Christian Stewardship](#)" for an overview of Christ-minded stewardship.

ways to generosity



1. Liturgy & Worship
2. Table of Duties: Christian Living
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4. Generosity
 - a. Christians have a financial obligation to the Church, to support the ministry and to show love for their neighbors.
 - b. Generosity does not begin with financial principles, but with the new life in Christ.
 - c. See "[A Catechism on Christian Stewardship](#)" for an overview of Christ-minded stewardship.
 - d. Ways of Generosity
 - i. Regular gifts can be given in our weekly collection at church
 - ii. Single or recurring gifts can be scheduled through
 1. Our online giving page: stjohnschicago.org/give
 2. The Vanco mobile app
 - iii. Special projects and appeals provide opportunities to express generosity beyond regular gifts



Input commentary and additional resources here.

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