

Sanctus

The Year of Mark



A Worship Newsletter of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA

www.iksynod.org

November 2008

As we enter the Year of Mark – which begins with the First Sunday in Advent on November 30 – the Leadership Support Committee would like to provide you with commentary suggestions for the Gospel of Mark. This issue of the *Sanctus* will provide you with those suggestions, and afterwards they will be posted at www.iksynod.org. Just click on “Commentary List” and you will find commentary suggestions for Matthew and Luke (and soon Mark).

At the Professional Leaders Conference at Turkey Run State Park this year, Professor Gordon Lathrop gave us a couple of insights into Mark. First, he delved into the story of Bartimaeus (Mark 10.46-52). He indicated that the three passion predictions in Mark (8.31; 9.31; 10.33-34) are bracketed by two healing stories. In 8.22-26 Jesus heals a blind man and in 10.46-52, he heals blind Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus. Professor Lathrop spelled out for us just who Timaeus was and how that fit into Mark’s Gospel. For a full essay on Timaeus, see the January 2003 issue of *Worship*, pp. 2-22.

Second, Professor Lathrop spoke about the strange ending of Mark (16.1-8), where the women who come from the tomb say “nothing to anyone for they were afraid”. Why afraid? Why nothing to anyone? The ending, he suggests, drives us back to the beginning, where we read the story again. Enjoy your year of preaching on Mark, and enjoy the commentary list.

Also in this issue

- is an update on worship resources and events
- Psalm Notes
- Announcement re: Creating Liturgical Textile Art
- an article on use of the sign of the cross in worship
by Tom Weitzel, Director of the Freed to Lead Fund.
(By the way, Tom’s worship Web site has a new address: <http://www.liturgybytlw.com>.)

Worship for Mission: Word of God. Word of Life.

There is still room at the worship workshop to be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, South Bend, Indiana, on November 22. This workshop will explore the importance of the words we use in worship and will help us all delve deeper into *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. The workshop is designed for all who love to worship and will include specific workshops for lectors, assisting ministers, cantors and other worship leaders. See the last page of the *Sanctus* for a registration form.

Psalm Notes

Maretta Hershberger, Director of Music at Christ the King, South Bend, writes:

GIA has published several hymnals with comprehensive Psalm collections, including *Gather Comprehensive*. From this book comes the setting of the *Magnificat* which we will sing on December 21: "Holy is Your Name," by David Haas.

This lively, metrical setting of Mary's song about God's "upside down kingdom" is a favorite of our congregation - the first time we sang it, it was declared a "keeper," and it is now a staple of our Psalm/Canticle repertoire. Although we still have a cantor sing the verses, it is easy enough, and now also familiar enough, that the assembly could quickly and easily pick up the verses as well with the help of a cantor or choir.

When you attend one of the "**Worship for Mission**" workshops this year, you will have the privilege, during Morning Prayer, of participating in singing Marty Haugen's setting of Psalm 19 from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year*, released by Augsburg Fortress in the fall of 2008. These Psalm settings are written by many different composers, and you will want a choir or cantor. But there are settings of all the Psalms, many having several options for refrains so that the one most appropriate for the particular day may be used. The parts for the cantor/choir are diverse and varied. A CD-ROM of graphic files in TIFF format of the assembly refrains is included.

Morningstar Music offers Hal Hopson's new publication, *The People's Psalter*. Small churches are finding out that they can copy the settings for their choirs and that it provides instant anthem material. Worship leaders are discovering that many of the psalm settings are built on tunes that the congregation already sings, which creates a comfortable environment for introducing the new material.

Congratulations to Lorraine Brugh, new president-elect of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. Lorraine is Director of Chapel Music and University Organist at Valparaiso University. She is a rostered Associate in Ministry and a member of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod Worship Committee. She was a member of the Resource Proposal Group and the Liturgical Music Editorial Team for the ELCA's Renewing Worship Project. She has been the Director of the Institute of Liturgical Studies at Valparaiso since 2004.



Evangelical Lutheran

Worship

Recently or soon to be published by Augsburg Fortress:

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Pastoral Care

Item No: 9780806653921

The first of two volumes of *Occasional Services for Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, this volume contains prayers, readings, and rites for use by rostered leaders and lay persons in a variety of care giving situations. In addition to the content categories found in the *LBW Occasional Services*, the *ELW* care ministry volume contains expanded prayers and resources for life passages. Some of this new material was developed originally for the *Renewing Worship 4: Life Passages* volume.

Available Now

Vocal Descants for the Church Year

Item No: 9780800679439

More than 250 descants and counter-melodies for *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymn tunes. Text included for most hymns! Thirty festive settings — original keyboard setting and descant. Reproducible, comprehensive, and arranged by hymn tune for easy use.

Available Now

Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary

Item No: 9780800678562

Newly composed settings of all the psalms used in the Revised Common Lectionary, in a variety of styles. This resource will supplement the more standard psalm refrains and tones found in *Psalter for Worship*. Styles represented include responsorial, hymnic, Anglican chant, and through-composed. Useful to congregations large and small of all denominations. Includes a CD-ROM with congregational parts.

Available Now

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Psalter for Worship, Year B

Item No: 9780806653839

Includes the revised psalm texts, refrains, psalm tones, and keyboard accompaniments from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* for Year B.

Available Now

Lectionary for Worship, Ritual Edition, Year B

Item No: 9780806656113

The complete Revised Common Lectionary for Year B is included in this ritual lectionary. Both thematic and semi-continuous tracks are provided, as well as lesser festival texts. Lay readers will enjoy the security of having each full text available in a large, easy-to-read text. Features reflective art throughout, adding to the richness of the resource. Elegant hardcover suitable for procession and lectern use. 9" x 12"

Available Now

Lectionary for Worship, Study Edition, Year B

Item No: 9780806656120

This study edition of the Ritual Edition contains all of the same texts, but in a smaller and more convenient format. Pronunciation aids and convenient summaries help lectors prepare with confidence.

Available Now

Visit http://www.morningstarmusic.com/pdfs/november_newsletter_08.pdf for more information about *The People's Psalter* (see **Psalm Notes** above), as well as a list of brass accompaniments for several familiar hymns.



What's on the calendar:

Worship for Mission Event: "Word of God. Word of Life."

Visit www.iksynod.org and click on the link to "Word of God. Word of Life."
See the latest issue of *The Indiana Kentucky Lutheran* for more details.

February 28, 2009 - Christ, Jeffersontown (Louisville), KY
Plenary Speaker – Susan Briehl

March 21, 2009 - Pilgrim, Indianapolis
Plenary Speaker – Susan Briehl



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2009: "That they may become one in your hand"

Visit www.geii.org for information and resources.

Institute of Liturgical Studies: The Three Days

April 20-22, 2009

Valparaiso University Visit <http://www.valpo.edu/ils> for information and registration
"Living into the Three Days" as the center of the church's life together, this year's Institute will focus on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil as the core of the church's worship and the place of formation for our baptismal identity in Christ.

Festival of Homiletics

May 18-22, 2009 Atlanta Visit Information/registration at www.goodpreacher.com

Preachers' Retreat

June 7-9, 2009

Valparaiso University Visit <http://www.valpo.edu/ils> for information and registration
To encourage and support preachers in their weekly preaching task and offering small groups, facilitators and mentors, worship and reflection in a retreat setting.

Worship at the Center 2009: Journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter

Monday-Thursday, June 29-July 2, 2009 – Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, OH
Watch for an ELCA Web site on this event (one of three in the summer of 2009).

Young Lutherans Sing

July 28-August 1, 2009 – Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Biennial Conference

August 2-5, 2009 – Milwaukee, Wisconsin www.alcm2009.com
Plenary Speakers: Susan Briehl, Samuel Torvend, Robert A. Rimbo



For Presiders:

The Sign of the Cross at the Invocation

by The Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

You're a pastor, and you think you know what to do when you see that little red cross + on the printed page in the Confession and Forgiveness. Do you know the old adage about those who assume?! There are two crosses in that rite that mean two different things: 1. Invocation, and 2. Absolution, and these are done with *two different actions*, not the same action. (Does anyone remember the day when pastors would RARELY raise their hand to bless anything with the sign of the cross for fear of appearing too Roman? Well it's a new day and time to rethink our actions.)

I know that seeing a red cross + in the middle of any bold text initiates nearly an automatic stimulus-response for a Presider to raise that arm high to bless something or someone. Historically, however, this is NOT the action that is appropriate to invocations. A short study of rubrics and of words and actions should help.

Rubric #1 of this order reads, "ALL may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism..."

The thought conveyed is that 1) everyone (ALL), including the Presider, may remember their baptism by signing themselves with the cross, and 2) the Presider, rather than blessing the congregation, leads them in this ancient action of invoking the triune God by signing her/himself.

Even more, the words spoken by the Presider help to identify the actions best suited for particular cross signs.

At the Benediction, the words are outward directed, from the Presider TO the worshiper: "Almighty God ... + BLESS YOU." "The Lord BLESS YOU ... and + GIVE YOU peace."

Similarly, at the Absolution, the words are again directed outward from (or through) the Presider TO the worshiper: "I therefore declare TO YOU... forgiveness + ."

Accordingly, the action accompanying the benediction and absolution is a signing of the cross over the people.

However, the words at the Invocation are different: not outward directed, but more inward directed as everyone gathered calls upon the triune God to be present, including for the Presider. It is the joint invoking by pastor and people, accompanied by the ancient sign of invocation, a cross made on oneself, made by all, including the Presiding Minister.

Indeed, this is such a JOINT action that Philip Pfatteicher suggests in the *Manual on the Liturgy* that, "The congregation may say the invocation with the minister."

Pr. Pfatteicher also writes, "Christians have used the sign of the cross and the words which came to accompany it ... as an act of invocation and [self] blessing since very early in Christian history.... already common in private devotion in the second century" (p.189).

Following tradition, Martin Luther instructs in his Small Catechism that morning and evening prayers begin with this personal act of invocation: "make the sign of the cross and say, 'In the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.' "

The connection in rubric #1 between the invocation at confession and baptism also follows both tradition and Luther: "Repentance, therefore, is nothing else than a return and approach to Baptism, to resume and practice what had earlier been begun...." (*Large Catechism* 446:79).

Thus, as pastor and people together prepare for worship with an act of confession, both pastor and people together remember their baptism with the invocation and personal signing of the cross.

SUGGESTION: Given this connection of baptism and confession, it is most appropriate that the order of Confession and Forgiveness be led by the Presider at the Baptismal Font. Then, while speaking the invocation, the Presider can touch the water in the font and make the sign of the cross upon her/himself. Word and action thus make bold the connections.

What if the Font is at the entrance to the nave? I have seen services in which a crucifer goes forward to get the processional cross, and as the cross is lifted high, the people stand and turn to follow it with their eyes as it is carried to the Font. Following confession, the crucifer leads the ministers to the chancel during the Entrance, or Gathering Hymn.

It should be noted that having the Font at the nave entrance encourages worshipers to "dip and sign" as they ENTER the church, again remembering the rite by which they ENTERED the faith.

What if the Presiding Minister is not comfortable making the sign of the cross on her/himself? That is a matter of personal choice which we Lutherans respect. After all, this ancient act has only been reintroduced in recent decades as an expression of Lutheran piety.

However, this is where thinking through our words and actions as Presiders is important. Since the invocation is NOT a blessing or absolving, it is inappropriate to make the sign of the cross over the people.

Presiders who do not sign themselves should simply speak the words of invocation without sign, as was done for many years at the opening of the Sunday liturgy in the Service Book & Hymnal (1958), The Lutheran Hymnal (1941), and all Common Service precursors.

SO..... watch out for those cross + signs. Think through your responses and make sure they are not just automatic.

The Gospel according to St. Mark: A Commentary List

The following commentaries are list at the Trinity Seminary Web Site:

- Edwards, James R. *The Gospel According to Mark*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans; Leicester, UK: Apollos, 2002.
- Evans, Craig A. *Mark 8:27-16:20*. Word Biblical Commentary 34B. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2001. *(To be combined with Guelich book below)*.
- France, R. T. *The Gospel of Mark: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. New International Greek New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans; Carlisle, UK: Paternoster Press, 2002.
- Guelich, Robert A. *Mark 1-8:26*. Word Biblical Commentary 34A. Dallas: Word Books, 1989. *(To be combined with Evans book above)*.
- Marcus, Joel. *Mark 1-8: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Anchor Bible 27. New York: Doubleday, 2000. *(A second volume is forthcoming)*.
- Moloney, Francis J. *The Gospel of Mark*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2002.

The following commentaries are list at the Gettysburg Seminary Web Site:

- Donahue, John and Daniel Harrington. *Mark*. Sacra Pagina. Glazier/Liturgical Press. ISBN: 0814658040
- Juel, Donald H. *The Gospel of Mark*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Abingdon. ISBN: 0687008492
- Rhoads, David M., Joanna Dewey, and Donald Michie. *Mark As Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel*. Fortress. ISBN: 0800631609
- Williamson, LaMar. *Mark*. Interpretation. Westminster/John Knox. ISBN: 0804231214

In addition, members of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod Leadership Support Committee offer these comments and suggestions:

Anderson, Hugh. New Century Bible. ISBN: 0 551 00579 3
A solid 60 page introduction. Each 'pericope' is discussed in general and as it relates to its context in Mark, followed by a more narrow commentary on specific verse and phrase.

Nineham, D.E. Pelican New Testament Commentaries. ISBN: 014020489x
This brief commentary packs concise explanations of Mark based on scholarly study. There is a 51 page introduction followed by commentary that avoids technical terms where possible.

Lamar Williamson's work in the Interpretation series highlights the strengths of that series' model, with integrated historical and theological work interspersed with expository essays, always keeping in mind what is useful for the church.

The New Interpreter's Bible, vol. 8 (Matthew and Mark; Abingdon Press, © 1995; ISBN-13: 9780687278213), *is very in-depth and full of good information. It is useful when studying a text in preparation for preaching, teaching, or leading a Bible study - so it has multiple uses!*

Don't forget to surf the web:

www.SermonWriter.com
www.textweek.com

WORSHIP FOR MISSION:

Word *of* God. Word *of* Life.

Worship Workshops

I plan to attend : November 22, 2008 February 28, 2009 March 21, 2009
(Check appropriate box.) Christ the King Christ Lutheran Church Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Registration Fee: \$50 for pre-registration; \$60 for registration at the door
½ price for 5th registrant from same congregation
Covers refreshments, lunch, materials

I am interested in the following workshops:
Check two.

_____ 1. "Principles of Liturgical Language" with Lorraine Brugh

_____ 2. "Proclaiming and Praying the Word: A Workshop for Lectors and Prayer Leaders" with Rudy Mueller

_____ 3. "Preaching the Word" with the plenary speaker

_____ 4. "Writing Intercessions" with Steve Reshan

_____ 5. "Singing the Word: Music as Proclamation" with Maretta Hershberger

_____ 6. "Non-verbal Communication" with Fred Meuter

Agenda:

9:00 Gathering and Sign-in
9:30 Morning Prayer
10:00 Plenary Presentation
11:00 Workshop Session I
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Workshop Session II
1:50 Panel Discussion
2:15 Sending Eucharist

Name _____

Address _____
(Street, City, State, Zip)

Home Congregation: _____ City/State _____

SEND REGISTRATION TO: Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA

Attention: Karen Eppert
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Indianapolis, IN 46260



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