

Sanctus

Lent and the Three Days

A Worship Newsletter of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA January 2009

One of the blessings of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* is the inclusion of the liturgies of Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. The Holy Week liturgies include the Blessing of Palms and Palm Procession on the Sunday of the Passion, the Maundy Thursday Liturgy, the Good Friday Liturgy, and the liturgy for the Vigil of Easter. These liturgies were in the *Ministers' Desk Edition* of the *LBW*, but are included to varying degrees in the pew edition of *ELW*.

The introduction to these liturgies on page 247 of *ELW* states:

On several key days at the center of the church year, however, worship takes a particular shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days... The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. In particular, the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life. In addition...the church has long used special liturgies on Ash Wednesday – the first day of Lent – and on the Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday.

This issue of the *Sanctus* will begin to open up these liturgies, offering helps and guides to the Ash Wednesday Liturgy. You are also encouraged to look at the back issues of the *Sanctus* which deal with Lent (December 2004; notes here relate in some ways to Year A) and Holy Week (February 2004; a rite for Farewell to the Alleluia is also in this issue). Both of these back issues (along with all back issues) are available at www.iksynod.org. Just click on "Our Ministries"; then click on "Worship and Preaching." Scroll down on the worship page to see the list of back issues.

Also in this issue

- an update on worship resources
- Calendar of events
- A book review by Pr. Tom Weitzel

Psalm Notes

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

Seeking out Psalms for the Lent and Easter seasons, I found a setting of Psalm 23 that I liked in *PsalmLite*. In addition to the normal refrain for the assembly, this setting of Psalm 23 includes responses for the people to sing after each line of the verse: "...there is nothing I shall need," and "...my God refreshes me."

Published by Liturgical Press with music by the Collegeville Composers Group, this psalter comes in a cantor/choir edition which includes all the Psalms, three separate accompaniment editions (one for each year, although they can be purchased as a group for about the price of two individual copies), and there are CD's available. A CD-ROM with assembly refrains is also available for purchase.



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. See Table of Contents at http://www.augsburgfortress.org/media/downloads/0806653922_toc.pdf.

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

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

Introductions and Alternate Accompaniments for Organ, volumes 1-3, 6, 7

Introductions and Alternate Accompaniments for Piano, volumes 1-3, 6,7

Includes select alternative accompaniments and introductions to hymns from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. These engaging arrangements are a useful tool for any organist and/or pianist who uses *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Available now

Visit http://www.morningstarmusic.com/pdfs/january_enewsletter_09.pdf for information about organ and choir music. Note that they are offering a new CD recording of the Luther College Christmas Festival. This festival was broadcast nationwide on PBS and features several MorningStar pieces.

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 - Bethany, 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.

Church Music Institute Winter Workshop

January 31, 2009

How music serves the worship life of the church and how planners can work together.
Visit <http://www.churchmusicinstitute.org> for more information.

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 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.

Encountering the Unsung Jesus

John Bell with Marlene Kropf June 22-26, 2009

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Council of Churches www.wichurches.org 608-837-3108

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

Lenten Liturgies –Ash Wednesday

(LDE = Leaders Desk Edition of ELW; all other numbers refer to the ELW)

Propers are on page 26 (LDE, p 74).

This is a somber day and the mood of the liturgy reflects this. The day probably got its name around the 9th century from the practice of the church in which ashes were used as a sign of penitence. Ashes are often prepared from palms used the previous Palm Sunday. The ashes may be mixed with oil or water, or the thumb may be pressed on a cotton ball with oil and then pressed into the ashes. Either way, the ashes are marked on the forehead in the sign of the cross.

The traditional color of the day has been black. The LDE suggests purple, the color of Lent. It is also appropriate to use no color.

Gathering (p 251; LDE, p 615)

- The assembly gathers in silence.
- There is no need of prelude or pre-service music. Throughout the service, accompaniment may be kept to a minimum, used only for the singing of hymns.
- Psalm 51 is used, in a sense, as the Gathering Hymn. It is most appropriate to sing it, in unison, responsively, antiphonally, or using a setting from one of your sources.
- The Kyrie and Hymn of Praise are omitted.

Word (pp 252-4; LDE, pp 616-620)

- Joel 2.1-2, 12-17 is a call for the entire community, from nursing infants to elderly folks, to gather for the day of penitence. This day is not just about personal penitence, but also communal penitence.
- If Psalm 51 has been used in the Gathering Rite, then Psalm 103.8-14 is sung.
- 2Corinthians 5.20b-6.10 proclaims that the day of our gathering is the day of salvation, and that we have been reconciled so that we might be bearers of forgiveness and reconciliation to the world.
- Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21 reminds us that our Lenten discipline – prayer, fasting and works of mercy – are not ways to build up our relationship with the Father, but are ways that the Father builds us up for our relationships in the world.
- Possible hymns for Hymn of the Day: 321, 326, 328, 600-09.

The Invitation to Lent and Imposition of Ashes are placed in the Liturgy of the Word in ELW (pp 252-3; LDE, pp 617-19). In LBW they were treated as part of an extended Corporate Confession and Forgiveness at the beginning of the liturgy (and may be moved there and treated as such if desired).

If the assembly is large, it is appropriate to have multiple stations where the ashes are imposed. It is appropriate for the ministers to be signed with ashes first as an example for the assembly. If the space permits, kneeling is the appropriate posture to receive the ashes. Those who are not kneeling or standing to receive the ashes may be seated for meditation. Reflection may be on Psalm 51, the readings of the day, or devotional material provided.

- The creed is omitted, and the intercessions follow.

Meal

- The peace may be announced only. Absolution and the sharing of the peace may be reserved until the Maundy Thursday Liturgy. This signifies Lent as an extended time of confession, observing the brokenness of our relationship with God and with one another, relationships healed by the Christ's Passover from death to life.
- "Create in Me" is an appropriate offertory (185-188).
- Eucharistic Prayer I (LDE, pp 194-5) or IV (LDE, p 197) is appropriate for Ash Wednesday. Also appropriate would be Prayer D from *WOV Leaders Edition*, p 68).
- Silence during distribution for meditation and reflection would underscore the somberness of the day. Likewise, there is no need for a postlude.

Review: The Treasury of American Prayer

Published by Doubleday, 368 pp. ISBN 10: 0385524625. By the Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel

St. Nicholas was good to me this year, leaving two books that I had asked for in my Christmas stocking. I thought I might share my joy in having them with you.

The first is a newly published book called *The Treasury of American Prayer*, compiled by James P. Moore Jr. (Doubleday 2008). This is the first collection of its kind, according to a radio interview of Moore that I heard in November, with it being a collection of prayers specifically by or about Americans.

Says Moore in his prologue, "What consistently has amazed me is the dynamic and integral role that prayer has played in forging the direction of our country over time. It was prayer that came to bind our Founding Fathers together against all odds when they first met in Philadelphia. It was in the midst of prayer that Martin Luther King Jr. was transformed through an 'epiphany' that reinforced his commitment to lead the civil rights movement. If it had not been for prayer, such diverse personalities as J.C. Penney and Johnny Cash could well have committed suicide, and their lasting legacies never would have been realized. Other Americans such as Harriet Tubman, Conrad Hilton, Elvis Presley, Thomas Merton, and even Abraham Lincoln arguably would have lived far different lives without it."

To compile these prayers in one volume, Moore "climbed into people's attics, combed rare book rooms, and scoured for rare manuscripts," the results of which are quite a collection of infinite diversity and depth that have not eschewed the Native American traditions that were already in place before the more recent founding of this country. Indeed, the opening prayers to the volume are by the likes of Chief Seattle of the Suquamish and Duwamish tribes located in Washington State.

Each prayer in the volume is accompanied by a short commentary by Moore to provide authorship and/or context for the prayer when known. An example is this "Prayer at Dawn," which, says Moore, was only one of a series of daily prayers of Christopher Columbus and his men as they crossed the Atlantic that created "discipline among the men while they praised God in hopes of safe passage":

Blessed be the light of day / And the Holy Cross, we say;
And the Lord of the Verity / And the Holy Trinity.
Blessed be th' immortal soul / And the Lord who keeps it whole,
Blessed be the light of day / And He who sends the night away.

As in the case of this prayer, many in the volume are in poetic form, and as such, some have found their way into American hymnals (e.g., "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"). Many more however "have not been published in more than 150 years," says Moore, or "never been seen in print" at all.

Moore divides the prayers into two parts, with the first part arranged according to subject: Love and Devotion, Faith and Trust, Petition and Hope, Thanksgiving and Appreciation, Wisdom, Understanding and Humility, Peace and Justice, Forgiveness and Compassion, Purpose and Perspective, Courage and Strength, and finally Endurance and Resolve. In the second part of the volume, he compiles prayers for family, community, states, country and world. The states section includes a prayer from/for each state in the Union.

The book contains a full index of titles, although if I had any criticism of this book at all, it would be that there is no index of authors. Just browsing through the books, one sees such an interesting compilation of both notable names and not-so-famous "farmers, ... mothers, laborers" and others. This volume is a true joy to browse through and pray through for both its historic value as well as its faith value. Reading excerpts aloud in an adult class would be a rich exercise and conversation-starter on prayer in our society. 341 pages. \$18.45 from Amazon.

In the next *Sanctus*, I'll tell you about the other volume that St. Nicholas brought me.

