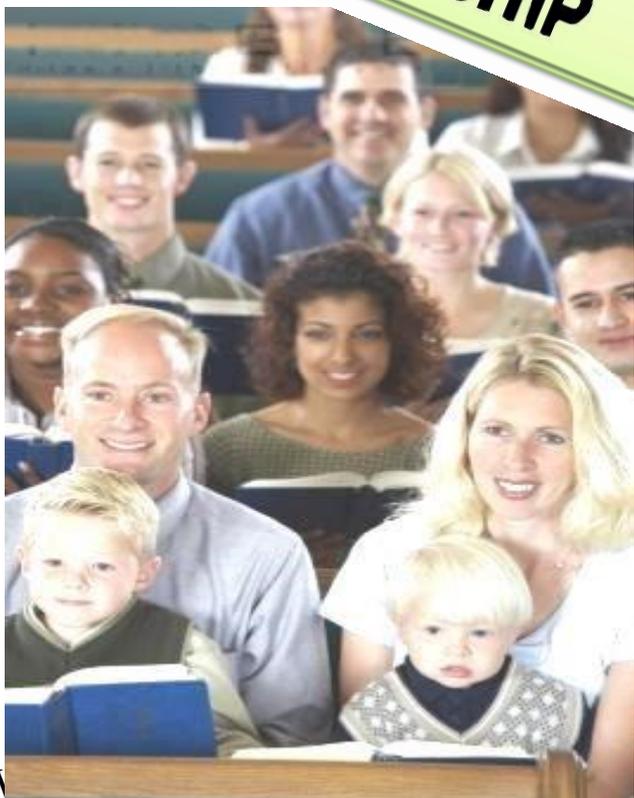


8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION SEMINAR

**THE WAY LUTHERANS
WORSHIP**



Description:

It is not uncommon to hear the Lutheran style of worship being labeled. Do you know why Lutherans worship the way that they do? Did you know that there is a specific style and reason for each section in the worship service? Did you know that Lutherans use the Bible as their guide for worship?

Project: Worship Study

This project will give the Confirmand the opportunity to discover the pattern and reasoning Lutherans have for conducting worship in a particular way. This study could be on the history of worship, Worship in the Bible, a study on the different parts of the Worship Service, compare and contrast Lutheran worship with other denominations, compare and contrast worship at Good Shepherd with another Lutheran church, and so on.

Information To Include:

Identify and define each part of the Lutheran worship service and explain it's theological (teaching in Scripture and application to Christian living) significance. *(The Confirmand is not limited to just this information in their project, but should have these informational items included with the research gathered and final product.)*

Final Product:

Three pages minimum, single-spaced, (text) 12 point Times New Roman, (title & name) 14_point Times New Roman bolded, Top/Bottom margins 1 inch, Left/Right margins 1 ½ inches.

Resources to Use:**Websites:**

The Lutheran Liturgy: Its Biblical Roots <http://www.goodshepherd.nb.ca/liturgy/>

The Lutheran Liturgy

<http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/lutheranism/20125>

The Lutheran Liturgy:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Lutheran_liturgy_and_worship

Lutheran Worship: http://trinitylutheranchurchoonline.org/Our_Worship.html

Historic Lutheran Liturgy: <http://reformationtoday.tripod.com/chemnitz/id23.html>

Liturgy and Hymns: <http://www.wels.net/cgi-bin/site.pl?2601&collectionID=765>

(scroll down to bottom of page for articles on each part of service)

Project Due Date:

Lesson #1 - Get a Hand on Worship

Why is it so important that we become more consistent or stay consistent in our worship?

Learning the Word

Psalm 145:3 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. (NIV)

Absorb

What does God deserve? *Our praise*

Why does he deserve it? *He is so great and awesome*

We owe our presence in worship to God.



Definition: Worship



One of the most common Hebrew words for “worship” literally means to “bow down”. The most common Greek word for “worship” literally means “to fall on the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence.”

“Worship comes from the Old English Word, “worthship.” It is the way Christians show God how much he is worth to us.

Apply

Does God always get my best worship? Why or why not?

He should. But because we are sinful we don't always give God our best. Forgive us dear Lord!

Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (NIV)

Absorb

As the Last Day approached, what did the writer to the Hebrews encourage Christians to do?
Encourage each other by gathering together (worshipping)

What was one great benefit of doing this? *Encouragement keeps us focused on Jesus' coming*

We owe our presence in worship to each other.



Apply

How can my worship encourage others?

Do we ever forget that we owe this to others? When and where?

Explain: More and more often people think of worship as the “serve us” instead of the “service.”

How can worship with others also encourage me?

1 Peter 2:2-3 ²Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. (NIV)



Absorb

Why do babies need a regular diet of milk?

Why do we need a regular diet of “spiritual milk”? Explain.

do babies need a regular diet of milk? *To live and grow healthy*

Why do we need a regular diet of “spiritual milk”? Explain.

Spiritual milk is the word of God. We are babies in the faith and need spiritual nourishment to grow healthy in our faith

What is so “good” about the Lord’s spiritual milk? *It is true and pure*

We owe our presence in worship to ourselves.

Apply

What is the implication for me and worship?

The Way We Worship

How should we worship? (use the following Bible verses to fill in the blanks with your own words which best fit the blank)

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

God has not told us ___a specific way___ to worship.

1 Corinthians 14:40 But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.(NIV)

• God wants our worship to be _____orderly_____.

Hebrews 12:28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,(NIV)

• God wants our worship to be done with _____reverence, thankfulness_____.

Agree/disagree: Worship should be exciting.

1 Corinthians 2:2 For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.(NIV)

• God wants our worship to focus on _____Jesus_____.

Ephesians 2:19 consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,(NIV)

• God wants us to recognize that our worship ___connects___ us to many brothers and sisters who have gone before us and who will come after us.

Psalms 81:1 Sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob!(NIV)

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.(NIV)

• God wants us to make use of _____word and song_____ in worship.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.(NIV)

God wants ___all_____ his children to take a part in worship.

Review and Further Study

Read the Following Article and Answer the Questions (if you need to use a dictionary or the glossary in the back of your catechism, go ahead!)

If you were to ask most people what "worship" is, they might say, "Worship is praising the Lord" or "Worship is what human beings do to express their thanks to God" or "Worship is going to church," or something like that. While there is some truth to each of these answers, they do not adequately describe the main purpose of Lutheran worship.

We Lutherans have a unique perspective on worship. We know that God's Word and His holy Sacraments are His precious gifts to us. They are the tools the Holy Spirit uses to give us forgiveness, life and salvation. The main purpose of Lutheran worship is to receive these gifts from God.

Our Lutheran Confessions explain this truth as follows: "The service and worship of the Gospel is to receive good things from God" (Apology to the Augsburg Confession, Article IV.310).

I am not sure whether we have adequately emphasized this important truth. God gives His gifts. We receive them. That is the main purpose of Lutheran worship. He does this as His Gospel is proclaimed, as His Word is read, as His forgiveness is announced and sinners are absolved, and as we receive our Lord's body and blood in Holy Communion. In these wonderful ways, God is present with us, His people, drawing us to Himself and giving us what we need so much—His mercy, forgiveness, love, joy, peace, power and comfort! The purpose of worship, therefore, is to be gathered by God around His gifts.

Having clearly established this important point, I need to say that it would be wrong to assume that we are merely passive participants in the worship service. Listen to the beautiful introduction to Lutheran Worship.

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. . . . Saying back to Him what he has said to us, we repeat what is most true and sure. . . . 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. We build one another up as we speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

How true! God speaks. We listen. Then we speak the great "amen" of faith, saying, "Yes, yes, this is true!" Praise God for His mercy in permitting us to receive His gifts! Praise God for drawing us together around His gifts!

Watch Video : Not getting Anything Out of Church

-use the separate sheet to review the video and turn this review into the pastor

Multiple Choice:

- ____ 1. The word "gospel" means ...
- a. to "go spell" a word question
 - b. a "dry spell" in the desert
 - c. "good news"
 - d. a "gosh hawk"
 - e. when you miss every quiz
 - f. "God is a spirit"
- ____ 2. The Good News of the Christian Faith is that ...
- a. Jesus came to show us what we need to do in order to please God and earn our salvation.
 - b. **salvation is by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Who died for all sins and rose again.**
 - c. we are able to decide that Jesus is going to be our Lord and Savior
 - d. God gets us started on the path to heaven and we are responsible for getting there after that.

Matching:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> g | gospel (general meaning) | s. | God's Riches At Christ's Expense |
| <input type="checkbox"/> o | liturgy (general meaning) | e. | the service when God serves the Gospel to His people |
| <input type="checkbox"/> s | grace | p. | what Jesus did for all people in order to be saved |
| <input type="checkbox"/> p | Gospel | g. | any message of good news |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e | Divine Service | l. | the ways in which Jesus' earned blessings come to us |
| <input type="checkbox"/> l | the Means of Grace | o. | a service that someone does for someone else |

True-False:

- T In the Liturgy or the Divine Service, the Lord is present with His people in order that they might have forgiveness of sins and eternal life and salvation.
- F You don't have to believe in Jesus to have His blessings of forgiveness of sins. All you really need to do is go to Church and just be there.
- T People are given the blessings that Jesus earned 2,000 years ago in the means of grace.
- F I am saved because I love God.
- T I am saved because God loves me.
- T In the Liturgy or the Divine Service, the LORD is present with His people in order that they might have forgiveness of sins and eternal life and salvation.