

OBJECTIVES IN WORSHIP
St. Luke Lutheran Church
9 St Luke's Way
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Currently St. Luke Lutheran Church conducts 3 Sunday morning worship services at 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. It is important to provide a variety of worship expressions with each service time having a distinctive character. In general the 8:00 and 10:30 worship services will have more traditional elements and the 9:15 service will be contemporary in nature. In this way a balance of options is provided for those who come to worship at St. Luke Church.

Critical elements of all three services which must be considered in the process of planning and conducting worship are the following:

- 1) Faithfulness to Biblical doctrine and historical Lutheran practice:
 - A. This Faithfulness embodies the 4-fold structure of worship:
 - a. Gathering
 - b. Word
 - c. Meal
 - d. Sending
- 2) Balance among the types of liturgical expression:
 - A. Maintaining and emphasizing the liturgical calendar year.
 - B. Providing a balance in musical expressions (hymns, praise choruses, special music, etc.at 8:00 & 10:30)
 - C. Sensitivity to the needs of the worshipers (recognizing that not all people have the same needs in worship, yet realizing that no one congregation can meet all the needs of all people).
 - D. Integration of all worship expressions (music, scriptures, message, prayers, special music, etc.) in a common proclamation for the day.
- 3) Character of the three services:
 - A. 8:00 a.m.
 - a. More traditional in its format. Frequent use of hymns, organ accompaniment, in balance with praise music and piano / ensemble accompaniment.
 - b. Communion offered "at the rail."

- c. Adult choir may offer special music. Other special music ensembles may offer special music on occasion.
 - d. Opportunities for “quiet reflection” before the service begins (may include soft background music).
- B. 9:15 a.m.
- a. Contemporary in nature. Music led by “praise band” includes contemporary songs not included in hymnal, music may be more “listener” oriented rather than participatory.
 - b. Format is simple, powerpoint use is primary.
 - c. Communion is “continuous motion.”
 - d. Offering is received in offering boxes at doorways.
 - e. Overall nature is informal, other contemporary forms may be included.
- C. 10:30 a.m.
- a. Provides traditional elements with occasional variations.
 - b. Music is both traditional hymns and praise choruses, incorporating both organ and piano / ensemble. Music is primarily from Celebration Hymnal or LBW.
 - c. Pre-service gathering allows for some quiet time.
 - d. Communion is “at the rail” but allows for “continuous motion” on large attendance Sundays.
 - e. Adult choir may offer special music. Other special music ensembles may offer special music on occasion.
 - f. Children’s music and choirs may be included.
 - g. Special programs throughout the year (musicals, VBS celebration, etc.) are usually offered at the 10:30 service.

Consideration should be given to using portions of the new Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 beginning in the fall of 2006 at the 8:00 and 10:30 services.

Created by Pastor Kerry P. Maurer / July 2006
Approved by the Worship Ministry / August 30, 2006
Approved by Congregation Council / September 11, 2006

FORMAT TYPES:

8:00

GATHERING

- Quiet pre-service music or silence
- Invocation
- * Kyrie or seasonal response
- Hymn or praise song
- * Confession of sins
- (optional hymn or praise song to emphasize the day)
- Prayer of the Day

WORD

- Reading of lessons
- Reading of Gospel
- Message for the Day

MEAL

- Holy Communion consecration
- Distribution (during distribution appropriate background music or congregational singing)
- Blessing
- Sharing of the Peace

SENDING

- Receiving the Offering
- Offertory Response
- Prayers
- Closing Blessing
- Closing Hymn or Praise Song

9:15

GATHERING

- Pre-service music by praise band
- Invocation
- * Kyrie or seasonal response
- Songs of praise (may include 2-4 songs in progression)

- * Confession of sins
- Prayer of the Day

WORD

- Reading of lessons
- Reading of Gospel
- Message for the Day

MEAL

- Holy Communion consecration
- Distribution
- Blessing
- Sharing of the Peace

SENDING

- Prayers
- Closing Blessing
- Closing Chorus

10:30

GATHERING

- Appropriate pre-service music or silence
- Invocation
- * Kyrie or seasonal response
- Hymn or praise song
- * Confession of sins
- (optional hymn or praise song to emphasize the day)
- Prayer of the Day

WORD

- Reading of lessons
- Reading of Gospel
- Message for the Day

MEAL

- Holy Communion consecration
- Distribution (during distribution appropriate background music or congregational singing)
- Blessing
- Sharing of the Peace

SENDING

- ** Receiving the Offering
- ** Offertory Response
- Prayers
- Closing Blessing
- Closing Hymn or Praise Song

Note: * Kyrie or Confession of Sins may be reversed in order
** 10:30 service in summer may use offering collection
boxes at the door

Special music at 8:00 and 10:30 may be offered to enhance and
emphasize the proclamation of the day.

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