

The Divine Service

Bulletin Inserts

Introduction

These bulletin inserts were originally written by Pastor David Miller for use at Trinity Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This committee received requests for work of this nature, and we thought of these right away. Pastor Miller gave us permission to adapt and expand his work, and these are a result of that endeavor. They begin with worship in general, then the Divine Service in general, followed by the various parts of the Divine Service, and conclude with visual aspects of worship and aids to worship. They may be downloaded, copied, and used as you see fit. Biblical citations, unless otherwise noted, are from the English Standard Version. By using these, may you and yours gain deeper understanding and appreciation of our Lutheran heritage of worship.

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The Collect of the Day

The Collect of the Day is exactly what it sounds like. It collects the prayers of God's people in relation to the theme of the day. Its placement right after the Salutation tells us that it is the beginning of the climax of the Service of the Word. The Service of the Word began with the Kyrie and then the Hymn of Praise, but it's starting to build to its climactic moment with the Salutation and the Collect of the Day. The intensity will continue to build as the service continues with the Old Testament and Epistle readings, and will reach its highest moment with the reading of the Holy Gospel and the sermon. Because it is so tied to the readings appointed for that day, the Collect of the Day helps to communicate the common theme of the readings so that we may prepare our hearts for God's Word. It prayerfully helps us find our place in His message of Law and Gospel. "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer" (1 Peter 3:12).

