

Worship in the Anglican Tradition

Our worship is Liturgical...

Our worship is liturgical and thus actively involves the whole worshipping community. The liturgical forms used are based on the ancient rites of the Church and are found in the *Book of Common Prayer*. We do not "attend church;" rather, we participate in the worship of God. In addition to having parts to say and do in the liturgy, we all participate by standing to praise or pray, sitting to listen, and kneeling to express moments of penitence, great reverence or adoration.

The principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day (Sunday) is the Holy Eucharist, also known as Holy Communion, The Mass or The Lord's Supper. The principal weekday services are Morning and Evening Prayer, known in the Book of Common Prayer as the Daily Offices. The words of these liturgies draw heavily from Holy Scripture because we clearly believe that God has spoken to us through Scripture. The Anglican forms of worship reveal that we are truly a Bible-centered church.

Vestments are worn by the priests and others leading worship, for as is written in Exodus, vestments are for "glory and beauty." They remind us of the holy nature of worship.

Our worship is Sacramental...

The Anglican Church is a sacramental church (outward and visible signs of things inward and spiritual). We know that God, who is invisible, makes aspects of His grace and presence known to us in outward, visible signs and symbols, such as water, oil, bread, wine and the like. Central to the life of the community are the two great sacraments instituted by Christ himself, Baptism and The Lord's Supper. Other sacramental acts are Anointing with Oil for Healing (James 5), the Covenant of Marriage, Confirmation, The Reconciliation of a Penitent, and Ordination.

Our worship is reverent and God-centered...

You will notice an atmosphere of worship, reverence and beauty as you enter our worship space. The space is "consecrated, that is, set apart for the purposes of glorifying and worshipping God. Regardless of the architectural style, your eyes are carried at once to the altar and cross. You will also notice that before the service begins people are not milling around and talking, but are quietly finding their places and praying. People are centering down on the presence of our holy God in this holy place.