

Various Names for the Divine Service and their Definitions

Divine Service: "God serving us. In turn, we serve the divine." LSB defines Divine Service as, "The name for the regular, weekly service that includes the celebration of the Lord's Supper." The German term for Divine Service is Gottesdienst - "Service of God to his people in Christ Jesus and our service to him which is rendered to Him in Christ's name." (Dr. Wayne Schmidt)

God's Activity - God always initiates service (Genesis 3, Genesis 8:20-22, Luke 10:38-40)

Our Response - (Psalm 51 - Heart must be right; It is serious act Malachi 1:6-9)

1. Repentance (Isaiah 6:5-7, Acts 2:38, Matthew 3:2, Acts 16:29-31)
2. Magnification of Christ (Luke 2:13-14, Luke 2:20, Philippians 2:5-11, I Corinthians 15:51-57)
3. Life of Good Works (James 1:22, I John 3:17-18, Isaiah 1:2-3)

Worship: The usual definition is, "to ascribe worth," or "to honor or revere a supernatural being or power." *Lutheran Worship* defines worship in the introduction much differently, "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. Most true and sure is his name, which he put on us with the water of our Baptism.... 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. Our Lord gives us his body to eat and his blood to drink. Finally his blessing moves us out into our calling, where his gifts have their fruition. how best to do this we may learn from his Word and from the way his Word has prompted his worship through the centuries." (LW 6)

The Lutheran Service Book says similarly, "Our Lord is the Lord who serves. Jesus Christ came into the flesh not to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. . . . Our Lord serves us today through His holy Word and Sacraments. . . . the Lord's service calls forth our service--in sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving to Him and in loving service to one another." (LSB viii)

Liturgy: "is the body of texts and rites that make up a sacred service." (Grout 33); "From a Greek word meaning "public service." (LSB, xxv)

Mass - comes from the service's closing phrase: *Ite, missa est* (Go, (the congregation) is dismissed).

Eucharistic Service: Service which contains the Eucharist. Eucharist means "to give thanks" and refers to the Lord's Supper.

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