

HOLY COMMUNION AND RELATED RITES



Welcome to ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP! The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada is a participant in RENEWING WORSHIP, a multi-year, five-phase process, undertaken by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, designed to renew the worship of the church and to produce the generation of worship resources to succeed the *Lutheran Book of Worship*.

HOLY COMMUNION AND RELATED RITES

This sixth volume in the RENEWING WORSHIP series focuses on the patterns of the people of God as they gather in the primary weekly assembly to worship God in the proclamation of the word and the celebration of the sacraments. In addition to the presentation of an annotated shape of the rite and a body of core as well as supplemental texts, this resource includes samples of newly composed music for the rite. Two examples of communion liturgies incorporate settings by different composers of acclamations for the word and meal portions. Other service music options are presented in a separate section, from which worship planners can select appropriate choices. Several outlined examples illustrate how different options can shape the liturgy for particular occasions.

Pastor James Brown (Waterloo, ON) served on the editorial team for *Holy Communion and Related Rites* while Pastor Jann Boyd (Saskatoon, SK), Pastor Volker Greifenhagen (Regina, SK), Pastor Harry Maier (Delta, BC) and Bishop Michael Pryse (Kitchener, ON) served on the development panel.

Holy Communion and Related Rites is presented primarily as a study volume, but is also intended to serve as a worship leader's edition. Two additional volumes are being developed to provide a "pew" edition and an accompaniment edition.

PEW EDITION: RENEWING WORSHIP LITURGIES

This pew version, *Renewing Worship Liturgies*, contains texts and melodies for the liturgies of *Holy Communion and Related Rites*. In addition, a congregational order for baptism is included, along with selected musical acclamations for baptism and life passages (marriage, healing, funeral). The release date is May 15, 2004.

RENEWING WORSHIP LITURGIES - ACCOMPANIMENT EDITION

This landscape *Accompaniment Edition* contains complete musical options for *Holy Communion and Related Rites* and for *Renewing Worship Liturgies*. Some of the newly commissioned Renewing Worship music is designed with melodies that can be accompanied in a variety of musical styles, such as: organ; organ with instruments and vocal descants; piano; piano with bass, guitar, and drums; and gospel piano. This volume, containing all the varied accompaniments for the music, is an important tool for trying and evaluating the Renewing Worship proposal of "multipurpose melodies." The release date is June 1, 2004. A recording of music from *Holy Communion and Related Rites* is planned for an early summer release.

ADDITIONAL PUBLISHED RESOURCES

To date, several additional volumes of trial-use resources have been published:

Congregational Song: Proposals for Renewal focuses on approaches to the renewal of the church's long heritage of congregational song. Included are traditional hymns having revised texts; texts paired to new tunes; restored texts and tunes.

In 2001, a series of consultations led to the formulation of *Principles for Worship* which address four dimensions of the church's worship: language, music, preaching and worship space. The *Principles* have provided a framework for each of the subsequent published resources.

Holy Baptism and Related Rites provides a variety of rites whose focus is to place baptism at the centre of our life together. *Life Passages: Marriage, Healing, Funerals* gives liturgical expression to the rites of passage that are part of the Christian journey.

New Hymns and Songs is a collection of text/tunes not found in either *Lutheran Book of Worship* or *With One Voice*. Many are new compositions. A companion volume entitled *The Renewing Worship Songbook* has been published in an inexpensive format for congregational use. Copies of the *Songbook* are being made available to delegates at all five 2004 ELCIC synod conventions and at BREAKING BREAD. BREAKING BOUNDARIES, the ELCIC's 2004 national worship conference.

PARTICIPATION IN ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP

All trial-use resources can be ordered from Augsburg Fortress Canada <www.afcanada.com>. Rites and other materials are also available for download from the Internet. Individuals, study groups, church leaders and others are invited to use and to evaluate these resources; to see how they work in the life of our communities; to reflect on the material; and to offer comments and suggestions to the Renewing Worship team either at <www.renewingworship.org> or by returning the forms in the published volumes.

There are many opportunities to participate in ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP at many levels. Two ELCIC pastors are members of the editorial teams and over 30 ELCIC pastors and lay people are members of the development panels.

Congregations, communities and individuals are encouraged to try out and to review the new resources. Returning evaluations and comments is an invaluable part of RENEWING WORSHIP. Feedback is critical to the process. In connection with the 2004 synod conventions, the ELCIC's Program Committee for Worship will offer workshops that will help to introduce RENEWING WORSHIP materials.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

We invite the people of the ELCIC to explore our participation in RENEWING WORSHIP. The ELCIC's *Lift Up Your Hearts* worship and spirituality web site <www.worship.ca> offers an area dedicated to ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP, the Canadian dimension of the RENEWING WORSHIP project. The ELCA's RENEWING WORSHIP website <www.renewingworship.org> is the principal project web site. It provides a comprehensive overview, a large number of downloadable trial-use resources, together with detailed and current progress reports on all aspects of RENEWING WORSHIP.

ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP COORDINATORS

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