

Where Two or Three Are Gathered: Worship for Small Assemblies

FALL 2018 – YEAR B

OCTOBER 7 – NOVEMBER 21, 2018

NOTES FOR PLANNERS

The seven weeks between September's Time of Creation and Christ the King Sunday (November 28) include three lesser festivals/occasions that communities may celebrate in their Sunday worship: Thanksgiving, Reformation, and All Saints. This collection of worship plans includes full orders (Service of the Word and Holy Communion) for each of those days.

Because of the possibility of using alternate lectionary texts on these three Sundays, these orders avoid an interrupted narrative of the Job texts (First Reading) by focusing instead on the Second Reading and the Gospel during this period.

The Thanksgiving (October 7) orders can be adapted for October 14 and 21, and the All Saints Sunday (November 4) orders may be adapted for November 11 and 18 as well.

Pentecost 25 falls on November 11 this year, the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1. Resources for that day are being posted separately on worship.ca

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY, YEAR B

October 7, 2018
HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG Oh worship the King ELW 842 verses 1-4

KYRIE CONFESSION

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. (Romans 8:22,23)

We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;
yet we have misused the earth
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You have brought order out of chaos, light in darkness, good out of evil,
but we have preferred darkness
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You have showered us with blessings,
but we have been grudging towards others
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

FORGIVENESS

May God, the giver of all,
forgive our sins
and assure us of God's abundant and lasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE Oh Worship the King ELW 842 verse 5

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

(Day of Thanksgiving, ELW p. 61)

WORD

FIRST READING 1 Timothy 2:1-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Listen, Listen God is calling (refrain) ELW 513 – may be sung or spoken

GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-33

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY We Praise You, O God ELW 870

CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the month of October, individuals may be invited in advance, or the assembly may be invited at the time of the prayers to complete each petition silently or aloud.

e.g. Gracious God, we pray for your church throughout the world . . .
Hear us.
Hear us, good Lord.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

MEAL

OFFERING

Offertory For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Offering Prayer for Thanksgiving, ELW p. 64)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN What Is This Place ELW 524

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG Now Thank We All our God ELW 840
or Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ELW864

DISMISSAL

Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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THANKSGIVING SUNDAY, YEAR B

October 7, 2018

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG Oh worship the King ELW 842 verses 1-4

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which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. (*Romans 8.22,23*)

We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;
yet we have misused the earth
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You have brought order out of chaos, light in darkness, good out of evil,
but we have preferred darkness
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You have showered us with blessings,
but we have been grudging towards others
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

FORGIVENESS

May God, the giver of all,
forgive our sins
and assure us of God's abundant and lasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE Oh Worship the King ELW 842 verse 5

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the
work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits,
and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

(Day of Thanksgiving, ELW p. 61)

WORD

FIRST READING 1 Timothy 2:1-7

For the word of God in scripture,
For the word of God among us,
For the word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Listen, Listen God is calling (refrain) ELW 513 – may be sung or spoken

GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-33

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY We Praise You, O God ELW 870

CREED

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Offertory Song For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of
grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Offering Prayer for Thanksgiving, ELW p. 64)

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (PSALM 126)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.
Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.
The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the month of October, individuals may be invited in advance, or the assembly may be invited at the time of the prayers to complete each petition silently or aloud.

e.g. Gracious God, we pray for your church throughout the world . . .
Hear us.
Hear us, good Lord.

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG Now Thank We All our God ELW 840
or Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ELW864

DISMISSAL

Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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PENTECOST 21/LECT 28, YEAR B

October 14, 2018

Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31

Suggested hymns

We are Called ELW 720
Take My Life that I May Be ELW 685, ELW 583
Come to the Table of Mercy ELW 481
The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve ELW 551
Only by Grace Worship & Praise 112
Seek Ye First With One Voice 783

PENTECOST 22/LECT 29, YEAR B

October 21, 2018

Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

Suggested hymns

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service ELW 712
Will You Come and Follow Me ELW 798
O Master, Let Me Walk with You ELW 818
Let Us ever Walk with Jesus ELW 802
The Lord Now Sends Us Forth ELW 538

REFORMATION SUNDAY, YEAR B

October 28, 2018

HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

A prayer of Martin Luther. Let us pray.
Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it.
I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.
I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent,
that my love may go out to my neighbor.
I do not have a strong and firm faith;
at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.
O Lord, help me.
Strengthen my faith and trust in you.
In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have.
I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor.
I am a sinner; you are upright.
With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness.
Therefore I will remain with you,
of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.
Additional Prayers, ELW, p. 87.

A word of promise from Jeremiah 31:31-34
The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

GATHERING SONG

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ELW 504

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Reformation Day, ELW p. 58)

WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 3:19-28

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Listen, Listen God is calling (refrain) ELW 513 – may be sung or spoken

GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW 588

CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the month of October, individuals may be invited in advance, or the assembly may be invited at the time of the prayers to complete each petition silently or aloud.

e.g. Gracious God, we pray for your church throughout the world . . .
Hear us.
Hear us, good Lord.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

MEAL

OFFERING

Offertory Song For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679

God of all creation, all you have made is good and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(ELW p. 107)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN That Priceless Grace ELW 591

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG Jesus Loves Me ELW 595 or Salvation unto Us has Come ELW 590

DISMISSAL

Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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REFORMATION SUNDAY, YEAR B

October 28, 2018

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

A prayer of Martin Luther. Let us pray.
Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it.
I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.
I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent,
that my love may go out to my neighbor.
I do not have a strong and firm faith;
at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.
O Lord, help me.
Strengthen my faith and trust in you.
In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have.
I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor.
I am a sinner; you are upright.
With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness.
Therefore I will remain with you,
of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.
Additional Prayers, ELW, p. 87.

A word of promise from Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

GATHERING SONG

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ELW 504

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Reformation Day, ELW p. 58)

WORD

FIRST READING Romans 3:19-28

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Listen, Listen God is calling (refrain) ELW 513 – may be sung or spoken

GOSPEL John 8:31-36

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW 588

CREED

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Offertory Song For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679

God of all creation, all you have made is good and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(ELW p. 107)

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (PSALM 46)

Consider having two or more voices for the leaders' parts

God is our refuge and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

though its waters rage and foam,

and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth melts away.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;

Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;

Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Jesus Loves Me ELW 595

DISMISSAL

Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, YEAR B

November 4, 2018
HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG Shall We Gather at the River ELW 423

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the thanksgiving is spoken

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
**By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
**Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honour and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.
(ELW p. 97)

As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly is sprinkled with water during the singing of the gathering song.

SONG OF PRAISE

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus ELW 451

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(All Saints Day, ELW p. 59)

WORD

FIRST READING

Revelation 21:1-6a

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

John 11:32-44

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rejoice in God's Saints 418 (optional alternate tune ELW 842)

CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SHARING OF THE PEACE

MEAL

OFFERING

Offertory may be sung (As the Grains of Wheat ELW 456) or spoken:

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become our bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Offering Prayer, General, ELW p. 64)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling,
and strengthen us to run the race set before us,
that we may delight in your mercy
and rejoice with them in glory.

And so, with *[names of beloved saints or the local deceased]*
and all the saints,
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ELW 191

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMNS

Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup ELW 492
Children of the Heavenly Father ELW 781
O God, Our Help in Ages Past ELW 632

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Prayer after Communion for Lent, ELW, p. 65)

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favour
and give you + peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

I Love to Tell the Story ELW 661 or For All the Saints ELW 422

DISMISSAL

In the path of the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, YEAR B

November 4, 2018

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Shall We Gather at the River ELW 423

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the thanksgiving is spoken

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
**By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
**Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honour and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

(ELW p. 97)

As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly is sprinkled with water during the singing of the gathering song.

SONG OF PRAISE

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus ELW 451

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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And also with you.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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WORD

FIRST READING

Revelation 21:1-6a

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

John 11:32-44

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rejoice in God's Saints 418 (optional alternate tune ELW 842)

CREED

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Offertory may be sung (As the Grains of Wheat ELW 456) or spoken:

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become our bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**
(Offering Prayer, General, ELW p. 64)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favour
and give you + peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

I Love to Tell the Story ELW 661 or For All the Saints ELW 422

DISMISSAL

In the path of the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PENTECOST 25/LECT 32, YEAR B
November 11, 2018

Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

Suggested hymns

Be Thou My Vision ELW 793
That Priceless Grace ELW 591
The Church's One Foundation ELW 654
We Are an Offering ELW 692
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service ELW 712
The Lord Now Sends Us Forth ELW 538

PENTECOST 26/LECT 33, YEAR B
November 18, 2018

Hebrews 10:11-14[15-18]19-25, Mark 13:1-8

Suggested hymns

Give Me Jesus ELW 770
My Hope is Built on Nothing Less ELW
My Faith Looks Up to Thee ELW 759
O Christ the Same ELW 760 or WOV
Goodness is Stronger than Evil ELW 721
My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW 763