

TRINITY NEWS

WEEK 30. July 21, 2019. Proper 11

Notes on the Liturgy #1

This morning we gather, as we do Sunday after Sunday, to offer common worship to God as part of the Christ's Body, the Church. Along with the vast majority of Christians (Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Lutherans, etc.) we are celebrating the Holy Eucharist. The liturgical styles, ceremonial, music etc. vary considerably from tradition to tradition; indeed, within our Anglican Communion itself there is great diversity; but the basic structure and the intention is always the same: the Proclamation of Christ's Life, Death and Resurrection and Coming Again, and our sharing in the Divine Life of the Holy Trinity through our Communion with Jesus Christ in the Holy Sacrament.

As interim rector I have decided to observe the traditional 'high church' liturgical practices of this diocese for as long as I'm here. But what tradition, or traditions, are best suited to this particular community in the long run is something that you all need to be exploring as you begin your search for new leadership – remember, offering worship to God is the most important thing we do as a Christian community, so it's vital to have honest and informed discussions among yourselves as to how you want to worship – always, of course, within the framework of the Book of Common Prayer liturgy.

To facilitate that discussion I plan to write a series of short (not necessarily consecutive) 'Notes on the Liturgy' explaining why we do what we do - the rationale behind various practices and customs, what they symbolize and so forth. I hope it will foster among you the kind of discussion that will help you clarify your needs for the future. Any specific questions you may have on this matter, please pass them on to me.