



# LITURGICAL CATECHESIS

## Week 7

### Introduction:

“The services at the sanctuary (Tabernacle & Temple) were the highlights of Israel’s religious life. The music, the choirs, the processions, the officiating priests, the concourse of people from all over the country and from colonies abroad, the lectures by the scribes and the other teachers were experiences never to be forgotten. The great festivals climaxed the ordinary services and released through the country waves of religious and national inspiration. A basic factor in the religious and national life of Israel was the instruction of the children... Israel’s history was used effectively to build and to strengthen their religious and national consciousness of being God’s people. Several of the Psalms served this purpose as a teaching and review of their history and God’s saving work, eg. Ps. 78, 104, etc.” -Rev. Dr. Jacob Tanner, *Atonement and Forgiveness: A Re-orientation*, “The Historic Situation”

*Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass (Liturgy). The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved, except that the parts sung in Latin are interspersed here and there with German hymns. These have been added to teach the people. For ceremonies are needed for this reason alone, that the simple be taught what they need to know about Christ... We must again make this preliminary statement: we do not abolish the Mass, but religiously keep and defend it. Masses are celebrated among us every Lord’s Day and on other festivals... The usual public ceremonies are observed, the series of lessons, of prayers, vestments, and other such things. (The Augsburg Confession, XXIV, 47:1-3, 220:1)*

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*“Wrong Question: Dr. Nagel why do you go to church?” That tempts me to talk about myself.  
Proper Question: Why would the Lord have us go to church?” - Rev. Dr. Norman Nagel*

<http://issuesetc.org/2011/10/09/issues-etc-classic-why-go-to-church-with-dr-norman-nagel-10092011/>

*“One ought not talk about oneself, it may hide Jesus from view.” Bo Giertz, The Hammer of God*

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*Where did the liturgy come from?*

*Lookup Mark 10:45; Luke 12:37, 22:27, John 13:4-5, 12-15*

*Would those words lead the early Christian to understand their worship as a continuation of the Lord’s service to them? Why?*

*Though worship is primarily God serving us, does God compel us through Christ-centered worship to go and serve others by sharing God's holy word?*

*"Seder" means order/structure." Discuss the three different kinds of orders/structures we find in Christian worship today:*

*Rite:*

*Space:*

*Time:*

*What are the two fundamental structures of the rite of the liturgy?*

*What are the most important parts of each and why are they the most important?*

*What are the ordinaries (parts ordinarily included in worship every Sunday but stay the same)?*

*What are the propers (parts of the liturgy included every Sunday but change to match the theme)?*

*The Lutheran Liturgy is the Historic Liturgy expressed in a Lutheran way, because it reflects Lutheran \_\_\_\_\_.*

*What is our Lutheran liturgy? (and why?)*

*Questions for thought or discussion:*

*How can the life of Jesus and the "eighth day" He has begun, help us when:*

*We are so busy that we don't have time for the Lord's Supper in the Lord's House on the Lord's day?*

*We begin to worry that the Sunday worship will last longer than an hour?*

*We live each day by the clock and calendar, with little thought toward Christ, His Word, and prayer?*

*We pass through a season like Advent or Lent, too busy with holiday plans and other activities, to attend mid-week services?*

*We live our lives more in view of retirement than in view of heaven?*