



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



## ELCA Worship News

September 2019

Greetings,

In these weeks following Churchwide Assembly, the Worship team thanks the many involved who helped make daily worship around word and sacrament central to the work of the assembly. Many volunteers came together to help plan and lead worship as well as coordinate and execute hundreds of tasks behind the scenes each day. Over 100 individuals each day visibly served in leadership roles, including over 70 communion ministers needed to serve an assembly totaling over 1,200 each day.

The assembly adopted constitutional amendments that now make ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service. [Interim Ministry Rites](#) related to the ministry of Word and Service are available from [ELCA.org/worship](http://ELCA.org/worship) under Worship Resources. In addition to an ordination rite, an updated installation rite and an Affirmation of Ministers of Word and Service are available to acknowledge one or more deacons in the context of a synod gathering or in a congregation. The interim rites will become fully authorized after review by the Conference of Bishops and approval of the Church Council.

Read on to learn about helpful worship and music resources to help aid the worship life in your context. Blessings on your worship participation, planning and leadership.

Deacon John Weit  
Interim Assistant to the Presiding Bishop  
Executive for Worship

### Frequently asked questions

Have you ever wondered?

There is a pattern and rhythm to worship that is not exclusively Lutheran, but we gather each week to worship and find its foundation within the pages of the Bible.

**What is the pattern of worship?**



## What are the biblical roots of worship?

If you would like additional information or do not find the question you need answered, we invite you to contact the worship staff at [worship@elca.org](mailto:worship@elca.org).

We enjoy hearing from you! It is a gift for those of us here at Worship to hear about the breadth and depth of worship practices around this church. If your particular context has a story, practice or resource to share with our staff, please send it to [worship@elca.org](mailto:worship@elca.org). Although we cannot share everything we receive, we may contact you for further information.

## Resources and Events

### A Lutheran Welcome

These highly visual and engaging booklets are for everyone. Whether someone is a visitor looking for a church home, a new member or a life-long Lutheran, these booklets are designed to capture their attention and welcome them to a Lutheran view on Baptism.



### Music That Makes Community Events

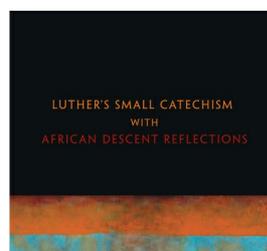
Music That Makes Community connects a worldwide network of practitioners and leaders who share a practice of paperless song leading. Learn how to teach the practice and create resources for making connections and building a repertoire of songs for leading paperless song.



See the website to find a conference or workshop in your area.

### Luther's Small Catechism With African Descent Reflections

In connection with the observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation events initiated by the 95 Theses, a



distinguished group of African- descent Lutheran theologians gathered at the offices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) to explore and reflect on Luther's Small Catechism.



### Lutheran Summer Music 2020

Brochures are now available to share detailed information with the young musicians in your congregations.

Click [HERE](#) to download a digital brochure or [email](#) to request hard copies from the admissions office.

You may also [nominate a student](#) online.



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