

SERVICE LEAFLETS

As we look toward the fall and the beginning of the program year (and yes, we know that “program year” is not a liturgical term), you might want to rethink your service leaflet.

When was the last time you evaluated your service leaflet (or bulletin)?

Have you looked at it like a visitor might?

Does it contain “code language?”

Do you print the whole liturgy, hymns and all, every week?

If so, why?

If not, how do you decide what to include?

I have visited a great many parishes throughout my church life and have seen many service leaflets – some very helpful and some not so much.

Some parishes print the entire service every week so that parishioners don’t have to juggle books. With a Book of Common Prayer and, possibly, three hymnals, this can be an issue, particularly for visitors. However, this can be expensive, not only for the office budget, but also for the environment. A good compromise might be to print the whole service on the days on which you expect a large number of visitors--- Christmas Eve, Easter Day, baptisms, etc.

Other parishes print a very bare bones leaflet, a practice which can be very confusing to parishioners and visitors alike.

I am going to propose something in between – a via media of service leaflets. The philosophy behind this approach is that using the prayer book is a good thing. Unfortunately, our liturgy sometimes skips around in the prayer book in ways that can be confusing. For instance, there seems to be no reason to direct folks to the prayer book for a one sentence response (Opening Acclamation) when they don't have another response until several minutes later, by which time they have put the book down to pick up the hymnal. Why not print the Acclamation and the congregational response in the leaflet?

What follows is a mock up of a service leaflet with comments inserted as to the purpose of each decision made. There may be many disagreements with some of the decisions made, but my principal point is that we need to think these things through and be intentional about what we include and what we omit.

So have at it!

St. Swithen's in the Swamp Episcopal Church

123 Main Street ~ Camden, VA 22334 ~ 804.555.5555
www.stswithens.org

We pray that all who enter St. Swithen's experience God's presence in this community of faith, a community that through Christ strives to be loving, joyous, inclusive, and transforming and filled with God's grace.

St. Swithen's welcomes you to this service. This service leaflet, the Book of Common Prayer (red), the Hymnal 1982 (blue) Wonder, Love, and Praise (green), and Lift Every Voice and Sing (black), provide the resources needed for participation in our worship. The hymns which begin with an "S" are in the front of the Hymnal 1982. We hope that you will feel at home at St. Swithen's and will return again soon and often.

Please silence all devices.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Visitor Card** - Our visitor card is located on the back of each pew. If you are new to St. Swithen's please complete it and give to one of the ushers.
- **Receiving Communion** ~ All baptized Christians are welcome at God's table. To receive, stand or kneel at the altar rail, simply hold your hands palms up and the priest will place a piece of bread in them. To receive wine from the chalice, assist the chalice bearer by holding the base and helping to guide it to your lips. Alternately, you may dip the bread into the cup, or, if you wish, you may cross your arms on your chest to indicate that you do not wish to receive the wine. Gluten free wafers are available; simply ask the priest. Children who are baptized are welcome to receive communion
- **Child Care** ~ Our youngest children, newborns through 2 years old, are cared for in our nursery located down the hall from the church. Child care workers are Jane Smith and Linda Jones.
- Restrooms are located around the corner from the entrance to the church.

LITURGY NOTES

Today is the 73rd Sunday after the Day of Pentecost. All of our hymns will be coming from the blue hymnal, *The Hymnal 1982*.

SERVING TODAY

Readers
Acolytes
Chalice Bearers
Ushers
Leader of the Prayers

Commented [EJ1]: Here is where an appropriate welcome is given. The Opening Acclamation is the liturgical greeting – not "Good morning."

Commented [EJ2]: Your congregation will look first at the service leaflet. It is important that information about hymnals and prayer book be shown early.

Commented [EJ3]: If gluten free wafers are distributed in a certain place, i.e. a chapel, it should be noted here.

Commented [EJ4]: It is important for folks to know where the nursery is located and who will be taking care of the children.

Commented [EJ5]: As with the nursery, it is important to let folks know the location of the restrooms.

Commented [EJ6]: This is a teaching moment. It doesn't have to be inserted every week – only if there is something important to note.

THE 73rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

31 September 2015

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude Voluntary J.S. Bach

Hymn 518 Christ is made the sure foundation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn S-278 Glory to God Setting by William Mathias

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

THE LESSONS

(Please be seated)

The First Reading - Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence follows the readings

Commented [EJ7]: Some churches insert the tune name at the right margin. No harm but most parishioners identify hymns only by the first line.

Commented [EJ8]: The Acclamation is printed so that newcomers don't have to open the BCP for a one line response.

Commented [EJ9]: By bolding all congregation responses better participation is guaranteed.

Commented [EJ10]: The prayer is printed instead of just noting the page in the BCP.

Commented [EJ11]: We have called this a hymn since it is found in the hymnal thus eliminating some confusion for visitors.

Commented [EJ12]: It is nice to note where silences happen. People are more comfortable with silence if they know that it is planned.

(Please remain standing)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Priest or Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Thomas K. Smith

A period of silence follows the sermon

Nicene Creed *BCP 358*

Prayers of the People

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the ^[11]name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory
Christ is made the sure foundation Ned Rorem
The text for this anthem is found in the Hymnal 1982, p. 518

At the Presentation
Hymn 301 Bread of the world in mercy broken

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A *BCP 361*
Hymn S-125 Holy, holy, holy Lord (*Sanctus et Benedictus*) Richard Proulx

(Eucharistic Prayer continues as the congregation kneels or remains standing)
The Lord's Prayer *BCP364*
At the breaking of the bread
Hymn S-154 David Hurd

Communion of the People

Hymn 121 Christ, when for us you were baptized

Commented [EJ14]: If it is the custom of your church to allow silence following the sermon and/or readings, note it in the leaflet. People are more comfortable with silence if they know that it is planned.

Commented [EJ15]: Insert whatever prayers you are doing here. They can be directed to one of the forms in the BCP, or if using something else, either print the prayers in their entirety or print the response to the petitions.

Commented [EJ16]: It can be helpful to print this so that visitors don't have to jump around in the BCP.

Commented [EJ17]: Unless your choir has perfect enunciation, it is helpful to give the words of the anthem. Observe copyright laws!

Commented [EJ18]: Can we get away from Old 100th? Watch our website for alternatives to this practice.

Commented [EJ19]: Some prompts about posture are helpful.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Standing or kneeling*)
Blessing

BCP 366

Hymn 432 O praise ye the Lord

Dismissal

Priest or Deacon
People

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Commented [EJ20]: Adding "alleluias" here is usually only appropriate during the Easter season.

Postlude Fugue

J.S. Bach

Altar Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Great Aunt Suzie who gave the electricity for today's service.

[Other announcements, the parish's prayer list, etc. can be given here]

Commented [EJ21]: Having as many announcements written, instead of spoken, is preferable so whenever announcements are made it doesn't feel like a town hall meeting.