

## Anglicanism 101

### **Class 3: How do We Worship? [Anglican Worship & Sacraments]**

**Liturgy:** from the Greek *leitourgia*, meaning “public work” (service for public good). For Christians, liturgy is the “vehicle by which the public worship of God is performed” (Senn); Anglican worship is guided by the liturgy, which includes the church calendar and the formal/arranged language in our worship. Our liturgy comes from a (catholic) stream of tradition that far predates the Church of England, dating back to the early church and evolving in our present day.

**Liturgical worship is:** Formal & Reverent

**Liturgical worship is:** Repetitive & Formative

**Liturgical worship is:** Participatory and Communal

**Liturgical worship is not perfect!** (No expression of worship is!)

**The Church Calendar:** 12-month tracing of salvation history (creation, fall, redemption, restoration), looking backward to the Garden of Eden, and forward to Christ’s reign after the final judgment. The church year and its seasons (traditions, colors, etc.) have evolved since the early church.

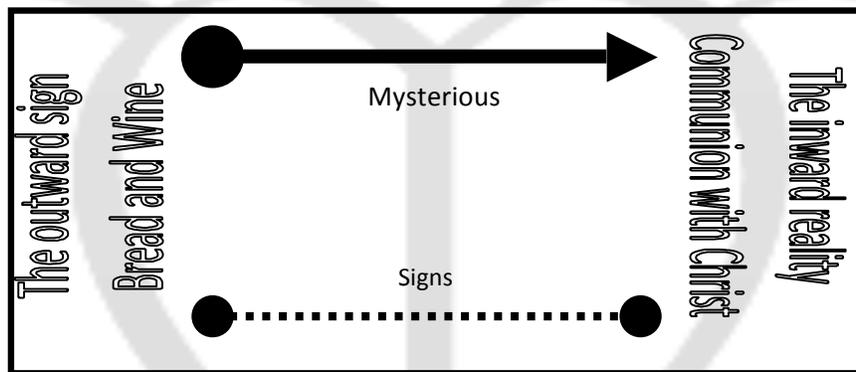
<b>Season</b>	<b>Approximate Dates</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Advent (Purple)	Late Nov.- Dec.	Preparation for the coming of the Lord, primarily for His second coming in glory, rather than His first coming in humility.
Christmas (White)	Dec. 25- Early Jan.	Celebration of the Incarnation
Epiphany (Green)	Early Jan - March	Epiphany means “to show forth.” Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of God, through Jesus Christ to all people. The season of Epiphany culminates with the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, the “high point” of His revelation.
Lent (Purple)	March - April	A 40 day period from Ash Wednesday till Easter Sunday of prayer and fasting and penitence in preparation for Easter
Easter (White)	April -May	A 50 day period from Easter to Pentecost celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ
Ordinary Time (Green)	May- Late Nov.	The longest season of the church year and emphasizes the normal growth of the Christian life, concluding on Christ the King Sunday in late November

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- **Implications of the church calendar:** Pace.
  - 12 days to celebrate Christmas
  - 40 days to repent
  - 50 days to celebrate Easter...

**Sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist** (Confession and Absolution, Holy Matrimony, Confirmation, Ordination, Anointing of the Sick)

- “An outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible grace” (Augustine)
- Anglicans recognize two sacraments. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. These (unlike other things which are sacramental in nature) are normative for all Christians and both are found in the Gospels.



The two statements listed below represent very different beliefs about the efficacy of the sacraments. The Anglican Church insists that both are said.

1549: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life.

1552: Take and eat this, in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart by faith, with thanksgiving.