

The Sophia Network

Core Values of Effective Liturgy

Being continually open to conversion.

- The movement of the Spirit is a movement inviting change.
- Even something seemingly static is filled with potential for growth.
- Even as our growth in sanctification is continual, so is our expansion in worship.
- The single unifying trait in Anglican worship is the ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

Understanding rite, order, and ritual as means and not ends.

- God did not write the Book of Common Prayer - the Church did.
- Tools for effective worship are only as useful as the result - the act of worship.
- The question is NOT did we do it right? the question is did we worship?

Honoring affectionate experience in worship.

- *Human beings are created to live in love.
- Culture seeks to deprive people of their fundamental nature - powers that be.
- The Gospel calls us to return to the path of love in all human interaction, including worship.

Creating worship that is popular.

- All of the people are experts.
- Every part of the worship is open to the universal experience of humanity.
- Making use of the vernacular not only in language, but in culture.
- Creating worship that bears the mark of human hands.

Using worship as missionary.

- Our worship is primarily for those who are not yet with us.
- Hospitality is the first act of worship.
- There can be no outcasts in worship - all people are welcome.

Never allowing worship to be passive observation.

- Worship is not in any way performance.
- If liturgy is the work of the people, then the people must be allowed to work.
- Worship, done well, will engage, enrage, and enthrall.

Finding the place where Divine and human desire meet.

- God creates us to delight in, and wonder at creation.
- Just because we desire it does not mean that it is what God desires.
- Nevertheless, we must seek after our desire.

Sophia Network is a community of people dedicated to Liturgy, Scholarship, and Spirituality. Our conferences are designed around the renewal of the liturgist and the art of liturgy. We bring specialists in this field together with liturgical leaders for the revitalization of mission and ministry at the congregational level. The Sophia Network has sponsored five national conferences in Indiana, Texas, Maryland, and San Francisco. For more information, contact Paul Fromberg at paulfromberg@hotmail.com.