



# Lay Leadership in Worship Course 2025

## Session 7

# Small groups: reflection

*Following the liturgical year lets us follow Christ's footsteps, uniting us with his life. In what ways will this change you and the way you reveal your faith, your commitment to the world? Are there ways in which this could be made visible in the way you lead worship?*



# What we've learned so far

Session One:	The Purpose of Worship
Session Two:	The Lectionary
Session Three:	The Context of Anglican Worship
Session Four:	Evening Prayer
Session Five:	Morning Prayer
Session Six:	Bringing Liturgy to Life
Session Seven:	Worship Leadership Resources
Session Eight:	Reporting back on mentored practicum



# What you can do:

- Lead the offices in the BCP, BAS or Pray without Ceasing
- Lead offices from any of the Books of Common Prayer in the Anglican Communion, or resources approved by the Diocese of British Columbia
- Preach sermons from [www.sermonsthatwork.com](http://www.sermonsthatwork.com)
- Grow in creativity, skill and prayerfulness as you say the offices often, on your own, or with others.
- Plan the services together in your parish. This is a team effort.



# What you cannot do:

- Be a *Lay Reader*. The system of Lay Readers no longer functions in the Diocese.
- Lead a Eucharist service, or use a Eucharistic liturgy (or part thereof)
- Do a “Deacon’s Mass” (offer communion in the service)
- Offer absolution – change “you” to “us” in prayer of absolution
- Invent your own services that do not follow a traditional, approved format
- Write your own sermons.



# The structure of the Offices & Liturgy of the Word

## 1. Preparation

- Confession, Forgiveness

## 2. Gathering

## 3. Proclamation of the Word

- Psalm(s), Scripture Reading(s), Responsories/Canticles

## 4. Affirmation of Faith

## 5. Prayers (including Lord's Prayer, Collects, Litanies, Responses)

- Praise, Intercession, Petition, Thanksgiving – spoken and silent

## 6. Sending Forth: Dismissal



# Where you get to make choices

*– Okay to use other sources*

- Preparation
  - Opening Sentence
  - Confession/Absolution (Penitential Rite) OR Opening Response
- Invitatory
- Psalm(s) Appointed
- Scripture
  - Each reading followed by *Canticle/Responsory/Hymn/Song*
- *Affirmation of Faith*
- *Prayers – Litanies, Collects, Lord's Prayer*
- Dismissal



# Practicum – what does it involve?

## Guidelines for Lay Leadership in Worship Practicum:

- Participants are required to lead three separate services of liturgies of the word, such as Morning Prayer or Evening Prayer. Noonday prayer is not a valid service, nor is part of the Eucharist service.
- It is suggested that you don't try to do these services on a Sunday morning, as you are not yet licensed, and it will be difficult to achieve this with parish worship schedules. Be creative. Try to ask members of the choir, the Ladies' Guild, Parish Council and other groups if they can come early to their meeting and participate in worship with you – most people are willing to help a learner!
- You may not share leading the service with another person, but you are encouraged to involve fellow parishioners in the prayers, readings, psalms, canticles, etc.
- Your service need not involve a sermon. When you are licensed to lead as a Lay Minister, remember that you are not permitted by the Bishop to preach unless you have a licence to preach. In choosing a prepared sermon from a source like [Sermons that Work](#), be sure to choose one that is appropriate for your congregation. Acknowledge the author of the sermon before you read it.
- The three services may be in person or via Zoom, but they should include: the officiant (you), a congregation of at least three people, and your mentor.
- The role of the mentor is to assist you to plan the liturgy, and the bulletin, if a bulletin is being used. The mentor should also attend the service, in order to be able to give you helpful feedback – this is where the learning takes place.
- If it is not possible for the mentor to attend in person, a good recording showing both the celebrant and some of the congregation can be made for the mentor to view. The sound should be clear.
- The liturgies used may be from the BAS or the BCP or from Pray without Ceasing, but any official liturgy approved for use by a Province in the Anglican Communion may be used. Some of these are listed on the Diocesan Worship Resources: [Authorised Liturgies webpage](#). [Pray without Ceasing](#) and the other worship resources used in this course can be found on the [Lay Leadership in Worship Resource](#) page, also under Worship Resources.
- You should use the Sunday Eucharist readings for these services, to familiarize yourself with accessing the Revised Common Lectionary. This can be found on the [Anglican Church of Canada Lectionary page](#), or on the [Vanderbilt Lectionary page](#) (navigate using the lefthand menu)



# Practicum – Questions?



# Rogation Days

## 17. For the Nation

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The Collect for Independence Day may be used instead.*

*Preface of Trinity Sunday*

## 18. For Peace

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquillity your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*Preface of the Season*

## 19. For Rogation Days

*For use on the traditional days or at other times*

*I. For fruitful seasons*

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you

thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Preface of the Season*

*II. For commerce and industry*

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*Preface of the Season*

*III. For stewardship of creation*

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Preface of the Season*



# Frequently Asked Questions

1. The Revised Common Lectionary is adapted slightly for each Province in the Anglican Communion, like the Anglican Church of Canada. Use McCausland's Ordo (the BAS section) or the ACC Lectionary Page at <https://lectionary.anglican.ca/>
2. Primary Sunday Services use the Eucharist Readings only (HE). Use the Daily Office readings for the other services.
3. As the presider of the service (not celebrant), you may choose to read the Gospel reading. People are not required to stand for services other than the main Sunday morning service.



# Small Group Discussion: Practicum

Discuss your ideas for three morning or evening prayer services with your group.

Have you met with your mentor to discuss this?

Are you working with others to plan and implement your service?



# Resource Page

<https://www.bc.anglican.ca/resources/worship-resources/pages/lay-leadership-in-worship-resources>



# Next steps

Check-in Session 8 in 1 month's time

Thursday June 5, 7 PM, via Zoom



# Next steps

Certification process will differ according to your diocese. I will be in touch with Bishop David and with Jessica Schaap, to ask them to contact you.

