

Major points from last week

Three streams of Christian Worship exist in the world today:

Evangelical – The Bible is the Holy Word of God

Charismatic – The Holy Spirit is at work in God’s children today, powerful and mighty

Sacramental – God makes visible to his church his presence and blessing through the use of outward and visible signs which convey and inward and spiritual Grace

All three streams “converge” and are at work in the church and worship at the same time.

Charismatic: music; prayers; inspiration; the work of the Holy Spirit in those gathered; Eucharist – bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus

Evangelical: readings; sermon; obeying (do this in remembrance of me); proclaiming (Thanks be to God; Amen; the Creed)

Sacramental: the structure of the mass, or liturgy (banks of the river that hold the three streams together); Grace imparted through vestments, crosses, movements, incense

The CEC is a convergence worship church: All three streams come together in one place

Wholly Charismatic

Wholly Evangelical

Wholly Sacramental

John 3:1-6

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."

We are born of the flesh

We must be born of the Spirit as well

Being born again means that the Spirit of God has been breathed into your spirit

- Genesis 1:26 - We are made in the image of God
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23 – We are spirit, soul, and body
- Ephesians 2:1 – Our flesh follows the way of this world, when our Spirit is born again we can follow the ways of God.

Why be born again?

To more fully follow God empowered by his Spirit;

To receive greater Grace and a closeness with God we cannot otherwise know;

To move from "believing that God exists" into actually "believing IN" God

To move from being a Christian believer to being empowered by the Holy Spirit of God

(Acts 8:14-19)

How to Be Born Again

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

Believe in Jesus

Confess Jesus as your Lord and Savior – seek amendment of life

Receive Jesus

Have Faith in Jesus

How to be filled with the Holy Spirit

Ask!!

Ask for forgiveness of sins and the power to turn away from sinful practices and desires

Ask Jesus to be your Savior – Ask him to renew your belief and commitment to him as Savior

Ask other believers to pray with and for you



Chalice of wine
Sacramental

Gospel book on the altar
Evangelical

Fire of the Holy Spirit
Charismatic

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

After each prayer is said:

“Lord in your mercy”

All respond:

“Hear our prayer”

At the conclusion of the prayers, the Leader says:

“The Peace of the Lord be always with you”

All Respond: “And also with you”
