

Church Page Reflection: The Resurrection of Liturgy

By Sarah Dixon Young

liturgy: (n) a form or formulaary according to which public religious worship is conducted; from the Greek "leitourgia," meaning public service

The mass might have been in Latin for all my classmates knew. I peeked to the right and to the left. It was Wednesday. Our whole row appeared monotonous, wearing one school uniform, having the same ponytail hairstyle, and chanting the same words. The liturgy seemed to be that part of the mass that was most repetitious, that I can still say while thinking of something else, and that was most different from my Protestant church. This week, as I picked up Jonathan Gibson's be



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thou my vision: A Liturgy for Daily Worship, I was somewhat surprised by the same chanted prayers. The Glory Be, the Our Father, the catechismic rhythms that had allowed my mind to wander around St. Anastasia's Catholic parish, all made me wonder why there's been this sudden resurgence of liturgy. Doug McKelvey and

Rabbit Room Press have sold over 300,000 copies of their volumes of Every Moment Holy: New Liturgies for Daily Life in an effort to eliminate the spiritless chanting and reclaim the sacred purpose of moments like sharing a meal with friends, lighting the first hearthfire of the season, or even changing a diaper. Why is this generation hungry for the liturgical? Gibson claims that liturgy helped him to refocus his personal devotions in the chaos of covid. McKelvey and co. reclaim the purpose behind the monotony, helping readers think past their own busy-ness to the substance of life, focusing readers' minds on the eternal even in the midst of the temporal. Perhaps for the rest of

us, liturgy silences the chaotic feel of the evening news. It gives structure and resonance when we've been scattered by doomscrolling. It resurrects a devotion that was dead and cold by bringing order and attention to the word of God and the Word of God. Like a favorite pair of sweatpants, the comfort of the familiar calms us when we incorporate any sort of form or liturgy into our worship- personal or public. Every church I've attended, no matter the denomination, has an order of service because God is a God of order, not chaos. Paul told the church in Corinth, "All things should be done decently and in order." It isn't wrong to have

structure to our worship. However, we know that the liturgy itself shouldn't be the source of our comfort. Jesus told the religious folks of His day: "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition." Perhaps the wild chaos around us pushes us to be in such a rage to establish our liturgical practices that we neglect the substance and source of our comfort: Christ. Only He never changes. Only He is the fountain of all comfort. Only He offers a refuge in times of trouble. Perhaps liturgy has been resurrected because of these troubled times, but Christ was resurrected for all time. We never tune out His comfort, no matter how

familiar, because of the depths of our need. His resurrection brought eternally more life than our liturgies ever could. Let us join together to worship the One who is deserving of all our worship, no matter what form our liturgy takes. Sarah Dixon Young uses stories everyday to share the love of Jesus with her family, friends, and neighbors. She lives in Fort Totten, ND with her husband, Paul, and their four children. She is the author of five books, many articles, and more Sunday School lessons than she can count. You can follow her adventures or get in touch at www.SarahDixonYoung.com

Praise for Charlie Kirk's faith and mark on the "conservative" movement

GLENDAL, Ariz. (AP) — President Donald Trump praised Charlie Kirk as a "great American hero" and "martyr" for freedom as he and other prominent conservatives gathered Sunday evening to honor the slain conservative political activist whose work they say they must now advance. The memorial service

for Kirk, whom Trump credits with playing a pivotal role in his 2024 election victory, drew tens of thousands of mourners, including Vice President JD Vance, other senior administration officials and young conservatives shaped by the 31-year-old firebrand. "He's a martyr now for America's freedom," Trump said in his trib-

ute. "I know I speak for everyone here today when I say that none of us will ever forget Charlie. And neither now will history." Speakers highlighted Kirk's profound faith and his strong belief that young conservatives need to get married, have children and pass on their values to keep building their movement.

They also repeatedly told conservative activists, sometimes in forceful tones, that the best way to honor Kirk was doubling down on his mission to move American politics further to the right. Kirk's widow, Erika, in her own address said in the midst of her grief she was finding comfort that her husband left this

world without regrets. She said she forgives the man who is charged with killing him. "My husband, Charlie, he wanted to save young men, just like the one who took his life," said Erika Kirk, who is taking over as Turning Point's leader. She added, "I forgive him." Kirk's assassination at a Sept. 10 appearance on

a Utah college campus has set off a fierce debate about violence, decency and free speech in an era of deep political division. The shooting has stirred fear among some Americans that Trump is trying to harness outrage over the killing as justification to suppress the voices of his critics and political opponents.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

ASSEMBLY OF GOD River of Life 1903 Hwy 20 Devils Lake 701-662-4582 www.riverlife.us Sunday: 10 a.m. worship	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS 20th St. & Lincoln Ave. Devils Lake Sunday: 10 a.m. Sacrament at 11 a.m.	LIGHTHOUSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD Fort Totten, N.D. 701-766-4826 Sunday 10:30 a.m.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 515 Fourth St. Devils Lake 662-7558 Monday -Friday at 12:00pm Tuesday at 10:00am at Odd Fellows Wednesday at 10:00am at Eventide Friday at 9:30am at St. Joseph School Saturday at 8:30am & 5:00pm Sunday at 7:30am, 9:00am & 11:00am	ST. WILLIAMS CATHOLIC CHURCH Maddock, N.D. 438-2668 Wednesday: 7 p.m. Mass. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass. Mass at 5 p.m. on the first Friday of the month.
ASSUMPTION OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH Starkweather, N.D. 292-4301 Sunday: Mass: Rotating 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. with St. Mary's, Munich Call 682-5178 (Munich).	DAKOTA BAPTIST CHURCH West Highway 57 Fort Totten Church - 766-4516 Sunday: 11 a.m. worship.	MORNING STAR PARISH 701-262-4714 www.morningstarparish.com Worship services at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. rotating: American, Pekin, Warwick, Sigdal and Sheyenne Lutheran	ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH St. Michael, ND 58370 766-4151 Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.	SEVEN DOLORS CATHOLIC CHURCH Fort Totten 766-4314 Sunday: 11 a.m. Mass. Daily Mass: 7 a.m.
BDECAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Tokio, N.D. (2 miles south of Tokio, near Woodlake) 294-2283 www.bdecanpresbyterian-church.org Worship: at 11 a.m., Sunday school kids K - 5 grade during worship, potluck meal after	DAKOTA OYATE LUTHERAN CHURCH 294-2361 Tokio, N.D. 11 a.m. worship	NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP North Junction of Hwy. 15 & 20 Rural Hamar 262-4470 Sunday: 10:30 a.m. worship service	ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 601 6th St. NE Devils Lake, ND 662-4911 9:30 a.m. Worship (September - May) Summer: 8:30 a.m. at Retreat Center 11 a.m. at St. Olaf (June - August)	TRINITY-BERGEN AFLC LUTHERAN CHURCH PO Box 46 Starkweather Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion every Sunday
BETHEL EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 1312 East Walnut St. Devils Lake 662-3758 www.bethelfree.com Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.	EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue Devils Lake 11 a.m. Morning prayer 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Holy Eucharist- 4th Sunday	OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 612 14th Ave. NE Devils Lake, N.D. 662-5112 Sunday: 10 a.m. Service Wednesday: 6 p.m. Service	ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 7th St. & 7th Ave. 662-2245 Devils Lake Missouri Synod Worship: 11 a.m. Dial-a-Devotion: 662-3158.	WEBSTER CHAPEL Webster, N.D. Worship is at 9 a.m. the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays.
CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH Tokio Saturday: 7 p.m. Mass all year round.	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 601 Fifth St. NE Devils Lake Sunday 9:30 a.m. worship	PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (NALC) 1700 Fifth Ave. NE PO Box 1041 Devils Lake, N.D. 662-3565 Worship Sunday 9:30 a.m.	ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Fort Totten, N.D. 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays, 4th Sunday - Morning Prayer	WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 501 Fifth St. NE Devils Lake, 662-3584 Sunday worship 11:00 a.m.
CHURCH OF GOD (SEVENTH DAY) 607 Fifth St. S.E. Devils Lake Saturday: 2 p.m.	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 311 5th Ave. NE Devils Lake 701-230-1332 Sunday: 10:30am and 6 p.m.	ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH Esmond, N.D. 249-8360 Tuesday-Saturday: Weekday Mass at 9 a.m. Saturday: 5 p.m. Mass. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass.	ZOAR FREE LUTHERAN Hampden, North Dakota Pastor Craig Wentzel May through August Worship Sundays 9 a.m.	If you would like to make changes or corrections to this ad, please contact Louise at loleson@cmpapers.com
HIGH PLAINS MINISTRY Nekoma, Lawton, Concordia, and Our Redeemer's	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Lakota Missouri Synod Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.	ST. JEROME'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Crow Hill District Hwy. #57, One mile N. Saturday: Mass 5 p.m.		
LAKOTA LUTHERAN CHURCH LAKOTA, ND 247-2777 Sundays: 10 a.m.				

This week's listing brought to you by the following local businesses:

-Devils Lake Journal & the Country Peddler
516 4th St., 662-2127

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1115 2nd Ave. NE, 662-5366

-Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 756
314 3rd Ave NE, 662-4117

-Glibertson Funeral Home
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-Altru Health System
1001 7th St NE, 662-2158

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323 5th St. NE, 662-4945

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