



## ELCA Worship News

June 2020

Dear siblings in Christ,

“God is in the midst of the city ... the Lord of hosts is with us” (Psalm 46:5-7).

Greetings to you in these first days after Pentecost. And what days they have been. We as the Worship team trust that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, continues to comfort and challenge, accompany and lead. Your congregations are likely living more fully into a pattern of online worship experiences or changed in-person worship as this pandemic continues. At the same time, we are called to recognize the systemic racism and injustice that continue to afflict our church and world.

With all of what is unsettling and overwhelming, we know that God is in the midst of God's people. As the Worship Team, we have been working on resources that we hope are helpful to you in this time. In addition to the ELCA's [“Considerations for Returning to In-person Worship,”](#) ecumenical guidance has recently been made available: [“Resuming Care-filled Worship and Sacramental Life During a Pandemic.”](#) An ecumenical group of theologians, scientists, physicians, pastors, and practitioners from the United Methodist, Episcopal, Pan-Methodist, and Roman Catholic churches, along with the ELCA and others, met in consultation and prepared this document, and we commend it to you.

For the first time this year, you were encouraged to mark the June 17 [commemoration of the Emanuel Nine](#). Many of these [resources](#) can serve ongoing worship needs around racial justice. The piece “Lamenting Racism,” from the forthcoming All Creation Sings worship resource, could be especially useful surrounding difficult conversations.

In these times of grief, sorrow, fear, anger, and uncertainty, may the powerful Spirit of Christ fill you abundantly for the worship and work you are doing. God is with us.

Peace in Christ,  
Deacon Jennifer Baker-Trinity  
Program Director, Resource Development

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### Worship in the Home

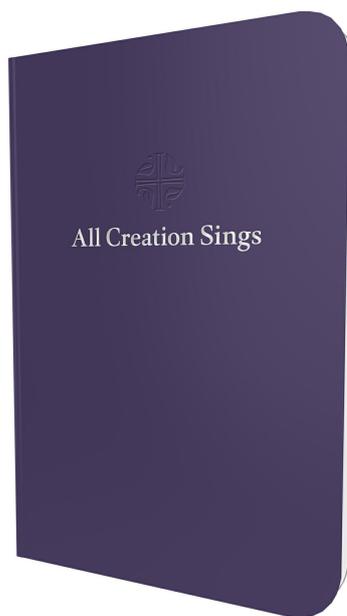
Available each week on the ELCA Worship blog are materials for [“Worship in the Home.”](#) Although various formats of livestreaming worship work well in many contexts, you are encouraged to worship as you are able in homes on Sunday and throughout

the week. Consider ways to pray and sing using this resource at home. If you don't have a hymnal at home, perhaps churches might safely distribute copies for home use. In addition to Sunday worship resources, [resources for Daily Prayer](#) are available, including simplified forms of Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Night Prayer, as well as table prayers.

### All Creation Sings

Here in "Worship News" we have been highlighting All Creation Sings, the forthcoming liturgy-and-song supplement to Evangelical Lutheran Worship. A digital preview highlighting a sample of the liturgical content and assembly song is available on the [All Creation Sings website](#). New on the ELCA Worship blog is a post titled: "[All Creation Sings: Prayers, Thanksgivings, and Laments.](#)"

A list of the included 200 hymns and songs is now available for viewing at [AllCreationSings](#).



If you would like additional information or do not find the question you need answered, we invite you to contact the worship staff at [worship@elca.org](mailto:worship@elca.org).

We enjoy hearing from you! It is a gift for those of us here at Worship to hear about the breadth and depth of worship practices around this church. If your particular context has a story, practice or resource to share with our staff, please send it to [worship@elca.org](mailto:worship@elca.org). Although we cannot share everything we receive, we may contact you for further information.

## Resources and Events

### Resuming Care-filled Worship and Sacramental Life During a Pandemic

A new in-depth resource of safe practices for worship during the pandemic has been created by an ecumenical consultation. In addition to representatives from several denominations in the United States, the consultation team included scientists and medical professionals.



## Association of Lutheran Church

### Musicians

#### Summer Friday Webinar Series

Was your summer conference canceled due to COVID-19? ALCM is providing Friday webinars on topics you might have experienced at your conference. We invite you to [explore and register for the summer webinars](#). Special Summer-of-the-Pandemic rates are available today.



#### We Are Church, We Are Called 50 Years of Ordained Women 50 • 40 • 10

June 29 marks the 50th anniversary of opening the door to women's ordination. It marks 40 years of women of color being ordained and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely. Through worship, Bible studies and forums, congregations are encouraged to hold commemorative events throughout the year!

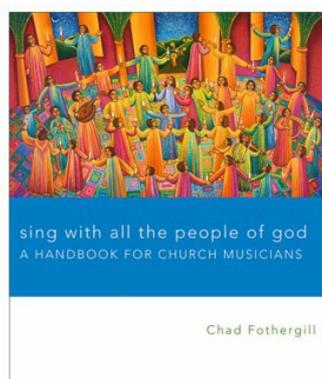


#### Music that Makes Community

[Music that Makes Community](#) continues to explore online song leadership through Zoom and sharing music for virtual worship contexts. Webinars are offered monthly on a variety of topics. Information may be found on the [MMC website](#). MMC's [Facebook page](#) and [Facebook group](#) offer timely resources and music, as well as space for your questions and reflection.



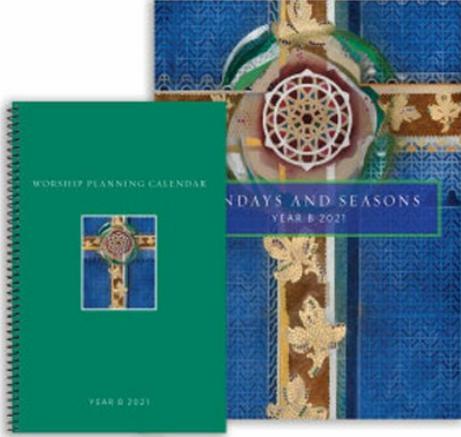
## Worship Resources from Augsburg Fortress





**A Lutheran Welcome  
Sampler Pack**

**Sing with All the People of  
God: A Handbook for Church  
Musicians**



**Sundays and Seasons 2021 –  
Year B Planning Guide and  
Preaching Combo Pack**

**Sundays and Seasons 2021 –  
Year B Planning Guide and  
Calendar Combo Pack**

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