

The Temptation to be Satisfied with Bread  
1 Lent 2008

"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Introduction: We have begun our forty day fast with our Lord Jesus again this Lent. \_\_\_\_\_ can be used to further a deeper walk with God but it also can \_\_\_\_\_ from that deeper walk. We hunger for many things.

Fasting is one outward sign of this season's journey. Fasting before the mass is still a common practice for many. Fasting is meant not to take on a diet for reducing or make us more religious, but to help us focus \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus journey toward sacrifice. Like him we can be \_\_\_\_\_ with the obvious – if you're hungry you want to eat! Perhaps when you're not hungry you want to eat!

We can be tempted and satisfied with \_\_\_\_\_. God intends for our souls. And today, there are so many more temptations 'out there' that create 'competing' hungers in our lives. This Lent my prayer is that you and I will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be satisfied with just bread.

To help facilitate this I am preparing a series of note-taking homilies this Lent. Why go through the extra effort? Without \_\_\_\_\_ we worship in \_\_\_\_\_. I would not have you ignorant of the meaning of what we pray every Sunday. I would not have you satisfied with just bread and have you go away thinking, "I have done what is expected, and my hunger should be filled." That's why Christmas and Easter visitors will go away \_\_\_\_\_.

There are people who are satisfied with bread when they could have \_\_\_\_\_ – yet if they settle for less what are they saying to God about the riches of his grace?

Dear God help us see the difference between paring off a \_\_\_\_\_ when we could have the whole \_\_\_\_\_! Teach us, there is much, much more to the Christian life. Amen

So we begin today with an overview of the topic of worship. What is worship?

- I. Worship – is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the created and \_\_\_\_\_ human mind to the \_\_\_\_\_ Creator, who is sensed but never fully known. 1
  - A. In the Bible the vision of God is one who is \_\_\_\_\_ yet can be a \_\_\_\_\_, intimate friend. Both attributes are true of God, yet this truth remains a mystery. \_\_\_\_\_ is at the heart of Christian worship in the Episcopal Church. The proper response to \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_. Who can explain why something or

someone is beautiful? The psalmist wrote, "Worship the Lord in the \_\_\_\_\_ of holiness" Psalm 96: 9, BCP pg. 726.

B. Worship is a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_, to human need, to our deepest fears, and to our greatest \_\_\_\_\_. Picture a sunset over an ocean beach, a laughing baby, bringing a meal to a neighbor, driving in a storm, snow gently falling through a wooded glen (two inches worth!)

C. In corporate worship, we \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with others to acknowledge the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, to hear God's \_\_\_\_\_, to offer \_\_\_\_\_, and to celebrate the \_\_\_\_\_. 2

1. Though each of us could worship in solitary fashion, scripture commends us to assemble ourselves \_\_\_\_\_, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" Hebrews 10:25 NIV.

2. Worship invites the best of the human spirit and can be expressed in poetry, \_\_\_\_\_, dance, \_\_\_\_\_, sound and sight, smell and \_\_\_\_\_ and taste.

D. Where do people worship? It takes place \_\_\_\_\_, whether cathedrals, tiny chapels, a park, a hospital bed, a prison cell or around a kitchen table.

1. "A church is a building designed to allow people to gather around an \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_ meal." 3

2. Some churches are in the shape of a \_\_\_\_\_ like Trinity Church to remind people that it is through the cross of Christ that we are saved. Others have their altar at the center and the people are gathered around it. In regard to the place of worship Jesus told the Samaritan woman, "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth" John 4:24 NRSV.

## II. The Prayer Book

(in two weeks)

### References

1. Welcome to the Episcopal Church: an Introduction to its History, Faith and Worship. Christopher Webber. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse, 1999, pg. 25.
2. Book of Common Prayer, Oxford University Press, New York, 1990. pg. 857.
3. Welcome to the Episcopal Church: an Introduction to its History, Faith and Worship. Christopher Webber. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse, 1999, pg. 26.