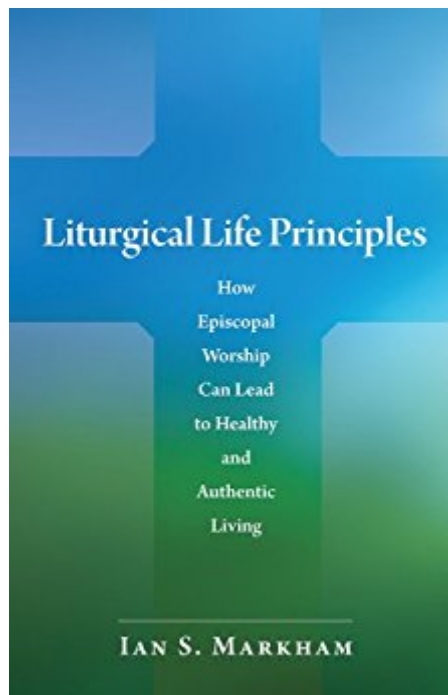




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Liturgical Life Principles: How Episcopal Worship Can Lead To Healthy And Authentic Living



Synopsis

In clear, accessible language, Markham demonstrates how the liturgy of the Episcopal Church can enable us to cope more effectively with the stresses and strains of modern life. This book is a delightful introduction to the movement and flow of Episcopal services and demonstrates how the liturgy can transform human lives. Markham shows persuasively how the whole purpose of the Christian liturgy is to provide us with the resources to enable God to facilitate healthy and authentic living. "The time has come for the Episcopal Church to explain that the liturgy in our services is intended to provide hope, when hopelessness is the only option. It is intended to enable us to cope, when coping is difficult. It is intended to help confront the demons of our past, when we imagine that the demons are bound to triumph. This is the Gospel. This is the purpose of our shared liturgical life." This book is written for those who are interested in the Episcopal Church. The primary focus is on the adult who is trying to cope with the stresses and demands of living in modern America. However, I am hoping the life-long Episcopalian might appreciate the study. Those who want to fall in love again with the liturgy.

— Ian S. Markham

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Customer Reviews

Some years ago while assigned as a Junior Resident on a Pediatric Neurosurgical unit at a major University Hospital, I faced a crisis of confidence. This moment of doubt was the culmination of long hours of work, 126 per week, lack of sleep plus severe mental and physical fatigue. On that afternoon after long hours in the operating room, I was alone and faced with making important clinical decisions on critically ill children. In desperation I sat down, lowered my head and pleaded "Dear God please help me". This plea lasted no more than 15 seconds. Upon opening my eyes and lifting my head I felt completely refreshed, with confidence restored and able to take on the tasks at hand. I realized there was a presence in my midst; it was not of the five senses: touch, taste, sight, hearing or odor, but what I felt involved the 6th sense of God's presence. I have asked for help on many occasions and always known of his presence. Now having read Ian Markham's "Liturgical Life Principles" I understand what had occurred in those brief moments. Reading LLP #2 is the first answer, "God wants to do the work; God wants us to let him". As you read this book, each LLP will impact your sense of being and your connection with the Trinity. You will be inspired to search the Bible and Book of Common Prayer for clarification of the concepts inherent in the text. There will be moments when you will transcend your every day life and find comfort in God's presence.

This book was an amazing read. As someone who is "coming back" to the church, this was an informative read. Though I have been going to the Episcopal church since I was a little girl and already know many of the processes, I learned so much! This book is also incredibly MOTIVATING! I have been struggling to get back in touch with God for a long time (quite normal in your 20's) and this book helped me turn that "light bulb on" and now I feel immensely better about myself and my relationship with others and God. An easy and joyful read...I recommend this to ALL who are either wanting to become an Episcopalian or for someone who already is!

This book does what it sets out to do. It explains the Episcopal liturgy in a way that makes it come alive and intensely relevant to what each of us is going through. I recommend it. There is, however, a puzzling flaw in the book- and one that is completely unnecessary to the volume. Appendix B (Sources- for Scholars) doesn't belong in the book at all. The Sources cited have nothing to do with

the book, or Episcopal liturgy, and are not what I would call academic Sources. Frankly the author's commendation of them detracted from his book. But, thankfully, if you ignore the Appendix, the text stands on its own as a fine read. Maybe a future edition will remove this extraneous wart.

I have been familiar with the liturgy of various churches for many years. Most of them have a lot in common. Unfortunately, I have viewed the liturgy primarily as an order of worship, without considering its transformative power. It appears that I am not alone. After reading this book, I will never look at it in that shallow, narrow way again. While I have always loved the liturgy, I now see it in a new and exciting light. There is more going on than meets the eye. Thanks be to God!

I would recommend this book to anyone that wants to learn more about the Episcopal Church whether you're a "Cradle" Episcopalian or just joined or maybe wanting to help someone else understand what it is to be an Episcopalian. It explains each step of the service using the Book of Common Prayer. I've raved about the book with many people at church. We are using the book in our Inquirer's Class.

We used this book in a Bible Study to understand the service. I highly recommend reading it. As a person who has always gone through the motions of the service, I enjoyed working through the study and reading this book to help me better understand WHY we do what we do and how worshiping comes together. Very helpful and well written.

Well written and informative. I should have given it only four stars since the author leaves out a discussion of the dismissal which is a very important element of the liturgy.

This is really interesting, very well written. Explains the entire service and what each part means. I learned a lot.

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