



CHRISTIAN  
WORSHIP



## Contents found in MANUALS AND SUPPORTING VOLUMES

July 2021

Some have asked for more detailed information about various supporting volumes in the new hymnal suite. Eventually this information may be available on the NPH website. Until that time, please find below the Tables of Contents for select supporting volumes.

To order these volumes:

<https://online.nph.net/church-supplies/categories/hymnals-songbooks/christian-worship-suite>

### Christian Worship: Accompaniment for Hymns, Volumes 1, 2, and 3

- Total of 683 hymns (657 in the pew edition and 26 appearing only in *Service Builder*). Spiral binding to ensure that pages remain flat while playing
- Additional 447 auxiliary keyboard settings of the following types:
  - Alternate key
  - Alternate setting
  - Modulation to a festive final stanza
  - Solo'd organ setting
  - Alternate organ or piano arrangement

Auxiliary settings often appear on the page facing the standard settings—a very practical feature for keyboard musicians. The 447 auxiliary settings alone, if purchased in separate volumes, could cost over \$400.

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# Foreword

*Christian Worship: Agenda* has been prepared for congregations and institutions of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod to be a source and guide for rites which are used in public worship. It accompanies *Christian Worship*, published in 2021, and replaces the 2004 publication *Christian Worship Occasional Services*.

As early as the fourth century, Christian churches gathered the rites and rubrics used in public worship in a volume entitled *agenda*. Lutheran churches retained that title after the Reformation and Lutheran agendas were usually published along with the church's *credenda*, its doctrinal confession. The *credenda* established what the church believed; the *agenda* set down the pattern of the church's worship.

The hundreds of hymnals published in post-Reformation Europe rarely included orders of service, and the agenda contained the form of the Sunday liturgy, the services of the Daily Office, and rites for baptism, marriage, funeral, etc. The pastor presided at worship with the agenda in hand and the people learned the rites by rote. English hymnals appearing in the 20th century (e.g., *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941) invariably included the main orders of service and the agenda provided only the occasional rites. This was the function of *The Lutheran Agenda*, published by the Synodical Conference of North America in 1950 and used by several generations of Lutheran pastors.

*Christian Worship: Occasional Services*, published 11 years after *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*, contained not only the rites commonly found in recent agendas but also a set of seasonal rites intended to enhance worship during the Christian Year. For that reason and because it was felt that the term *agenda* was no longer readily associated with worship, the title *agenda* was set aside.

This volume reclaims the traditional term *agenda* not only because of its historical connections but also because seasonal rites are not available in this book. (Seasonal rites and services are available in *Christian Worship: Service Builder*.) Thus *Christian Worship: Agenda* includes those rites and services used only occasionally in public worship. The rites include rubrics, i.e., instructions for the use of the rite. The rubrics also indicate whether an instruction ought to be followed or may be considered an option. Rites appear under headings which

denote their similarity. Those searching for the committal rite, for example, will find it under *Time of Death* along with the rite for Christian Funeral. The Table of Contents lists all the rites included in this book.

In general, this volume intended to revise *Christian Worship: Occasional Services* while reviewing long-standing rites in *The Lutheran Agenda*. Several rites included in the former were eliminated; several in the latter were restored. Among the goals of the revision was to shorten rites, update the language of ritual and prayer, and reflect the present practices of the Wisconsin Synod.

The pastors who carried out the initial work of this project are Steven Bode, Aaron Glaeske, G. Philip Arnold, and Prof. Keith Wessel, chair.

~ James P. Tiefel, editor

# Christian Worship: Planning Guide

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