

## Session Three - The Sacraments of the Church

### I. Reminder about Anglican Theology

- A. Sacred Scripture - God's Word
- B. Human Reason - Intellects to understand God's Word
- C. Tradition - Human Adaptation and Interpretation

A Sacrament: "I mean an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us; ordained by Christ himself, as a means whereby we receive the same, and a pledge to assure us thereof."

### II. Holy Baptism

#### A. Biblical Basis

The End of the Gospel of Matthew - The Great Commission

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."*

Matthew 28: 18-20

Jesus speaking to Nicodemus in the Gospel of John - the way to eternal life

*Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."*

John 3:5,6

#### B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. Cleansing of sin
2. Removal of the effects of Original Sin
3. Regeneration of the human person - restoration
4. Burial with Christ - dying to the world and self

### C. Human need

1. Initiation - joining, becoming, belonging
2. Welcome
3. Connection to something, someone more important than me

### III. Holy Eucharist

#### A. Biblical Basis

*Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."*

Matthew 26: 26-29

*And as they were eating, he took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the<sup>c</sup> covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I shall not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."*

Mark 14:22-25

*And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after supper, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."*

Luke 22:14-20

*For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

I Corinthians 11:23-26

Theology of the Holy Eucharist in Hebrews Chapter 9

#### B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. Re-Membering of the church of the Sacrifice of Christ
  2. Uniting the Church to Christ in his offering
  3. Feeding the Body of Christ the Church with the Body of Christ
- Corpus Christi Ecclesia and Corpus Christi Sacramentum*

#### C. Human Need - Nourishment

1. Communion - connection with the divine - love
2. God's Grace as food for body and soul

### IV. Confirmation

#### A. Biblical Basis

*Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit; for it had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Acts 8:14 - 17

## B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. Completion of Initiation
2. Mature acceptance of faith - entering into Holy Communion
3. Reception of the Holy Spirit for Mission
4. Strengthening for service

## C. Human Need

1. Rite of passage into adulthood
2. Making affirmative decision concerning mature faith
3. Full acceptance into the community

## V. Reconciliation

### A. Biblical Basis

*And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death<sup>f</sup> shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.*

Matthew 16:17-20

*Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."*

John 20:21-23

Model of the Sacramental Celebration -

Confession - Contrition and Amendment of Life - Absolution

*The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such. What do you say about her?" This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." And once more he bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the eldest, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus looked up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again."*

John 8:3-11

#### B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. Jesus as God can forgive sins - Jesus clearly teaches us in the healing of the paralytic (Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 2:9-11, Luke 5:20-25) when he contrasted physical healing and the forgiving of sin.

2. This authority has been given to the church and to her ministers

#### C. Human Need - comfort, counsel and understanding

1. The need to be heard
2. Relief from the isolation of sin
3. Assurance of pardon
4. Counsel concerning our actions and deeds

### VI. Unction - Anointing of the Sick

#### A. Biblical Basis

*Is any one among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects.*

James 5:13-16

*And he called to him the twelve, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. And he said to them, "Where you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. And if any place will not receive you and they refuse to hear you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet for a testimony against them." So they went out and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.*

Mark 6:7-13

#### B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. God will heal us if we seek his healing - body, mind or spirit as we most need
2. The connection between disorder, disease and sin

#### C. Human Need

1. Health
2. Human Touch
3. The assurance of healing either now or eternally

### VII. Marriage

#### A. Biblical Basis

*And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder." They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?" He said to them, "For your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery*

Matthew 19:3-9

*And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to put her away." But Jesus said to them, "For your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder."*

Mark 10:2-9

*On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples.*

John 2:1,2

#### B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. Marriage was instituted by God as part of the created order
2. There are two parts to a marriage - legal and spiritual
3. Christian Marriage is a Covenant Relationship - Couple and God

O God, who hast so consecrated the state of Matrimony that in it is represented the spiritual marriage and unity betwixt Christ and his Church;

1928 BCP

#### C. Human Need

1. Companionship
2. Stable environment for children
3. Physical and Spiritual security

### VIII. Holy Orders

#### A. Biblical Basis

Calling of the Apostles: Mark 1:16-21, Luke 5:1-11, John 1:43-51

*As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.*

Matthew 4:18-22

Sending forth: Great Commission, Authority Given (John 20:21-23)

Job Descriptions:

*The saying is sure: If any one aspires to the office of bishop, he desires a noble task. Now a bishop must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sensible, dignified, hospitable, an apt teacher, no drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and no lover of money. He must manage his own household well, keeping his children submissive and respectful in every way; for if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how can he care for God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may be puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil; moreover he must be well thought of by outsiders, or he may fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*

<sup>8</sup>*Deacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for gain; they must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then if they prove themselves blameless let them serve as deacons. The women likewise must be serious, no slanderers, but temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be the husband of one wife, and let them manage their children and their households well; <sup>13</sup>for those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

I Timothy 3:1-13

*This is why I left you in Crete, that you might amend what was defective, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you if any man is blameless, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of being profligate or insubordinate. For a bishop, as God's steward, must be*

*blameless; he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of goodness, master of himself, upright, holy, and self-controlled; he must hold firm to the sure word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to confute those who contradict it.*

Titus 5:1-9

## B. Traditional Theological Understanding

1. God calls men from the community of faith into His service
2. Apostolic Succession as Jesus sent the Apostles the Apostles sent other to the present day

## C. Human Need

1. Human Organizations need leadership

Examine the Workbook pages 23-31

Note: Book of Common Prayer instructs us for the celebration of the Traditional Seven Sacraments of the Universal Church

As Anglican Theologians who have used Scripture, Reason and the Tradition of the church, are there two sacraments or seven?