

Major points from last week

- 1) The CEC is a new work started by men from all different denominations who answered the call to embrace the worship and practice of the first century church
- 2) The CEC was started in the pro-life movement
- 3) The CEC received apostolic succession from Catholic Bishops, uniting our Bishops and the CEC to the disciples of Jesus
- 4) Our Bishops were consecrated in the lineage of two of Jesus' disciples: first in the lineage of James the Bishop of Jerusalem, and then in the lineage of Peter, Bishop of Rome
- 5) The CEC, by receiving Apostolic Succession, stands committed to the historic church of Jesus, and the worship and teachings of the initial Christian Church

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Convergence Worship

"There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells." Psalm 46:4

Three streams of Christian Worship exist in the world today:

**Evangelical** – The Bible is the Holy Word of God

**Charismatic** – The Holy Spirit is at work in God's children today, powerful and mighty

**Sacramental** – God makes visible to his church his presence and blessing through the use of outward and visible signs which convey and inward and spiritual Grace

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"Convergence" is the coming together of things.

Convergence worship is the coming together of the three main streams of Christian faith – all in one place.

The CEC is committed to an equal importance and expression of all three streams – no one stream is more important than the other

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Evangelical

The Bible is the Holy Word of God: Inspired; Inerrant; the chief witness to apostolic teaching; the church's source of nourishment and strength; contains all things necessary to salvation

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Charismatic

The Holy Spirit is at work in the Christian believer

All the gifts of the Spirit are manifest in the church today

“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.” Ephesians 4:11-12

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Sacramental

Sacrament: An outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace.

Baptism – outward sign is water; inward grace is the forgiveness of sins

Holy Communion – outward sign is bread and wine; inward grace is the body and blood of Jesus becoming part of our very being

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Two Major Sacraments: *All must*  
 Baptism – 1:9-11  
 Holy Eucharist – Luke 22:14-22

Five Minor Sacraments: *None must, some should*  
 Matrimony – John 2:1-11  
 Unction (Anointing with oil for healing Healing) – James 5:13-15  
 Ordination – Acts 6:1-7  
 Reconciliation (Confession) – John 20:21-23  
 Confirmation – Acts 8:14-17

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All three streams “converge” and are at work in the church and worship at the same time.

**Charismatic:** music; prayers; inspiration; the work of the Holy Spirit in those gathered; Eucharist – bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus

**Evangelical:** readings; sermon; obeying (do this in remembrance of me); proclaiming (Thanks be to God; Amen; the Creed)

**Sacramental:** the structure of the mass, or liturgy (banks of the river that hold the three streams together); Grace imparted through vestments, crosses, movements, incense

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Chalice of wine  
Sacramental

Gospel book on the altar  
Evangelical

Fire of the Holy Spirit  
Charismatic

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We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

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We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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*After each prayer is said:*

**“Lord in your mercy”**

*All respond:*

**“Hear our prayer”**

*At the conclusion of the prayers, the Leader says:*

**“The Peace of the Lord be always with you”**

*All Respond: “And also with you”*

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