



HYMNAL Highlight

Christian Worship: Foundations

***Foundations* – the book, not the free web resource**

A new book in the new hymnal suite, *Foundations*, became available last week: [Christian Worship: Foundations](#). The link takes you to the NPH web page where you can order the book as well as “look inside” to view the table of contents and part of chapter 1. Written for pastors but valuable for all who care about Lutheran worship, this book explores a wide variety of worship topics including the history of worship in the church at large and in WELS, the church year, various rites and services, various roles in worship, art and music choices, the culture of worship, and outreach. This book is designed to help God’s people grow in their understanding of Christian worship principles and practices.

Both this book and *The Foundation* (the free resources from Congregational Services) are invaluable for those planning worship. But why the similar titles? Is this confusing? We hope not. The similarity in names is not intentional. Both resources began development independently some time ago. So why not call the new book something else? Because other volumes in the new hymnal suite, published in 2021 and 2022, already referred to *Foundations*. Here’s the rationale behind the names: *The Foundation* - worship is the foundation for everything else the congregation does. *Foundations* - a book that articulates theological, historical, and practical foundations of worship.

The non-festival half of the Year B planning resources from [The Foundation](#) is also now available. Click on DOWNLOAD WORSHIP PLANNING MATERIALS / LAST UPDATED 08/09/2023. (But the season-specific links are not ready yet.) **Note:** the PDF and spreadsheet do not provide identical content as in the past. The spreadsheet is simplified, and the PDF includes thematic information and comments to the preacher that wouldn’t fit well in the spreadsheet.

Impactful worship planning and execution will benefit from using both resources: [Christian Worship: Foundations](#) and [The Foundation](#).