

# **The Why Behind our Worship:**

## **Examining Liturgy and Ordinances in the Church**

**A Sunday Sessions Miniseries taught by Becca Ferguson**

### **Week 1: Liturgy**

Outline for Today's Class:

1. Why does understanding liturgy matter?
2. Every church has a liturgy
3. Liturgy is shaped by both theological and practical considerations
  - a. These are both important, but not equally so
4. What can church history teach us about liturgy?
  - a. The liturgy of the early church
  - b. Liturgical changes during the Reformation
5. Considering our liturgy today (discussion in light of today's content)

Discussion Questions Round 1

1. When you think of the word “liturgy,” what are the first words, ideas, or pictures that come into your mind?
2. Where do these initial ideas come from - your past, something you’ve read, something you’ve experienced?
3. Does the word “liturgy” connect in your mind to the ways that we worship on a Sunday morning at Cuyahoga Valley Church? Why or why not?



“To be sure, some may associate the idea of liturgy with high-church formalism and rote tradition. But in reality, every church has a liturgy. No matter how simple or complex, how short or long, each church’s order of service expresses a set of theological values. And in turn, the liturgy gradually inculcates (instills) those same values in the church’s members.”

- Justin Taylor, for the Gospel Coalition

## Discussion Questions Round 2:

1. What is one thing that has been interesting to you so far this morning?
2. What, if anything, has been confusing or challenging to you?
3. How might you explain the word “liturgy” now to someone at CVC who asked you what it meant, or if CVC had one?

## Discussion Questions Round 3:

1. What is something that stands out to you or challenges you today and why?

## Additional Notes:

