



## **The 7 Pillars of a Healthy Church – Part 2**

*Wednesdays in The Word*

February 1, 2017

Reverend Tyrone McGowan, Pastor

### **PILLAR # 2: Real and Relevant Worship**

#### **I. The Person whom we Worship**

- Jesus tells us who we are to worship *Matthew 4:10*
- Giving any object, thought, or activity priority above God is idolatrous
- To see who the Lord is brings us to confession

#### **II. The Priority of Worship**

- In response to the Lord, worship must be a priority in our lives
- We must love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength *Matthew 22:37*
- The divine priority is worship first and service second
- Worship is ministering to God *Ezekiel 44:15*
- Worship is us giving our hearts back to God

#### **III. The Preparation for Worship**

- We should have a holy expectancy regarding worship
- When there is holy expectancy, it can change the atmosphere in the room

#### **IV. The Primary Leader of Worship**

- Christ is alive and present among His people *Psalms 22:3*
- His voice can be heard in our hearts and His presence can be known
- There should be no room for the elevations of personal or communal reputations

#### **V. The Paths into Worship**

- Still all humanly initiated activity
- Not, “What will meet my needs?” but “What kind of worship does God call for?”  
*Hebrews 13:15; I Peter 2:5,9; Acts 5:41*

*“[Worship] teaches us to have grateful hearts: to thank God for the gift of life, the gift of this earth, and the gift of all people. It turns our hearths from self-seeking to a spirituality that sees the signs of true discipleship in our sharing of goods and our working for justice.”- 1986 U.S. Catholic Bishops*



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
GOD. SERVE. LOVE. COMMUNITY.

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*God is not pleased with our worship when we:*

- VI. We lack compassion for social issues *Amos 5:21-24; Isaiah 1:11-17*
- VII. When we are not conscious of our personal inconsistencies *Psalm 24:3-5*
- VIII. When we contaminate worship's biblical integrity *Job 1:18-22; Exodus 4:31*
- IX. When we fail to comprehend worship's spiritual implications *John 4:19-26*

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