

Call for Religious Bulletin Art

The Good Shepherd Institute of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, invites artists to submit new artwork suitable for use in CTSFW service bulletins.

One resource currently available and used occasionally at CTSFW is the artwork developed for *Lutheran Service Book*. (See the examples below.) A feature of this artwork, which appears in the hymnal and agenda at the beginning of every service as well as at various places in the services, is the *LSB* cross with either some simple image or minimal liturgical text. Burgundy and grayscale are used for each. A limitation of this particular resource occurs when bulletins are not printed in color.



The appeal of this artwork is its simplicity, something we find useful in some situations.

Another resource that we have used over the years at CTSFW is the work of Clemens Schmidt, a Roman Catholic artist. The examples in the rest of this document come from that collection. We provide these examples not to suggest that we are soliciting submissions in a similar style, but instead to give artists an idea of the various types of artwork that would be beneficial.

Parameters for the artwork that we are seeking are as follows:

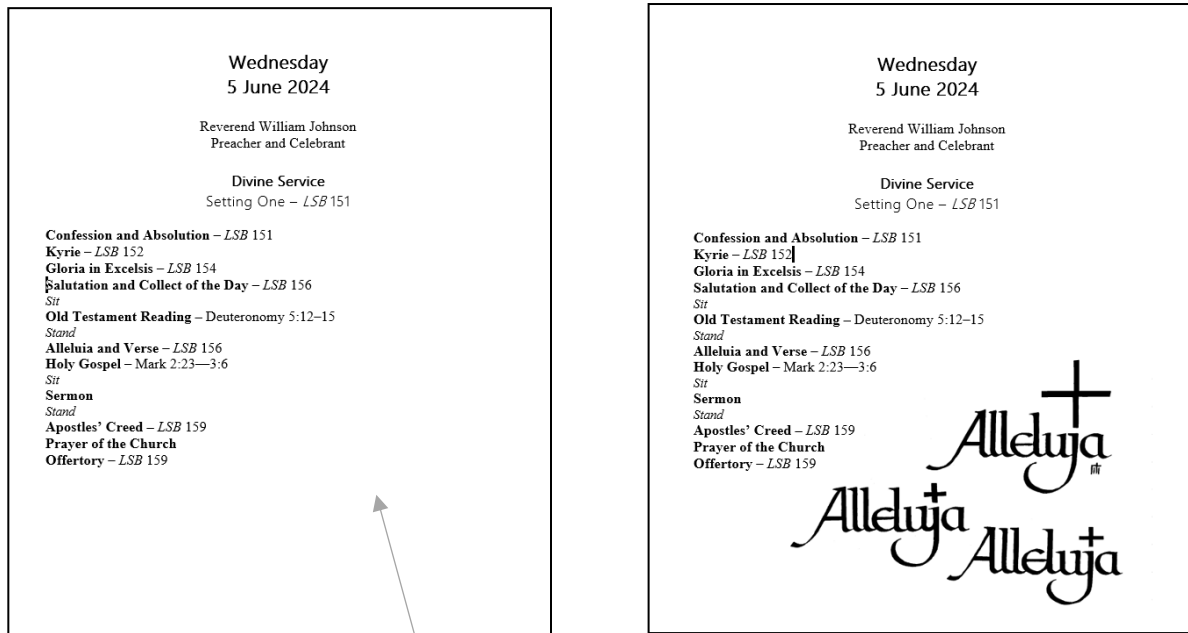
- The bulletin art is intended for the Lutheran context. We seek dignified art that does not mimic any particular style (e.g., sixteenth-century woodcuts) but exhibits a fresh contemporary expression that calls attention not to itself but to the service and the Word of God.
- For our purposes, we are interested in only black and white, along with the full spectrum of gray.
- Artwork can be hand-drawn or utilize computer software. We are not interested in any AI-generated works.
- Various types of calligraphy and decorative script are acceptable. Old English/Gothic style is not preferred since this style has already received considerable attention. Examples from the Schmidt collection, which we are not necessarily seeking to replicate, include:



- Various short liturgical phrases are ideal (e.g., Alleluia, Amen, Hosanna), but brief biblical passages are also good. Please see an initial list of suggested texts and themes at the end of this document.
- Most desirable are images in a variety of dimensions that allow placement in empty spaces on the page, including both vertical images (long and narrow) and horizontal images (wide and short):



- We are also interested in unique shapes that will fit into corners, especially bottom and upper right corners of a page. As an example, the panel to the left shows a typical page where the bottom right corner is often empty. In the right panel an image fills some of the blank space to the right but also wraps underneath.



Space in search
of some art

Regarding submissions:

- There are no limits on how many images an artist may submit. We are looking for quality over quantity. Our goal is not to develop a uniform style but to draw on a variety of artistic expressions that draw the worshiper into the texts of the day and various liturgical expressions. Our expectation is that we will select submissions from a number of artists.
- We may express interest in a particular entry but may make suggestions for minor modifications. It may, therefore, be advantageous for an artist to submit *just a few examples* as a starting point to gauge our interest before proceeding with a significant number of additional entries.
- The sizes of the images will vary, but their use on the printed page may vary depending on the intricacy of the design. Avoid overly lengthy texts or details that will become too difficult to see should the image need to be reduced in size.
- Size/resolution for digital images should be no less than 300 dpi in JPEG format.
- We will pay \$25 for each accepted image. The artist will retain copyright on the images but grant CTSFW unlimited use of the images on any CTSFW print or web-based publication.
- Should the quality and quantity of images that are submitted warrant, CTSFW may be interested in making them available for sale as a collection. In that case CTSFW will negotiate with the artists an acceptable royalty.
- There is no particular deadline for submissions. We would suggest that you submit just a couple samples, perhaps including at least one example from several of the categories on the following page. We will endeavor to provide the artist our initial impressions within several weeks of submission.
- Please send submissions with JPEG file attachments to LeeAnna.Rondot@ctsfw.edu.

Suggested texts for initial submissions

Our suggestion is that you first submit one or two examples from any or all of the following categories, depending on interest and comfort level. Consider also both portrait and landscape orientations, possibly reverse color with text in white.

Latin (or Greek, in the case of the Kyrie) names of various elements in the service (with or without English translation)

- Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)
- Gloria in Excelsis (Glory in the highest)
- Gloria in Excelsis Deo (Glory to God in the highest)
- Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy)
- Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)
- Te Deum laudamus (We praise You, O God)
- Deo Gratias (Thanks be to God)
- Amen
- Alleluia
- Hosanna

Biblical passages in decorative script

Biblical texts should use the English Standard Version (ESV). It would be fitting to include the biblical reference, more than likely at the bottom of the image, but in a rather small type. Note several of the examples above.

- The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- My peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. *John 14:27a*
- My eyes have seen Your salvation. *Luke 2:30*
- The LORD bless you and keep you. *Num. 6:24*
- Holy, holy, holy is the LORD God of Sabaoth. *Isaiah 6:3*
- Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. *John 1:29*
- Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. *Joel 2:13b*

Retain the small caps on the word “LORD” as English translations do in order to denote the name Yahweh where it appears in the Old Testament.

Be careful not to include too much text lest the font size become too small to read comfortably.

Text with artistic image

- Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight. *Luke 3:4b*
- Did not our hearts burn within us [. . . while he opened to us the Scriptures?] *Luke 24:32*
- Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” *Matt. 14:27b*
- Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. *Mark 10:14b*
- They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them. *Mark 6:13*

Image without text

In the case of many biblical stories, the image alone will suffice to convey the event. A few examples you might consider:

- Significant events in our Lord's life: his birth, angels over fields of Bethlehem, visit of the Magi, the Epiphany star, Jesus' baptism, transfiguration, entry into Jerusalem, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension.
- John the Baptist preaching (or baptizing) at the Jordan River.
- Jesus performing various miracles (e.g., healing the blind and deaf, raising the dead [like Lazarus], feeding the 5,000, casting out demons, walking on water, etc.).
- Jesus preaching to the crowds.
- Sending of the Spirit at Pentecost.
- Isaiah's vision (Is. 6:1–3, with or without the text "Holy, holy, holy"); the depictions in the Revelation to St. John of the saints and angels gathered around the throne of God (perhaps including the text "Holy, holy, holy" in Rev. 4:8).

These images aren't as much in demand for our purposes, but a few of the more common stories will prove helpful.

The following are several other potential styles to help get the creative juices flowing.

