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It is by its worship that the Church lives; it is there that its heart beats. And in fact the life of the Church pulsates like the heart by systole and diastole. As the heart is for the animal body, so the cult is for church life a pump which sends into circulation and draws in again, it claims and it sanctifies. It is from the life of worship— from the Mass— that the Church spreads itself abroad into the world to mingle with it like leaven in the dough, to give it savour like salt, to irradiate like light, and it is towards the cult— towards the Eucharist— that the Church returns from the world like a fisherman gathering up his nets or a farmer harvesting his grain. The only parochial activities which have any real justification are those which spring from worship and in their turn nourish it.

J. J. VON ALLMEN, *WORSHIP: ITS THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE*  
(NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1965), 55-56.

The job of the local church is to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ, to draw people into a living relationship with God, and to remold disciples of Jesus into a Sermon-on-the-Mount shape. Any worship music that aids a church in these tasks is almost certainly a conduit of the Holy Spirit. In light of this, maybe it is time to substitute charity for condescension.

MICHAEL S. HAMILTON

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- \*White, James F. *Protestant Worship: Traditions in Transition*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster/John Knox, 1989. An overview of the development of what White sees as the nine main "schools" of Protestant worship.
- White, Susan J. *Christian Worship and Technological Change*. Nashville, Tennessee: Abingdon Press, 1994. Written in dense prose, this book is a complex discussion of our technological culture and how it shapes the modern worshiper.
- \*Wiersbe, Warren W. *Real Worship: It Will Transform Your Life*. Nashville, Tennessee: Oliver-Nelson, 1986. A warm pastoral treatment of the subject.
- \*Willimon, William H., *Worship as Pastoral Care*, Nashville, Tennessee: Abingdon, 1992. An impassioned and well-written book in which the writer states that the first and foremost purpose of our worship is to respond to God. Any attempt to use worship to educate, manipulate, or titillate can be a serious perversion of worship.
- Willimon, William H. *Remember Who You Are: Baptism, a Model for Christian Life*. Nashville: The Upper Room, 1980. Focuses upon the historical-biblical meaning of baptism in each chapter, allowing the reader to think and go further.
- Willimon, William H. *Word, Water, Wine and Bread: How Worship Has Changed over the Years*. Valley Forge, Penn-

- sylvania: Judson Press, 1980. The concern to reform worship, says Willimon, grows out of a deeper concern to renew the church.
- Willimon, William H. *With Glad and Generous Hearts: A Personal Look at Sunday Worship*. Nashville: The Upper Room, 1986. Surveys nine elements of worship with the goal of understanding recent developments in everyday speech. Willimon is always clear and generally provocative in a most helpful way.
- Willimon, William H. *Sunday Dinner: The Lord's Supper and the Christian Life*. Nashville: The Upper Room, 1981. Part of a trilogy with *Remember Who You Are* and *With Glad and Generous Hearts*.
- \*Wright, N. T. *For All God's Worth: True Worship and the Calling of the Church*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1997. Warm, insightful meditations on "The God Who Is Worthy of Praise" (the title of the first half of the book) by a well-known Anglican scholar and cleric.

#### Tape Series

- Causey, C. Harry. *Open the Doors to Creativity in Worship*. (6 tapes) Order from: Music Revelation, 7 Elmwood Court, Rockville, Maryland 20850; (301) 424-2956.
- Dallas Theological Seminary. *Worship Conference* (10 tapes). Order from: Dallas Theological Seminary, 3909 Swiss Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75204.
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- Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology, 1994. *Desiring God: A Reformed Perspective on Worship* (6 tapes).

Order from: The Bible study Hour, 1716 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103.

Piper, John. *Preaching as Worship: Meditations on Expository Exultation* (3 tapes). Order from Desiring God Ministries, 720 13th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415; (612) 338-7653.

Sproul, R. C. *Into the Sanctuary: Worshiping God in Spirit and Truth* (6 tapes). Order from: Ligonier Ministries, P.O. Box 547500, Orlando, Florida 32854.

Webber, Robert E. *Blended Worship: An Audio Guide to Converging the Old and New* (3 tapes and workbook). Order from IWS Resources, Box 894, Wheaton, Illinois 60189; (630) 510-8905.

### Websites

Calvin Institute of Christian Worship (Calvin College)  
[www.calvin.edu/worship](http://www.calvin.edu/worship)

Church Music at a Crossroads  
[www.musiccrossroads.org](http://www.musiccrossroads.org)

Institute for Worship Studies (Robert Webber)  
[www.iwsill.org](http://www.iwsill.org)

\*Highly recommended