

Theological Foundations for Worship with All Ages:

The Holy Spirit is at work within and among us before we are aware of it, or can name it, or even begin to understand it (prevenient grace).

The gifts of the Spirit are given for the sake of the community. Every member of the Body of Christ (the Church) is given unique gifts. No one is given all the gifts; therefore we need each other. The less obvious gifts are as important to the community as the more obvious ones. Neither age nor mental ability are prerequisites for receiving the gifts--"the wind blows where it will."

Baptism is "full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body the Church." (BCP, USA)

The Church is where Christ's family experiences God's grace through being together, worshipping together, and supporting one another in faith.

Worship is the epiphany--the clear manifestation--of the Church. Our worship needs to embody who we are and what we are about.

Through the liturgy, we are incorporated into the paschal mystery—the incarnation, life, death, resurrection, and coming again in Christ through whom all things were made, in whom is Life, who gives us the Holy Spirit. Participation in this mystery is not dependent upon age, mental or physical capacity, economic or social status.

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