A Trinity of Love: The Formation of Christian Community in Worship

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while violating biblical norms. There is both historical and contemporary evidence of a predictable migration from leadership as service to leadership as control—such as autocracy, coercion, self-ascendancy, and dominance. These problems are found even in leadership within the faith community, thus violating biblical principles. This reality creates an urgent need for the application of biblical principles that transcend cultures and bring leadership practices into alignment with the character and behavior of the Trinity.

This study aims to establish a theology of missional leadership through motifs inherent in the cosmic conflict between God and Satan in the book of Revelation, examining the Apocalypse and comparing it with relevant leadership theories. The book of Revelation is a valid source of understanding pastoral and missional leadership because it contains leadership terminologies and concepts and reveals the Lamb’s leadership behavior and exposes the counterfeit leadership of the Dragon.


This study employs narrative research methodology to explore Trinity Community Presbyterian Church’s understanding of growing in love together as the Body of Christ in worship. The project assessed community formation in worship and used “Love Song for a Savior” by the band Jars of Clay as its organizing principle.

Consisting of two explorations, the project examined the impact dancing (Holy Motion) has on community and facilitated interaction with the cross as a symbol during the seasons of Lent and Easter. The paper evaluates the project and explores its implications for the practice of ministry. The gathered stories present the conclusion that both change and transformation occurred in three distinct ways: worship as play, worship as participation, and worship as community. It was discerned that transformation related to the following symbols: dancing, the communion table, the cross and death. Each of these symbols, often through challenge, invited a new way forward and the emergence of a new future. The stories highlight the need for further study regarding the impact that the role of dancing and interaction with symbols might have on the formation of Christian community in worship.


One of the primary images for ecclesiology is Paul’s “body of Christ” metaphor. The contemporary church, as the body of Christ, sometimes struggles with its sense of identity and mission as well as with its relationship with other social bodies in the world. This study examines the intersection of ecclesiology, disability, embodiment, and liturgy and offers possibilities for developing a general ecclesiology of disability that is grounded in human embodiment and embodied practices. The interconnections between disability theory and theology are explored, followed by an examination of the “body of Christ” metaphor, starting with Paul’s context and continuing with an analysis of how the metaphor functions linguistically. A review of the development and function of body theology in church history is presented, followed by consideration of how the