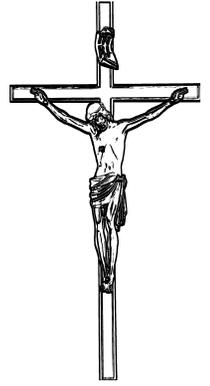


# The Path to the Body of Christ

## The Cross Symbol in History: Part Two



### Introduction

### The Iconoclastic Controversy (726–87 and 815–43)

#### Sources of the Controversy

- Islam
- Monophysitism (probably not a huge influence)
- Nestorianism
- Rigid Elements and a type of Puritanism

#### Key People and Event

- Leo III
- John of Damascus
- Nicea II (787 AD)

#### The Heart of the Controversy for Us

- Can God be depicted in human form?
- What is the role of art and space in worship?

### Medieval Piety of the Cross

### The Reformation

#### Luther and the Evangelicals

- The Conservative Reformation
  - The Gospel is the point
  - Only change what must be changed
  - See ourselves as a part of the greater history of the Church
- *How to Meditate on the Passion*, by Martin Luther (separate handout)
- Luther's Chasuble (image)
- Altarpiece at St. Mary's Church in Wittenberg (images)

#### The Iconoclasm of the Reformation: Karlstadt, Zwingli, and Calvin

- Zwingli and Calvin
- Karlstadt
- *Luther and the Iconoclasts*, by Rev. Matthew Zickler (handout)
- Luther quotation from *Against the Heavenly Prophets*

"I will first discuss images according to the Law of Moses, and then according to the gospel. And I say at the outset that according to the Law of Moses no other images

are forbidden than an image of God which one worships. A crucifix, on the other hand, or any other holy image is not forbidden. Heigh now! you breakers of images, I defy you to prove the opposite!"

- Martin Luther, "Against the Heavenly Prophets" (*American Edition* 40:85-86)

## The Heart of the Controversy for Us

- Luther and the Reformers were circumspect and careful not to change things willy nilly, but to do so with theological intent and purpose
- The Radical Reformation (Karlstadt, Zwingli) and Calvin did not emphasize God's justification and gracious presence, but rather God's sovereignty, and so images and music and even the Word itself took a backseat
- How we order our worship space and music is a reflection of what we believe about Jesus and how He works today

## Further Reading

- *Three Treatises on the Divine Images*, St. John of Damascus
- *The Conservative Reformation and Its Theology*, by Charles Porterfield Krauth
- "Against the Heavenly Prophets," by Martin Luther, *American Edition*, volume 40

## Benediction

Rev. Todd A. Peperkorn, STM  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Rocklin, California  
February 25, 2018  
The Second Sunday in Lent

