

“Lift Up Thine Eyes”
Week 3
“Anamnesis: Remembering, telling the story”

“Lift Up Thine Eyes” is a series of six talks on the Holy Eucharist using paintings by Norman Rockwell as springboards to deeper reflection, especially on how the various components of the Eucharist have counterparts in ordinary daily life—vital components which elevate and enrich our lives in Christ. *“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”* (John 10:10).

Session 1 (May 31) will be an introduction and overview of the series. Sessions 2-6 will each explore a component of the Holy Eucharist:

June 7	<i>koinonia</i> (κοινωνία)--community, fellowship, gathering
June 14	<i>anamnesis</i> (ἀνάμνησις)--remembering, telling the story
July 12	<i>epiclesis</i> (ἐπίκλησις)--invocation of the Holy Spirit
July 19	<i>thusia</i> (θυσία)--offering, sacrifice, dedication
July 26	<i>eucharistia</i> (εὐχαριστία)--thanksgiving, gratitude.

The series title, “Lift Up Thine Eyes” is from a painting by Rockwell of the Fifth Avenue entrance to Saint Thomas Church. Sessions will include time for questions and responses.

In Session 3, on June 14, we will explore *anamnesis*, that is, remembering, telling the story. Norman Rockwell’s painting “Homecoming Marine” from 1945 will be our springboard for discussion. Remembering and telling the story—again—of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection is essential to our identity as Christians and an important part of our worship. And how we remember and tell the story of our past is essential to our identity as members of our families, communities and countries.

Hymn:

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins, and won the victory.

Oh, victory in Jesus, my Savior forever
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood
He loved me 'ere I knew Him and all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood

Quiz!

Below are excerpts from an authorized Eucharistic Prayer (Great Thanksgiving) from the collection “*Enriching our Worship*”. Which of the five main components is represented in each excerpt? (It could be more than one; English or Greek terms acceptable.)

koinonia (κοινωνία)--community, fellowship, gathering
anamnesis (ἀνάμνησις)--remembering, telling the story
epiclesis (ἐπίκλησις)--invocation of the Holy Spirit
thusia (θυσία)--offering, sacrifice, dedication
eucharistia (εὐχαριστία)--thanksgiving, gratitude.

1. *Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.*
2. *Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.*
3. *Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.*
4. *The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.*
5. *Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor,
glory, and praise, for ever and ever.
AMEN.*