

Understanding Episcopal Liturgy

#8. I have noticed the congregation stands during the procession at the beginning of worship, and then again during the procession out of the nave at the end of worship. What is the reason the congregation stands during these processions?

We stand as a sign of our respect for the cross which is carried in the procession. The cross reminds us of Christ's saving action. The cross points toward a way of love and a way of leadership based on self-emptying actions, such as setting aside our own agendas in order to do God's work. As followers of Christ Jesus, the cross is our primary symbol, so we stand when the cross is carried in a procession.