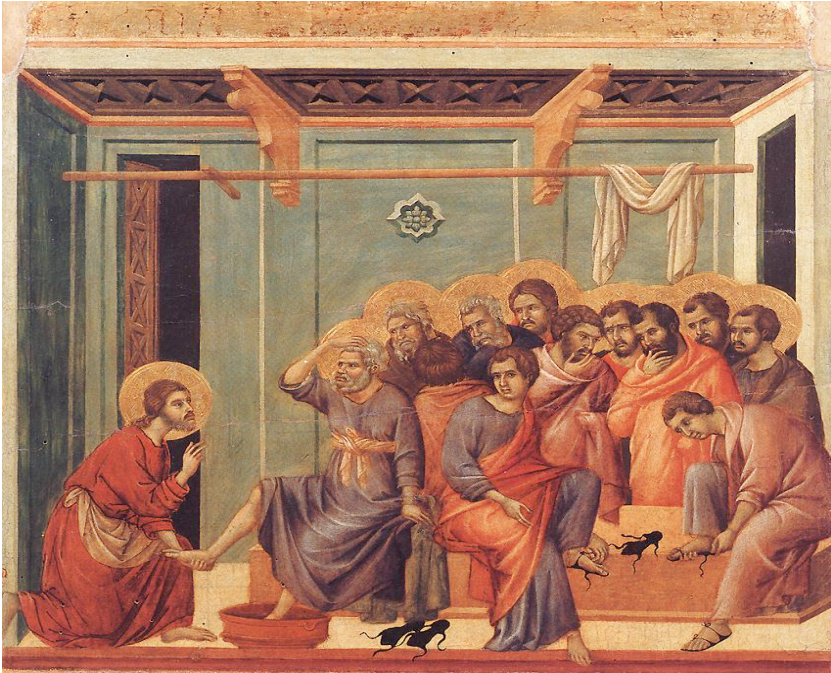




Christian Identity

in light of Martin Luther's "Freedom of a Christian"

It all begins with baptism



Faith Active in Love

A vision of the Christian Life

1. “The Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.
The Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.”
Martin Luther
2. Christians are “free lords” because faith:
 - a. fulfills the Law and empowers us to strive to obey the Law;
 - b. honors God and considers God to be truthful and trustworthy;
 - c. faith unites us with Christ and that results in a “happy exchange”;
 - d. as a result Christians are spiritual royalty and priests.
3. Christians are dutiful servants because faith not only unites them with Christ but also frees them to emulate Christ.
 - a. The analogy of the good tree.
 - b. “Faith remains the doer, and love remains the deed.” Martin Luther
 - c. The Christian lives in Christ through faith and in the neighbor through love.



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The Doctrine of Vocation

The contexts where faith is active
in love

1. Defining vocation
2. Spiritual and temporal vocations-Luther's revolutionary insight
3. The priesthood of all believers
4. Since Christians are people of faith, all of their callings are opportunities that God sets before them to exercise their faith in love.
5. When they serve in love, Christians imitate Christ, and God works in and through them. They live *coram Deo*, and God's work is accomplished.