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Diploma thesis – Contemporary Protestant Liturgical space Jan Kirschner

Resume

The changes in Protestant liturgical space and its contribution to the ecumenical dialogue

is the main interest in this survey and master thesis. The most important streams and tendencies of contemporary development and historical consequences of the sacral and

liturgical environment of the Protestant Church of Czech Brethren are evaluated in the

broader context. In the first part of this thesis were discussed the historical and theological

development of Protestant /Christian/ liturgical space. Two excursions of this study were to

evaluate the liturgical movement during the twentieth century and the Protestant reflection of

the Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Constitution of the Sacred liturgy of the Second Vatican

Council. The theoretical part was summarized and reflected in the chapter evaluating a sacral

space, liturgical symbols, art and mystics in Protestantism.

In the second more practical were compared various opinions of theologians regarding the liturgical space and representative samples of the Protestant liturgical environment. Particular buildings were described according to a few selected criteria in the

final chapter of this thesis with a number of pictures. Two examples well know to the author

were studied in more detail. (Prague Horní Počernice and Česká Lípa) The representative

foreign examples and ideals were chosen to enrich, supplement and challenge the Czech situation.

Presented examples of the liturgical environment of the Protestant Church of Czech Brethren support duality and polarization of contemporary development: A liturgical environments built for a purpose -space for gathering without a deep sacral meaning or newly

built central liturgical environments hindered by the remaining tradition of the longitudinal

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concept. In the same time there are presented sensitively built liturgical spaces with a sense of

the sacredness. They can be also used for both secular events and for the every day life of the

community as is very common in Czech Protestant tradition.

Key words: Liturgy Sacral Space for Worship Liturgical Environment Protestant Liturgical Space Ecumenical Design of Churches