

# Rubrics

by [Ralph Stevens](#) in the [April 20, 2010](#) issue

Things go unnoticed around here  
while we do the important stuff  
the singing praying sermonizing baptizing.  
We don't read the instructions  
want to get on with it insert the batteries  
push the button watch the screen light up.  
Script stage directions steps one two three are all  
fine print we think, or don't until  
we find ourselves at home  
watching rain soak the garden  
and notice that the screen has gone dark.  
When is it that we turn to face  
the back of the church? Do we stand or sit  
at the Psalm and is there anything at all  
about bowing as the cross makes its leisurely progress?  
What words are to be said  
while earth is cast upon the coffin  
and who was it after all  
who was supposed to meet the body  
  
and go before it to the grave?