



Introduction to Worship Resources

“The place God calls you to is the place where
your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”
~ Frederick Buechner

Each one of us is invited to explore God’s invitation to collaborate and co-create with the Holy Spirit in discerning how and where God is calling us to fully live out our response to the saving grace of Jesus Christ in the world.

The language of “the call” is often reserved for those in ordained ministry, and yet, scripture teaches us that “each person should live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them, just as God has called them.” (1 Cor. 7:17).

This is exciting news, as we turn our focus toward inviting our congregations to consider the specific purpose to which God is calling each one of them – within your congregation and beyond the walls of the church.

For many, the invitation to consider how God is calling them to serve, and to become more intentional about where and how they serve, can be daunting and confusing. One place that affords them a clear path to connecting with God in the process of discernment is through the act of worship.

In worship, we are invited to offer praise, enter into prayer, engage in self-reflection as we hear the Word proclaimed, share a meal with Jesus and our beloved community, and receive blessing and encouragement to go out into the world with love, grace, and peace.

Within the sacred space of worship, God meets us just as we are, invites us to notice the gifts and graces God has bestowed upon us, and transforms us deeper into discipleship for the healing and blessing of the world.

The hope and intent of this Worship Resources section is to provide worship leaders with materials that will stir your hearts and spark your imagination as you prepare a worship service that invites the members and guests of your congregation to consider how they are already responding to God’s call or, the invitation to lean into something new that God is revealing to them.

This resource is in no way exhaustive, but rather a place to begin. Take time reading through the material. Before you begin, ask the Spirit to join you in this experience of crafting a service that will usher individuals into a deeper understanding of God's invitation to join with God in the work of ministry wherever they find themselves serving.

Be open to whatever the Spirit brings to mind - a song or hymn you'd forgotten; a scripture passage that was meaningful to your own understanding of God's call and invitation; a prayer that is writing itself within you that Spirit is inviting you to offer. Be attentive to the movement within and honor what is stirring.

May this resource aid in bringing forth a framework for worship that is invitational, honors God and God's purpose in the call, and deepens the connection between God and those present.

Included in this section:

- Introduction to Worship Resources
- [Notes on Worship](#)
- [Basic Template for Worship](#) (*includes all liturgy, scripture, and music resources*)
- [Liturgy](#) (Call to Worship, Prayers, Benediction)
- [Exploring the Call Within the Context of Worship](#) (*ways to engage and explore*)
- [Songs and Hymns](#)
- [Scripture](#)