Community of Christ

Fully Awake and Ready to Respond

REUNION 2017
INTERGENERATIONAL SHARING SERVICES
Spiritual awakening begins in vibrant communities of disciples open to the wisdom of every generation. These reunion sharing services are designed to engage an intergenerational community through opportunities to share inspired by spiritual practice.

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Spiritual awakening begins in vibrant communities of disciples open to the wisdom of every generation. These reunion sharing services are designed to engage an intergenerational community through opportunities to share, inspired by spiritual practice.

**An Intergenerational Culture of Spiritual Practice and Sharing:** Creating a meaningful intergenerational environment can be challenging, but worth the effort. We recommend encouraging adults at every opportunity to make space for children and youth to practice sharing their stories and voices during small-group reflections and larger-group sharing. The instructions in the sharing services also make suggestions for ways that different ages can intentionally partner to practice deep listening and companionship at every stage of life.

Part of creating a meaningful intergenerational culture includes setting shared expectations for what worship will feel like. In your ministry context, consider how it might be helpful to set the congregation at ease with the sacred noise of children. A presider might invite the congregation to enter a different experience of worship; open to the ways the Spirit can speak to us at every age and through many forms—in moments of silence and reflection and through holy interruptions of laughter or screams! Engaging in spiritual practice as an intergenerational community of disciples is the primary spiritual practice of the week in these sharing services. We believe that our children and youth have more spiritual capacity than they are often given credit for! Engaging our children and youth directly in these times of practice (whether in silence or sharing), and making that desire to hear from them explicit, will help contribute to a culture where everyone feels free to participate.

**Questions for All Ages:** The practices are designed to lead us deeper at every age. There are often several questions in a row that all relate to the same theme to prompt sharing. Our attempt is to layer developmentally appropriate questions for greater accessibility throughout the worship experience. If some of the questions seem more basic, that is because we are hoping they will reach a younger audience so everyone can be fully included in the community reflection, practice, and sharing.

**Daily Prayer of Examen:** Each day begins with a prayer of Examen to help us become more aware of God’s movement and presence throughout the day. Depending on the length you have designated for these worships in your reunion schedule, you may ask people to share brief, one-word or phrase responses, or you could provide time for several people to
respond with a little more explanation for each of the questions. This is a time that we really hope to engage children and youth as they reflect on what is happening at reunion and how God is part of their whole lives.

**Recommended Worship Display:** For the sharing services, it will be helpful to have a large poster or board at the front of the room with the words from the Mission Prayer, which is used to close the Examen each day. With the theme of reunion emphasizing awakening, the Mission Prayer is another visual way to make this connection. Other display suggestions and needed materials are noted in the sharing service outlines.

**Mission Prayer**

*God, where will your Spirit lead today?
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.*

*Grant me courage to risk something new
and become a blessing of your love and peace.*

*Amen.*

It is also helpful to have visual reference to questions that are intended to prompt sharing in small groups or in the large group. You might consider putting questions on a Power Point slide, or printing off copies. These visuals allow people to relax into the process if they didn't hear or understand all the instructions and can be valuable for visual learners.

**Sound:** When sharing in a large group, please encourage participants to use, and speak directly into, a microphone. Part of the spiritual practice of intergenerational sharing is being attentive to the needs of those who have difficulty hearing. For the soft voices of young children, encourage them to hold the microphone close to their mouth as they are talking.

**Optional Resources and Elements:** We realize that every reunion has unique traditions and schedules. At the end of each sharing service in this resource, you will find an option for additional elements to be used in whatever way is most appropriate for your ministry context. We hope you will sense a spirit of flexibility in these worships, adapting as needed to respond to the needs and opportunities of your ministry context.

Many have been seeking ways to meaningfully integrate children and youth into congregational life and worship. We hope these sharing services will provide ideas and practices that you can take home for your congregation to experiment with.

Thank you for your leadership and ministry! Your prayerful preparation in offering these worships will surely bring abundant blessing to this formational experience in our faith community.
Awaken to God’s Invitation

Prelude

Awaken with Song
“Meet Me in A Holy Place” CCS 162
“Dios está aquí/God Is Here Today” CCS 150

Awaken to God’s Presence
Prayer of Examen

Invite the community to recall memories of the previous day. Use a chime or singing bowl to designate times of shared silence. Intentionally invite children and youth into the experience by encouraging them to think about the questions in the times of silence so they can share their memories with the group.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
• What were you grateful for yesterday?
• When did you have a God moment?
• What was your favorite thing from the day before?

Ring Chime—Silence (30 seconds)—Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
• What challenged you to grow yesterday?
• How could you have been more like Jesus?
• What do you wish you could have done differently?

Ring Chime—Silence (30 seconds)—Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.
Use the silence as a time to pray and think:

- How will you be more aware of opportunities to respond to the Spirit’s presence today?
- What do you want to do for God today?
- Where will you look for God today?

Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Opening Prayer
Recite the Mission Prayer together (Remind the community that the Mission Prayer is located on the screen or in the worship center):

God, where will your Spirit lead today?
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.
Grant me courage to risk something new and become a blessing of your love and peace.
Amen.

Optional: A standard opening prayer

Song
“God Is Calling” CCS 172
or “I Have Called You by Your Name” CCS 636

Awaken to God’s Word
1 Samuel 3:1–10

Invite everyone to get quiet and listen to everything they can hear. After one or two minutes of listening, have the congregation share the sounds they heard popcorn style (shout out one word answers). Remind the congregation that when we take the time to stop, get quiet, and listen there is so much to hear!

Ask the questions, “Have you ever been talking and talking and talking and realized no one is listening? It’s a frustrating feeling, isn’t it? I wonder if God ever feels that way?” Share that today we are going to explore the scripture 1 Samuel 3:1–10.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.


The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But [Eli] said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And [Samuel] got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’”

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

—1 Samuel 3:1–10 adapted

Awaken in Community
Share in pairs. Provide space for the wisdom that every age has to offer. Even the youngest among you has something to share.
Give everyone a minute to reflect on this question: As you think back over your experiences in church where have you felt a strong sense of God’s presence? Share in pairs.

Sing together: “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” CCS 640 (refrain only) or “Come, Holy Spirit, Come” CCS 154.

Take another minute to reflect on this question: When you take time to listen, where is God calling you? Share in pairs.

**Closing Song**
“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” CCS 640 (refrain only two times) or “Come, Holy Spirit, Come” CCS 154

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**Optional Activities**

If time allows you could insert one of these:

- Read the story *Apt. 3* by Ezra Jack Keats (Puffin Books) after the opening prayer.
- Instead of a readers theater style you could prepare a full drama for the scripture reading.
- Give some time to share as a large group after the small-group sharing.
Awaken to Spiritual Transformation

MATERIALS
- Chime or singing bowl
- *Community of Christ Sings*
- Paper
- Markers/pens/colored pencils

SUGGESTED WORSHIP CENTER
Simple worship setting with a candle and a pair of reading glasses

SHARING SERVICE

Awaken with Song
“O God of Vision” CCS 78
“Open My Heart” CCS 171
or “We Limit Not the Truth of God” CCS 69

Awaken to God’s Presence:
*Prayer of Examen*

Invite the community to recall memories of the previous day. Use a chime or singing bowl to designate times of shared silence. Intentionally invite children and youth into the experience by encouraging them to think about the questions in the times of silence so they can share their memories with the group.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
- What were you grateful for yesterday?
- When did you have a God moment?
- What was your favorite thing from the day before?

*Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime*

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
• What challenged you to grow yesterday?
• How could you have been more like Jesus?
• What do you wish you could have done differently?

Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to pray and think:
• How will you be more aware of opportunities to respond to the Spirit’s presence today?
• What do you want to do for God today?
• Where will you look for God today?

Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Opening Prayer
Recite the Mission Prayer together (Remind the community that the mission prayer is located on the screen or in the worship center):

God where will your Spirit lead today?  
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.  
Grant me courage to risk something new and become a blessing of your love and peace.  
Amen.

Optional: A standard opening prayer

Song
“The Summons” CCS 586 or “Fanana” CCS 596

Awaken to God’s Word: Mark 10:46–52

Share that today we will be engaging with scripture through a process called Lectio Divina (Latin for sacred reading). Tell the congregation that you have paper and drawing materials available for anyone who would like to draw their reflections as you read the scripture story. Hand out paper and crayons/colored pencils/markers.

Invite everyone to listen carefully, as you read through the scripture the first time, for the setting. Where is this scripture happening? Have them imagine the time of day, season of the year, smells, sounds—all the elements that make this scene real. When you have finished reading the scripture once through, allow a few minutes for everyone to either visualize the scene or if they prefer, they can quickly draw the scene.

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

—Mark 10:46–52

As you read the scripture a second time, invite everyone to pay attention to the people in the story. Who is in this story? Where are you in the scene?

Once again, as you finish reading, allow time for the listeners to simply visualize or draw themselves into the scene.

As you read the scripture a third time, invite everyone to listen for any feelings that come up. Do you feel happy, sad, angry, or guilty?

When you have finished reading, leave space for people to reflect on those feelings either internally or to add to their drawings.

To finish, invite everyone to take a few deep, quiet breaths. Ask them to quiet their thoughts and listen with their heart. Where is God speaking to you in this scripture? Allow a few minutes of
quiet reflection and time to add any last details to their drawings.

Offer a short prayer of gratitude for the experience.

If time allows, you could have a few minutes of sharing in pairs about their experience during the Lectio Divina.

Awaken in Community
Spend some time sharing as a large group on these questions:
- When have you experienced faithful persistence?
- When have you been spiritually transformed?

Closing Song
“Amazing Grace” CCS 19
or “God of the Future” CCS 360

Closing Prayer

If time allows, you could insert one of these:
- Read the story Scrawny Cat by Phyllis Root (Candlewick Press) as a companion story to the scripture.
- For very young children you might offer a coloring sheet of the Bartimaeus story. (www.supercoloring.com/pages/jesus-heals-blind-bartimaeus). Encourage school-age children to draw their own. It will help them engage more deeply with the scripture.
Awaken to Unfolding Mission

MATERIALS
• Chime or singing bowl
• Community of Christ Sings
• Markers/pens/crayons
• Large pieces of butcher paper (rolls of large white paper)
• Masking tape
• Post-it notes

WORSHIP CENTER SUGGESTIONS
Include candles and other artifacts that may represent your community’s unfolding story throughout time. Are there old pictures that could be included in a worship setting or meaningful objects from around the campground that could be “borrowed” for this worship as a visual?

Awaken with Song
“Kanisa Litajengwa/Oh, Who Will Build the Church Now?” CCS 338 (Invite the congregation to pay attention to the words of this song: Our mission includes every age!) “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” CCS 581

Awaken to God’s Presence
Prayer of Examen
Invite the community to recall memories of the previous day. Use a chime or singing bowl to designate times of shared silence. Intentionally invite children and youth into the experience by encouraging them to think about the questions in the times of silence so they can share their memories with the group.
Use the silence as a time to remember:
• What were you grateful for yesterday?
• When did you have a God moment?
• What was your favorite thing from the day before?

Ring Chime—Silence (30 seconds)—Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
• What challenged you to grow yesterday?
• How could you have been more like Jesus?
• What do you wish you could have done differently?

Ring Chime—Silence (30 seconds)—Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to pray and think:
• How will you be more aware of opportunities to respond to the Spirit’s presence today?
• What do you want to do for God today?
• Where will you look for God today?

Ring Chime—Silence (30 seconds)—Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Opening Prayer
Recite the Mission Prayer together (Remind the community that the mission prayer is located on the screen or in the worship center):

God, where will your Spirit lead today?
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.
Grant me courage to risk something new
and become a blessing of your love and peace.
Amen.

Optional: A standard opening prayer

Song of Reflection
“God Within, God Around” CCS 20 (Sing 3–4 times, or as led, in a prayerfully repetitive way) or “Dios está aquí/God Is Here Today” CCS 150

Awaken to God’s Word

Scripture Reading

Reader One: God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh

Reader Two (Child): and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy

Reader Three (Youth or Young Adult): and your young shall see visions,

Reader Four (Older member): and your old shall dream dreams.”

—Acts 2:17, adapted

Awaken to a Sacred History

Invite the community to break into groups of three or four that include different age groups. The goal is to have at least one child and youth in each group.

Once the groups are settled, invite members to get to know one another and respond to the following questions. As the facilitator, invite the group to really listen to each other to see what we have to learn from one another. Every age has something important to share! Make space for every person to share, so keep responses brief.

(As people are sharing, pass out Post-it notes and pens for the next part of the process.)

1. Share your name and where you are from.

2. When have you experienced God’s presence in a transformative way? What is your most powerful memory of God’s presence in your life or in this community? When have you felt God with you?

Timeline: Charting Our Sacred, Shared History

Before the worship gathering, place long sheets of butcher paper on the wall or floor to create a timeline. If you don’t have paper, you could put...
masking tape directly on the floor. Using masking tape or drawing lines with markers, mark out every ten years in your timeline starting back 100 years. Write a few significant moments of our shared life on the timeline in different places to give people a reference point and spark memories that people will add their memories around.

Examples
Campground was purchased in _______.
Women in the priesthood in 1984
Our name was changed to “Community of Christ” in 2001.

Engage in Sacred Remembering
Invite the community to take a few moments to record what they shared in the small group on their Post-it note while music plays in the background. As people are ready, invite them to place their Post-it notes on the timeline. Have extra Post-it notes available if people want to share more, even if those dates are from before they were born.

Once the community has all been seated, point out that the timeline visually demonstrates God's unfolding future. This timeline represents the time we are in as a community right now, but we also imagine what the timeline would look like if it went back another hundred years, or forward a hundred years. God is present to us in each generation throughout time! God’s mission is unfolding throughout the generations as we remember our personal and communal histories of the Spirit’s activity and presence transforming our lives.

(If possible, leave the timeline up throughout the day or the week for people to review what was shared.)

Large-Group Sharing
(Especially encourage children and youth to share.)
• What was this experience like for you?
• How do you hope we will be remembered a hundred years from today?

Sing Together
“Now In This Moment” CCS 96

Closing Prayer
Invite participants to share a closing prayer over their experience or create a closing prayer in the model of Acts 2:17.

Young Adult: Living God, we pray that we will be aware of your Spirit pouring out upon all people at every time in history, and through every generation.

Child: Help us to imagine your future!

Youth: Awaken in us your vision for the world as it can be!

Older Adult: Dream within us your dream of peace and wholeness for every person at every stage of life as we respond to your unfolding mission throughout time.

All: Amen!

Postlude

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

If time allows you could insert one of these:

• Invite each person to write their hopes for the future on a Post-it note and place on your timeline.

• Read one of the following children’s books:
  1. *The Keeping Quilt* by Patricia Polacco, (Aladdin Paperbacks)
  2. *Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney, (Puffin Books)
  3. *We Are One* by Ysaye M. Barnwell, (Harcourt Books)
Awaken to Sacramental Living

MATERIALS
- Chime or singing bowl
- Community of Christ Sings
- Projection and speaker for videos and images
- Small cups with one piece of bread and one grape (enough for the whole community)
- Bowls of water (the number needed depends on the size of your group)
- Copies of coloring sheets (see optional coloring sheets at the end of this outline)
- Crayons or color pencils

SUGGESTED WORSHIP CENTER
Include candles, bread, grapes or grape juice, oil, and an image to symbolize hands

SHARING SERVICE

Awaken with Song
“Jesus Loves Me” CCS 251
“Gather Your Children” CCS 77 or “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” CCS 53

Awaken to God’s Presence
Prayer of Examen

 Invite the community to recall memories of the previous day. Use a chime or singing bowl to designate times of shared silence. Intentionally invite children and youth into the experience by encouraging them to think about the questions in the times of silence so they can share their memories with the group.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
- What were you grateful for yesterday?
- When did you have a God moment?
- What was your favorite thing from the day before?
Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime
Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
• What challenged you to grow yesterday?
• How could you have been more like Jesus?
• What do you wish you could have done differently?
Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime
Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to pray and think:
• How will you be more aware of opportunities to respond to the Spirit’s presence today?
• What do you want to do for God today?
• Where will you look for God today?
Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime
Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Opening Prayer
Mission Prayer
Recite the mission prayer together (and remind the community that the mission prayer is located on the screen or in the worship center):

God, where will your Spirit lead today?
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.
Grant me courage to risk something new and become a blessing of your love and peace.
Amen.

Optional Ministry of Music
“Holy As a Day Is Spent” by Carrie Newcomer
Or show the video: “Holy Now” by Peter Mayer
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjypaURysz4

Meditation with Sacramental Elements
The sacraments all use physical materials as symbols of sacred connection; water, bread and juice, oil, and hands. We are going to dwell with each of these elements today in a sacred rhythm of reflecting and sharing for our worship experience.

Water: Play sound and image of running water. Stream: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-wB2Xhw2riI or Small creek with birds: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TeKZBp8kAcI (Be sure to skip any advertisements at the beginning of these videos before projecting.)

Or bring in a fountain with running water to watch live.

Give a moment for reflection on the sound before reading the scripture.

“but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

—John 4:14

Allow time for large-group sharing around this question: How can water become holy in your everyday life?

Have bowls of water around the room. Play the running water video again, or draw people’s attention to the fountain, and invite everyone to come dip their hands in the living water.

Bread and Wine:
Show image of bread and wine.

Or demonstrate, in a meditative way, one person breaking a loaf of bread and pouring wine into a cup.

Give a moment for reflection before reading the scripture.

“O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.”

—Psalm 34:8
Allow time for large-group sharing around this question: How can your meals be sacred?

Play the bread and wine video again (or repeat the live demonstration) as you pass around small cups with a bite of bread and a grape or two. Invite everyone to taste and see that the Lord is good.

Oil
Show video of oil/anointing with oil.
OR Use a picture of oil on a PowerPoint slide (see beginning of this worship for an image)
OR invite three people to demonstrate, in a meditative way, a person placing oil on another’s head and offering the sacrament of administration.

Give a moment for reflection before reading the scripture.

“to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.”

—Isaiah 61:3, emphasis added

Allow time for large-group sharing around this question: How do you experience healing touch in your daily life?

Play the oil/anointing video again or repeat the live demonstration. Start with a small cup of oil at the end of each row and invite each person to dab oil on the back of the hand of the person next to them.

Hands:
Show video of hands touching (holding hands, hugs, hands of blessing, etc.).

• “Hands” by Justin Tranter, et al. Interscope Records https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3SKR1VMxTM

OR Invite two people to demonstrate, in a meditative way, embracing through human touch with a hug or by holding hands.

Give a moment for reflection before reading the scripture.

“And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.”

—Mark 10:16

Allow time for large-group sharing around this question: When do you experience hand-to-hand or heart-to-heart connection with others in your daily life?

Play the hands/touch video again or repeat the live demonstration. Invite people to take time to share handshakes, high fives and hugs around the room.

Closing Song
“Gathered Here to Seek God’s Blessing” CCS 549 or “Spirit of the Living God” CCS 567 (sing in several languages)

Closing Prayer

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

If time allows, you could insert one of these optional activities:

• Read the story What a Wonderful World by George David Weiss and Bob Thiele (Jean Karl Books) after the opening prayer.

• Hand out coloring sheets depicting the sacraments and crayons for children to work on during the moments of sharing.
Awaken to Living Sanctuary

**MATERIALS**
- Chime or singing bowl
- *Community of Christ Sings*
- Pens
- Crayons
- Handout of body outline

**WORSHIP CENTER SUGGESTIONS**
Large candle in the center of a simple worship setting

**SHARING SERVICE**
Each person will receive a handout with an outline of a body as they enter worship. Pens and crayons will be available around all the seats.

**Awaken with Song**
“Somos el cuerpo de Cristo/We Are the Body of Christ” CCS 337
“Prayer of Peace” CCS 164 (*sing using the motions*)
or “In My Life, Lord” CCS 602

**Awaken to God’s Presence**
**Prayer of Examen**
Invite the community to recall memories of the previous day. Use a chime or singing bowl to designate times of shared silence. Intentionally invite children and youth into the experience by encouraging them to think about the questions in the times of silence so they can share their memories with the group.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
- What were you grateful for yesterday?
- When did you have a God moment?
- What was your favorite thing from the day before?

*Ring Chime—Silence (30 seconds)—Ring Chime*
Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to remember:
- What challenged you to grow yesterday?
- How could you have been more like Jesus?
• What do you wish you could have done differently?

Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Use the silence as a time to pray and think:
• How will you be more aware of opportunities to respond to the Spirit’s presence today?
• What do you want to do for God today?
• Where will you look for God today?

Ring Chime–Silence (30 seconds)–Ring Chime

Repeat the question and invite brief responses from the group, especially encouraging children and youth to share their stories.

Opening Prayer
Recite the Mission Prayer together (Remind the community that the Mission Prayer is located on the screen or in the worship center.):

God, where will your Spirit lead today?
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.
Grant me courage to risk something new and become a blessing of your love and peace.
Amen.

Or Invite a participant to share an opening prayer.

Awaken to God’s Word
Reader One: “...the Temple calls the entire church to become a sanctuary of Christ’s peace, where people from all nations, ethnicities, and life circumstances can be gathered into a spiritual home without dividing walls...”

—Doctrine and Covenants Section 163:8c

Reader Two: “...do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you...?”

—1 Corinthians 6:19

Awaken to Living Sanctuary
Refer worship participants to the human body handout they received when entering worship.

Engage the children and youth in conversation for a few moments at the beginning of this practice.

Example: Today we are talking about becoming sanctuaries of Christ’s peace for other people. Sanctuaries are places where people have safe space to be with God, share what makes them sad, and celebrate their joys. Our scripture tells us that our bodies are sanctuaries or temples for God who lives in us. If God lives in you, how can you use your body as a sanctuary for other people? Maybe you can use your ears to listen or your hands to help people in need. Maybe your presence can help someone who feels lonely or sad.

Take a couple of minutes with the body on your piece of paper to reflect on how you can become a sanctuary of Christ’s peace for someone else. How can you use your body to help others? Everyone is invited to reflect by writing or drawing reflections on your piece of paper. How are you invited to become a sanctuary of Christ’s peace?

For five to eight minutes: Play meditative music as people write or draw their reflections.

For ten minutes: Invite the community to form small groups of three or four, intentionally including people of various ages.

Share with the group your reflections or drawing.

• How are you invited to become a sanctuary of Christ’s peace?
• How are you going to use your body to help others?
• When have you experienced sanctuary with another person?
• When has someone made you feel loved, accepted, or heard?
• What would it be like to share this with others?

Show Video
Sanctuary by Carrie Newcomer,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjOioWTVAL4
Or Ministry of Music
Instrumental Music, “Sacred the Body” CCS 140, or “Bear Each Other’s Burdens” CCS 374

Reading
“In our bodies, in our lives, in our communities; by our hospitality, by our witness, by our life of prayer: Christ calls us to be a place of meeting between God and God’s people, a living sanctuary for the healing of the world.”
—Jan Richardson

Large-Group Sharing
Especially encourage children and youth to share with drawings or reflections (10–15 minutes).

• How are we called to be a place of meeting between God and God’s people?
• How are we called to be sanctuaries of Christ’s peace for one another?

Closing Song
“Lord, Prepare Me” CCS 280 or “Take My Life, That I May Be/Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad” CCS 610

Additional Verses to “Lord, Prepare Me” written by Evangelist Dave Seagraves.

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
A cathedral without walls
A decision to see the vision
Of the people Jesus calls

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Filled with passion for your peace
Spirits mending, comprehending
Your compassion will not cease

Closing Prayer
Invite the congregation to share in a body prayer or invite a person to share in a closing blessing.

(After each posture, pause for a few moments of silence.)

Body Prayer: We praise God with our whole selves, knowing that we are living sanctuaries of Christ’s peace.

Open palms: God, may our hands be used to bring healing and blessing.

Hands over heart: May our hearts be wide open to everyone we meet.

Hands cupping ears: May we listen deeply to the concerns and joys others yearn to share.

Bend low or kneel: May we embrace the humble way of sacrificial love.

Reach arms outward: May we be prepared to embrace all who come into our presence with your arms of love and grace.

Hands folded in prayer: May we be living sanctuaries of your peace.

Amen.

Postlude

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

If time allows you could insert one of these optional activities.

• Read We Share by Monica Bradford (Herald Publishing House) www.heraldhouse.org/cart/edit.asp?p=344527

• Create a drama with “Sacred the Body” CCS 140.

Verse 1: A teenager acts insecure about his or her body as the lyrics of Verse One are read. Another young person embraces the insecure teenager in a hug and they both smile and walk off the stage.

Verse 2: Several people representing diversity of age and body type walk onto the stage with signs that read “Made in God’s Image” as the lyrics of verse two are read.

Verse 3: A person acts like they are suffering or neglected. Another person comes up to them and gently offers a hand. For a moment, the suffering person hesitates and then chooses to take the person’s hand. They walk off stage together.

Verse 4: All those who participated in the drama come back on stage and hold palms outward as the final verse is read.
Sacraments Coloring Pages

Drawings by Julie Heide
Laying on of Hands
Evangelist Blessing