

The following table provides an overview of the general flow of our Sunday morning worship. Our basic worship actions are

- Gathering
- Praising, thanksgiving
- Hearing the Word
- Gathered Silence
- Responding
- Nurturing community
- Transition
- Sharing the meal/table fellowship

You'll find these in the first column. The second column suggests some possible elements to carry out that action, and the third provides suggestions. Our purpose in providing this template is to provide a general outline of our common practices, since worship leading gets passed around among many of us, some of whom are new to worship leading. Take it lightly, as a useful resource, and feel free to be creative in guiding us into our time of worship.

Basic Flow, Worship Actions	Elements to draw on	Suggestions
Gathering	Welcome, intro to morning Intro to visitors/names Songs, call to worship Prayer Light candle(s)	Involve children (e.g. have them light candle, or pass something around)
Praising, thanksgiving	Songs, prayer, psalm [Confession/assurance] [Offering/thanksgiving]	Confession and offering can be here, preparing us for Hearing the Word, or come after, as one of the responses.
*Hearing the Word	Scripture (read, embodied, drama, visuals) Other readings Songs related to theme	Present scripture in child-friendly way (which speaks to all of us) – act out, tell as story, memorize

	Leader's (or guest's) reflections on encounter w/ passage, story	
*Gathered Silence	Some options: Suggested questions for focusing individual reflection; Periodic invitation (eg, lectio divina style); Open ended (eg, Quaker-style or centering prayer); Space for attentive silence	Introduce w/ time estimate and a word about attentive silence, especially if guests or newcomers are present Have paper, colored pencils, etc available for the visual listeners 5 – 20 minute range, generally 8-12 minutes
*Responding	Sharing spoken reflections, questions, insights from silence [Confession/assurance] [Offering/thanksgiving]	[Can be included here, or earlier]
Nurturing community	Sharing joys/concerns, prayer Housekeeping, announcements Sending or blessing song	
Transition	Table prep, conversation	This and clean up are one way we can “wash each others’ feet”
Sharing the Table	Telling the Story/breaking bread Prayer Meal and fellowship	“Take, bless, break, give” + “my body for you” and “cup of the new covenant” Singing “God is great”, “Bon appetit tout le monde”
Closing	Clean up	

(w/ thanks to *Preparing Sunday Dinner*, Yoder, Kropf, Slough)

***Note on Hearing the Word, Gathered Silence, and Response time:** We create our sermon together. There are many possible configurations for doing this.