

## Worship: North Cape Lutheran Mentor Program

As Christians we belong to both our local congregation and our national church, but we also belong to "the holy catholic church" (ELW page 282) as well. The Body of Christ is vast, and has many "flavors," or denominations. Mentors and students are encouraged to attend worship in a different congregation and reflect on it together.

Ninety percent of churches in the United States have more than ninety percent of their members belonging to the same race. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said on Meet the Press, "It is appalling that the most segregated hour of Christian America is eleven o'clock on Sunday morning." How does this line up with Paul'steahcing, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3)?

In this activity each mentor and student will attend worship at a different church or worshiping group (a Campus Ministry service will count). This is a great chance to connect with our broader Christian extended family, learn that wherever we are called there will be a Lutheran church nearby, and to experience worship with people of a different race or class than us.

### **Racine Area:**

Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church (<u>https://emauselca1.org/</u>) 1925 Summit Ave., Racine, WI

Living Faith Lutheran Church (<u>https://livingfaithracine.org/</u>) 2915 Wright Ave., Racine, WI

#### Milwaukee Area:

All Peoples Lutheran Church (<u>http://www.allpeoplesgathering.org/</u>) 2600 N. 2nd St., Milwaukee, WI

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee (<u>http://uumilwaukee.org/</u>) 1342 N. Astor St., Milwaukee, WI Redeemer Lutheran Church (<u>http://redeemermilwaukee.org/</u>) 1905 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI

Hephatha Evangelical Lutheran Church (hephatha100.com) 1720 W. Locust St., Milwaukee, WI

Lutheran Campus Ministry-UWM (<u>https://milwaukeesynod.org/lutheran-campus-ministry/uw-milwaukee-lutheran-campus-ministry/</u>) 3074 N. Maryland Ave., Milwaukee, WI

Elmbrook Church (<u>www.elmbrook.org</u>) 777 Barker Rd., Brookfield, WI

The Ridge Community Church (<u>http://theridgecc.com/</u>) 4500 108th St., Greenfield, WI

### Worship

Through all of the ages, worship has been a part of the Christian life. Sometimes it is a quiet time alone with God. At other times, it is a celebration with trumpets as the whole people of God gather with one cause. We would like you to spend some time thinking about, experiencing, and talking about worship with another member of the worshiping community of Christ.

This packet has four parts, three activities and an evaluation. Each has its own set of directions.

Activity #1-Experiencing Worship-You will attend one of the services available at NCLC. Activity #2-Together in Worship-Mentor and teen will attend worship at a different church.

Activity #3-**Reflecting on Worship-**Mentor and teen reflect on and discuss the worship experiences and worship in general.

Activity #4-Evaluation-This is the only portion of this packet that needs to be turned in.

# Activity One EXPERIENCING WORSHIP

**Directions:** The purpose of Activity One is to have you focus on the many events which occur within congregational worship. Take this Activity One sheet and a pen or pencil to your own church worship (NCLC). Read over the questions first, and then answer those questions which can be answered before worship. Some questions will have to be answered during worship and some after worship. Save this Activity One sheet because you will be using it for parts of Activity Three.

	COMPLETE BEFORE WORSHIP					
Church Season				Day		
Look at the altar and circle the color of the church season or day.						
	green	white	blue	purple	red	
What is you	ur mood before	e worship? (Circle t	hem)			
happy	sad	bored	excited	nervous	mad	other:
Who do you most enjoy worshiping with and why? Where do you usually sit and why?						
<b>COMPLETE AS YOU WORSHIP</b> Are there any special events within worship? (Circle them)						
Holy Comm	nunion	Baptism	Sp	ecial Prayers		
New Memb	bers	Special Speake	er Ins	tallations		
Special Litu	rgies	Other:				

What do you hear, see, or smell at worship that catches your attention?

Is the order for worship as printed in the bulletin easy to follow?

Tell what one of the lessons is about.

What is the sermon about?

Name one story or example that the preacher used that you liked.

How did the sermon make you feel?

What did you learn in the sermon that you didn't know before?

Circle the things below that were included in the prayers.

the sick	the dying	peace	poor and homeless
thanks	justice	birth	baptism
communion	guidance	faith	other:

How did the prayers make you feel?

### COMPLETE IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP

Who besides the pastor helped to lead the worship?

Assisting Ministers	Readers	Choir	Acolytes
Musicians	Communion Assistants		Technicians
Cantors	Other:		

Did you greet and welcome people at worship who were visiting?

Did your mind wander during worship? Which part?

Which part of worship was most meaningful for you? Why?

What detracted from your worship experience?

What do you think the overall theme of this day's worship was?

# Activity Two TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

Directions: The purpose of Activity Two is to have the mentor and teen gain a fuller understanding and appreciation with a different church and participate in a worship experience. Date, time, and congregation are to be mutually agreed upon by mentor and teen. As in Activity One, you will complete a portion of this sheet before, during, and after worship. Bring your entire **WORSHIP PACKET** with you to this worship experience. During the worship, you will complete Activity Two. After the worship, you will use Activity Three to discuss Activities One and Two.

### COMPLETE BEFORE WORSHIP

Name and city of the other church.

Why did you pick this particular church?

How is this church building different from your own church?

How is this building similar to your own?

Did you feel welcomed to this church?

### COMPLETE AS YOUR WORSHIP

Are there any special events within worship? (Circle them)

Holy Communion	Baptism	Special Prayers
New Members	Special Speaker	Installations
Special Liturgies	Other:	

What do you hear, see, or smell at worship that catches your attention?

What is the music like?

Is there a bulletin?

Tell what one of the lessons is about.

What is the sermon about?

Name one story or example that the preacher used that you liked.

How did the sermon make you feel?

What did you learn in the sermon that you didn't know before?

Circle the things below that were included in the prayers.

the sick	the dying	peace	poor and homeless
thanks	justice	birth	baptism
communion	guidance	faith	other:

How did the prayers make you feel?

Did this congregation pray in a way that was different from your own? How?

### COMPLETE IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP

Assisting MinistersReadersChoirAcolytesMusiciansCommunion AssistantsTechniciansCantorsOther:

Which part of worship was most meaningful for you? Why?

Who besides the pastor helped to lead the worship?

What detracted from your worship experience?

Say something about the music that was included in worship today.

On this particular day, how did worship make you feel?

What is one thing you would like to take from this service to improve worship at your own church?

Was there anything that was uncomfortable, troubling, or embarrassing for you at this worship? If so, what?

# Activity Three REFLECTION ON WORSHIP

**Directions:** The purpose of this activity is to grow in understanding and appreciation of worship by comparing your worship experience with another worshiping Christian. You will need the entire **Worship Packet** to complete this activity. Do this activity immediately after you worship together. <u>These are discussion questions.</u> Do not write your answers.

- 1. Use Activities One and Two to compare your worship experiences. What were the differences? What were the similarities? Read through the sheet together.
- 2. If you could change one thing about worship, what would it be?
- 3. If you could keep only one part of worship, which part would it be?
- 4. Describe an experience outside of congregational worship in which you felt close to God. Where is it? What did you experience? How did you feel? Why was it special?
- 5. Imagine you are the parent of a son or daughter who comes to you and says, "I can't see any reason why I should have to go to worship services. None of my friends do and I'm not going to anymore either." What would you say to him or her? What would you do? What difference would it make if you were not regular in attendance yourself?
- 6. If you could change one thing about sermons, what would it be?

## Complete the Evaluation

## Evaluation of Mentor Module Three: "Worship Together"

**Directions:** The purpose of the evaluation is to help your congregation tailor these packets to better serve the students and mentors. We read all of your comments and give them serious consideration. **Please complete this evaluation, sign it, and return it to Angela's mail box by July 1, 2024.** 

- **1.** Please comment on any of the following:
  - a. What did you enjoy most about this module?
  - **b.** What did you enjoy **least** about this module?
- 2. Where did you worship for your non-North Cape worship experience?
- 3. What do you like best about worshiping at your home church?

- 4. What did you like about the church you visited?
- 5. How long did your time together last?

Teen:

Mentor: