

# Joys and Concerns Outline

## JOYS AND CONCERNS SCHEDULE

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Missionary Williams
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Missionary Gardner
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – TBD

## WHAT IS THE JOYS AND CONCERNS SERVICE:

Joys and Concerns is our version of an old-fashioned testimony service to help **set the atmosphere** for the upcoming worship service. The purpose is to help us

- ***release*** our concerns so we will be open to worship,
- ***reflect*** on how good God has been, and
- ***refill*** the building with praise before the main service starts.

This should be a **safe space** for anyone to share where they need prayer for themselves or their loved ones and to help encourage each other by sharing joyful testimonies. To keep this part of the service safe, this time is not included in the broadcast, and this is not considered a part of the main service.

## Preparing for Joys and Concerns

It is important for the person leading Joys and Concerns to come with the ***right mindset***.

**PRIOR** to coming to service that morning:

1. **Spend time with the Lord** to reflect on your relationship with Him and remember how worthy He is to trust him with all your concerns and give Him all your praise.

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2. **Prepare an inspirational joy or thought** you can share to start the session and encourage others to share.
3. **Prayerfully select the song** or songs you want to use during Joys and Concern. ***(Send the link to your selection to the pastor by the Friday before your Sunday)***
  - a. Make sure it is a song ***you know the words to*** and are comfortable leading the congregation in singing.
  - b. **Find a video of the song** that can be used during Joys and Concerns and send it to Pastor and Brother Bryant so it can be pulled up on the church computer. **PREFERABLY, a karaoke-style video**, which means the lyrics are showing on the screen while it is playing so others who may not know the song can sing along.
  - c. **Practice the song** several times before Joys and Concerns to make sure the words and the melody are fresh in your mind.

***NOTE:*** During the time between Sunday School and the beginning of Joys and Concerns, play the selected praise song on a loop until Joys and Concerns starts.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS ORDER OF SERVICE:**

*NOTE: Joys and Concerns should start at 10:45 am each Sunday.*

### **Onsite Prep:**

Get with Brother Bryant as soon **as you arrive at church** to:

1. Make sure the **microphone and speakers** are ready
2. Make sure the **video is loaded** and ready

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3. Do a **sound check** with mics and video to make sure everything is working together properly and the volume for each is where you want it.

## Opening Statement:

1. **Welcome** everyone to Joys and Concerns
2. **Explain** what it is and why we do it
3. Tell them **why you picked the song** and invite them to sing with you.

## Lead the Song Selected

1. Play the video and lead the song.
2. Encourage others to sing along.
3. You may have to say the lyrics in advance to help them follow along.
4. The idea is that **singing together helps us harmonize** on one accord in praise.

## Ask for Joys and Concerns

1. **Restate** the purpose of Joys and Concerns
2. **Remind** them this is a **safe place** for them to share their concerns and that this part is not part of the broadcast so they can speak freely with those who can join them in prayer.
3. **Share your inspirational thought**, joy, or concern as an example to help others feel open to share
4. **Ask** everyone to share what God has done for them, even if it's just to stand and publicly thank God for being here today.
5. Make sure to **note any concerns** that are shared.

## Closing Joys and Concerns:

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1. Keep in mind the length of your song and close with enough time to pray and sing your song again leading up to the 11 am service.
2. Give one last invitation to share
3. **Restate Concerns** that have been shared
4. Give a **prayer of intercession** for those concerns
5. Sing the selected song again

## NOTE:

1. The **intercessory** prayer **is not the same** as the **invocation** to service. This **intercessory prayer is specific** to the concerns that were shared in Joys and concerns. **The invocation is a general prayer** asking God to come into the main worship service.
2. **Continue singing the Joys and Concern song** until 11 am, when the main service is set to start, and then turn the service over to the MC to do the Welcome for the main service.
3. IF YOU ARE ALSO THE MC FOR THE MAIN SERVICE, please make sure to make it clear that we are shifting service and going into the main service for the day. This means you should start the service with the Call to Order as outlined in the Standard Order of Service for the 11 am worship.
4. **IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL YOUR ASSIGNED DAY,** please let the pastor know and work with him to determine who will take your place. Once that person is determined, confirm with them that they will be able to fulfill the responsibility on that date and then send a group text with you, the replacement, and the pastor to confirm the replacement is in place.