

Welcome to Worship!

Worship as a family is important and looks different for everyone. Please know that you are welcome, no matter how “normal” or “unique” you may be! Here are a few things you may need to know so that you can be comfortable and free to worship just as you are.

1. You can stay together for the whole service **OR** your children can participate in Children’s Church, joining the congregation in time for the Meal and Sending.
2. **Laughter, wiggling, whispering is OK.** You might find it helpful to remind your child that this is a special time for us to be with each other and God, so we want to be careful not to disturb/interrupt anyone else who might be trying to have special time with God.
3. **Worship is broken into 4-parts.**

Gather – Opening prayer, Meet and Greet

Word – Affirmation of Faith, Bible Readings, Message

Meal – The Lord’s Prayer, Communion, Prayers of the Church

Sending – Blessing, Prayer, and Sending

4. **Worship bags can be found at the sanctuary entry.** These bags include crayons, children’s bulletins, and coloring sheets that connect with the message. If you can’t find them, ask an usher for help.
5. **If you need to step outside the sanctuary for a quiet or private space,** you can sit in the hallway just outside the sanctuary or visit “the Peace Room” through the door in the back corner of the sanctuary, across from the piano.
6. **Sit somewhere that will make it easy for your child to see what’s going on. Yes, that might mean a front row!** Believe it or not, but when they can see what’s happening, they often do a better job staying still and paying attention.
7. **Kids can be worship leaders too!** They can help as acolyte, bringing up the offering, helping at communion, or even reading. Just talk with an usher, Casey, or Pastor Mike if they’d like to be involved in this way.

We are so glad that you are joining us in worship! We hope this short letter will encourage you and your family to more fully **love, experience, and discover** God and God’s will in the world.

If you have any questions, or would like to talk more, please feel free to contact Hope’s Young Disciples Director, Casey Cross, or Pastor Mike Sager.

For more information on Children’s Church or Open Gym, see the other side -->