

## WORSHIP AT HOME OR ON VACATION

**GATHER TOGETHER** - Turn off distractions. Set up the space with cushions, a cross, a candle, or other signs of worship. Make sure to invite your kids to read parts of the service, too.

*Have a leader say these words while everyone makes the sign of the cross on their body:*

**We are gathered in the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**SING** - Play piano or sing out of a hymnal if you have one (there are topical and alphabetical indexes in the back). **OR**

Sing, listen, and/or dance along with a recording. If you don't have one, you can probably find one online on YouTube.

If singing or dancing isn't for you, close your eyes and just listen, or watch the pictures on YouTube. **OR**

Sing without accompaniment. Choose simple songs like *Jesus Loves Me* or well-known ones like *Amazing Grace*.

**PRAY TOGETHER** - As Jesus greeted the disciples huddled in the upper room, exchange the peace of God.

Embrace each other and say: **The peace of Christ be with you.**

Then, pray together: **Almighty God, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**READ SCRIPTURE** - From the Bible or a storybook Bible. The Gospels and Psalms are always a great place to turn.

**REFLECT** - Invite each person to share a word or phrase that stood out to them in the scripture. **OR**

Discuss the scripture: What is happening? What is God trying to communicate? How does this affect your life?

Is there a word of peace, strength, or liberation for you? Are you being called to do or change something? **OR**

Kids may enjoy acting out the Bible story. **OR**

Remember your baptism. Dip your finger in water and make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead, saying:

**Child of God, you have been claimed by God, sealed with the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever.**

**SING** - Choose another favorite hymn to play, sing, listen, or dance to.

**PRAYERS** - Pray using your own words for what you feel right now. Consider the following:

- Things you are thankful for that God has done
- The church and its ministry, including how God might be calling you to follow
- Ongoing issues troubling the world and our community
- People you know who suffer in body, mind, or spirit

**OR** use the following prayer: **Gracious and loving God, sustain us and all people throughout the world with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.**

Conclude with the Lord's Prayer: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**SING** - Choose another favorite hymn to play, sing, listen, or dance to.

**BLESSING** - Bless each other with the following words:

**The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.**

**The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.**

Now, go and serve the Lord by doing something to bless others: Write a letter or call family/friends to tell them what a blessing they are; make a craft or bake food to give away; or create a fun inspirational message and text/post it online.

"For where  
two or three  
are gathered  
in my name,  
*I am there*  
among them."  
{matthew 18:20}