



- _____ - minister/presider
- _____ - musician/liturgist
- _____ - greeter and deacon
- _____ - worship leaders
- _____ - waffle chef

Set-Up: Congregants will be gathered in a semicircle made up of chairs, floor cushions and small rugs. Worship leaders will preside either standing or sitting near the Christ Candle. Communion table will be set, to the side, with two loaves of bread, two chalices, and a small pitcher of grape juice. A tablecloth or other covering may be used.

Gathering Music

Welcome

Welcome to Waffle Church!!! Waffle Church is a service for all people, of every age. Here is a place where we will engage our curiosity and imagination, and all of our senses, in the worship of God.

The bathroom is behind you. There are toys and chairs, rugs and pillows. Please move around the space freely.

Waffle Church is a service of St. Lydia's, a progressive worshipping community that values asking questions, using our whole bodies in worship, and sharing leadership.

It is by St. Lydia's wise discernment that we are here, to have a space that can accommodate families with children, adults who like a morning worship service, and just about anybody else who likes church and waffles... at the same time. So let us worship God...

Call to Worship

One: *The church is the place where the broken gather;*

Two: *The church is the place where we are welcome, no matter what we have done, or what we have failed to do;*

One: *The church is the place where the lost, the least, the forgotten, the ignored sit in the seats of honor;*

Two: *The church is the place where there is always room for us at the table;*

One: *The church is the place where we are fed.*

Two: *This is our church. To play, to rest, to pray and sing.*

One: *So let us play.*

Two: *So let us rest.*

One: *So let us pray.*

Two: *So let us sing.*

One and Two: *So let us worship God.*

Theme Song

Scripture and Prompting

As we prepare to hear our story for the day, children find a comfy seat, and we will hand out Goldfish!!!!

The Scripture and Prompting section of worship can look any number of ways. There is ALWAYS Scripture, but it may be read, sung, or acted out. It may be followed by a spoken message, or an activity.

At the conclusion of the Scripture and Prompting, everyone re-gathers...

Now we are going to spend 1 minute in silence! Resting our bodies and our voices as best we can. I will ring the bell at the beginning of the minute and the end. You are invited to think about what you've just heard and experienced.

When the bell rings again, everyone is invited to share a word or a story- children AND adults.

So everybody find a comfortable seat- in chair or on the floor. You can close your eyes if you'd like. Begin to take deep breaths and feel the air make your belly grow big and then grow small.

Silent Meditation (ring the bell)

Sharing

What did you notice?

Table Song

Now we will stand up and circle around the tables, as Rebecca teaches us a song.

Communion

Here we are gathered around this table once again!

It's a nice table, isn't it? With our Waffle Church tablecloth, and the big loaf of delicious bread, and the pitcher of juice, and the cups for our feast. And our beautiful candle that we've decorated.

But it's not our table is it?

Whose table is it?

It's God's table. That's right.

And today I want to call it the Table of *PRAYER*, because each time we gather around this table, we remember how Jesus prayed for his disciples and even gave them this special to meal to eat together. *(This portion can be exchanged to match the day's theme!)*

There is room enough for everyone at this table. And there is food here for all who are hungry.

As did the early followers of the Jesus movement, who met together to share a meal, and stories and community, we share Communion.

At Communion we gather around a broken body. To share the bread, we must break it. To share of ourselves, we must be willing to confess our own brokenness. For out of brokenness emerges wholeness and holiness. This is the mystery of our faith. Love shared not out of perfection, but out of messiness and frailty and confusion and selfishness.

The stories of our lives shared openly and honestly-- this is the perfect love that casts out fear.

This is Communion, learning to love one another as we all gather around a common meal, regardless of age, gender identity, class, race, sexual orientation, ethnicity, political affiliation, ability, or name. This is the Feast of Justice that embodies the steadfast love of God.

God is here, and we will lift up our hearts and give thanks.

Let us pray:

Thank you, God, for creating the universe, and this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish. For the air-conditioning, and summer camp, and the smell of sunscreen.

For what else do we thank God today?

...

Most of all, God, we thank you for giving us your love. And you even gave us your love when things went wrong, and we were not nice to one another, and we did not share, and said hurtful things to other people. But then you, O God, gave us Jesus, born on Christmas morning, a baby, just like we were all babies. As he grew up, he knew our hurt and pain, for he felt it also. Through him you wipe away our tears, fill us with your peace and show us how to live.

As Jesus Christ showed kindness to us, so we also try to show kindness for others, as we

pray out loud for people and places we love, and for people and places we don't know but whom God loves...

For what and whom do we pray today?

...

Protect, O God, the vulnerable. Feed the hungry. Clothe the naked. Comfort the lonely. Make safe what is dangerous. And make us instruments of your peace. Make us your hands and feet in the world, sharing your love with everyone we meet.

And now, send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us holy food for holy people.

Amen.

You remember the familiar story,

While Jesus was eating with his disciples, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take, this is my body. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took a cup, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this in remembrance of me."

As Jesus fed his disciples, so now let us feed one another. When the loaf comes to you, call your neighbor by name, saying, "This is my body." God's grace is big; we need not take only a tiny pinch. There is enough for everyone.

Come. The table is set. All are invited.

Holy food for holy people!

Communion is shared.

Prayer After Communion

God, thank you for this bread and for this juice, common food made holy by you. May it strengthen us to leave this table and take your love and share it, everywhere we go. Amen.

Announcements and Offering

God has nourished us with bread and cup. We have been fed that we might go into the world rested and renewed, prepared to feed others. But first, we will continue our communion with a shared meal. Andie and her team have prepared a delicious meal for us. Andie, what are we eating today?

As we eat, two plates will be passed around for our morning's offering. One plate is for St. Lydia's, and you are invited to use the iPad on the front table to make a one-time offering or set-up a recurring pledge. The second plate is for a favorite soup kitchen of St. Lydia's.

Thanks to Rebecca for leading song; and Andie for cooking; and Angela for being our Deacon; and Emily for helping with our prayer maps!

Everyone is invited to participate in leadership, in whatever way strikes your fancy. Just let me know!

Are there any other announcements before we sing our Waffle Song?

Could I get a couple of adults to help move the table into position?

Waffle Song

Waffles

Clean-up Instructions

Friends, it is our practice here at St. Lydia's to clean up together, and I have jobs for adults AND children.

All congregants, all ages, are assigned tasks to clean up the space. Before moving into their roles.... The minister offers the charge and benediction.

Charge and Benediction

Ok, friends! Go out in peace and don't forget to PRAY/PLAY/SING/REJOICE/SERVE. Keep rejoicing and repair whatever is broken. Encourage each other, think as one, and live at peace; and God, the Author of love and peace, will remain with you. Amen.

Leaving Song