

The purpose of this grid is to help you develop visual ideas that fit your general liturgy style.

The major sections of worship each have a purpose, and that purpose provides parameters for visuals in worship. By articulating the main theme or task of each section, accomplishing that task becomes the target for our visuals. Visuals then are not mere window dressing or illustration, but part of the way we do what we do in worship. Creative ideas are then generated and evaluated using the themes as the key criteria.

The following chart lists some of the basic sections of worship that tend to recur each week. Some basic themes and key ideas are listed for each section, along with potential types of visuals that address those themes and ideas. Using this grid as a model, your church should develop your own grid of the sections you use regularly, the themes and ideas that are central to each section, and visuals that fit the theme well.

	Basic Theme	Key idea	Fitting visuals	Less-fitting visuals
Gathering:	<p>God calls us to gather as His people and to worship him</p> <p>Who is God? Who are we as a called people?</p>	<p>Preparation, traveling, approaching Gathering, anticipation Needing Encounter with God (as Trinity) Responding in praise Beginning of dialogue</p>	<p>-Thematic scripture -Psalm of ascent -Questions -Countdown -Components to be assembled -Logo? -Welcome screen?</p>	<p>Announcements Instructions</p>
Confession & Assurance	<p>We acknowledge our brokenness in the fall, receive Christ's redemptive work, and are summoned to a new life</p> <p>What is our brokenness? How are we renewed?</p>	<p>Sin and Grace Contrast, -God's grace, our brokenness, -sin and forgiveness, Intensive dialogue Baptism in Assurance Creeds of universal church</p>	<p>-Contrasts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • light and dark • high and low • chaos and order • hand down, hands up • fonts & colors <p>-Baptism: Washing, water, birthing, drowning, Dying and Rising</p>	<p>(don't miss confession; can't know God without it)</p>
Service of the Word: Sermon	<p>As the redeemed people of God we hear God's Word</p> <p>What is God's message for his renewed people? What is our past and future?</p>	<p>God's revelation Christ's work God' plan for all history Strong, personal eye contact</p>	<p>-Visual Aid (e.g. a map) -Diagram (e.g. structure or context of text) -Illustration (a metaphor) -Demonstration (movie clip) -Navigation (Where are we?) -Package, message, gift</p>	<p>Written outlines are easily abused</p>
Service of the Word: Lord's Supper	<p>We are nourished as the bride of Christ</p> <p>How are we nourished?</p>	<p>Sign & Seal Memory and Hope Eschatology Physical participation God's gifts</p>	<p>-Food, feast, party, -Body & blood -Gifts</p>	
Service of Response & Dismissal	<p>We actively respond in gratitude by offering our lives in service; We prepare to enter the world and enact the kingdom.</p> <p>How are we changed? How are we sent?</p>	<p>Offering ourselves Ethics Prayers of universal church Make general concrete Sending, commissioning</p>	<p>Announcements Service opportunities Specific ministries Missionaries Scripture on producing fruit Scripture on the Kingdom</p>	<p>Money Cash register</p>

20040108 planning grid simple.doc

The purpose of this grid is to plan a given worship service.

Each week, the sections of worship are colored and interpreted by a specific text or topic. The key task in planning a service is to articulate what each section looks like in light of a specific text or topic. If, for example, today's overall topic is the "global church," what does the Gathering look like? What do we Confess as a global church? Then, using the topic-specific theme for each section, ideas for songs, prayers/litanies, and visuals can be generated and evaluated. The specific themes become the target for all liturgical choices, and the liturgy is unified in purpose and flow. Song ideas in one area may stimulate visual imagery in another, but since the theme is the target, visuals do more than simply illustrate lyrics or Bible passages.

Using this grid as a model, your church should list the basic sections of worship you use in a given service and articulate the theme of each section in light of a given service's topic or text. Then write in ideas for songs, spoken words, and visuals for each section. Write down all the ideas, and then begin to look for threads or metaphors that run throughout the service. Eliminate ideas that do not fit the theme for each section as well as the others.

Service Date:					
Text:					
Main Theme:					
Basic Imagery:					
Musicians:					
		Theme	Music Options	Spoken Words	Visual Ideas
Gathering:					
Confession and Assurance (Baptism)					
Service of the Word (Lord's Supper)					
Service of Response					
Dismissal					

20031217 planning grid detailed.doc

The purpose of this grid is to plan a given worship service in more detail than the simple grid.

Like the simple grid, the key task here is to articulate a theme for each section of the service. That theme can then be used to generate and evaluate ideas for song, word, and visual choices. But this grid highlights the dialogical nature of worship. The down arrows represent God's word's to us, and the up arrows indicate our response to God. This dialogue shapes our worship, and can guide our choices. The dialogue can also be represented visually through some form of contrast. God's words and our response can be contrasted through alternating colors, text styles, text placements, or visual images.

Using this grid as a model, list each step in your worship, and give it an arrow. It may be wise to add or remove lines to follow the dialogue. Articulate a theme for each line in light of the service's overall topic. Then fill in ideas for songs, words, and visuals. Let ideas in one area suggest ideas for another. Then eliminate ideas based on how well they fit the theme for each line.

Service Date:					
Text:					
Main Theme:					
Basic Imagery:					
Musicians:					
Open Questions:					
		Theme	Music Options	Spoken Words	Visual Ideas
Gathering:					
Prelude					
Call to Worship	↓				
Response (Psalm of Praise)	↑				
Invocation and greeting	↓ ↔				
Hymn of Praise	↑				
Confession and Assurance					
Call to Confession	↓				
Confession of Sin: (Lament)	↑				
Assurance of Pardon	↓				
Response (Gloria)	↑				
Summons to New Life	↓				
Service of the Word					
Prayer for Illumination	↑				
Reading of the Word:	↓				
Sermon	↓				
Service of Response					
Song of Response (Confession of faith)	↑				
Intercessions	↑				
Presentations of Offering	↑				
Sending:					
Benediction (Passing of peace)	↓ ↔				
Song	↑				
Postlude:					

Project:

Date:

Gathering

God calls us to gather as His people and to worship him. [Creation]

Who is God?

Who are we as a called people?

Confession

We acknowledge our sinfulness and lament our broken world. [Fall]

What is our brokenness?

How do we lament?

Assurance

We receive Christ's redemptive work in the cross, are washed of our sins, and are summoned to a new life [Redemption]

How are we renewed?

