

Worship Visitation Guide

CE 459 Worship and Spirituality

What was the denominational or theological background of the worship gathering you visited?

Have you ever worshiped in this type of tradition before? If so, how did it compare?

How did the worship leaders (e.g. pastor(s), musician(s), worship team, praise band, choir, etc.) and members of the congregation dress? Did you notice any surprises?

What did you notice about the building in which you worshiped? What type of “feel” did you get from the worship space?

What signs or symbols of the Christian faith were present? What banners, art, or use of color did you notice? What did these non-verbal items communicate to you?

Was there any encouragement or opportunity for people to prepare for worship? If so, what was it?

Where did the worship leaders position themselves throughout worship? Did any of them move during the worship gathering? If so, where did they go? What effect did their movement have upon your worship experience?

Was dance or drama used in worship? If so, how was it used?

Who were the leaders of worship? What role, if any, did members of the congregation have in worship leadership?

What was the involvement of children in worship? Did they remain throughout the service or did they leave for some specific children’s ministry? If so, what was it?

What was the format or structure of worship? Approximately how much time was devoted to singing, reading/preaching/teaching of scripture, prayers, and other types of responses?

Did worship flow and seem to fit together? What helped or hindered it from being cohesive?

Was there a prayer of confession and words of assurance/pardon included in worship?

How was scripture used in worship (e.g. scripture lesson, prayer preparation, challenge or call to commitment, etc.)?

What types or styles of music were used? Did the congregation seem to know them? If there was new music how was it presented or taught to the congregation?

What instruments were used? Were they used effectively?

Were any of the sacraments celebrated? If so, how was it done?

What aspects or parts of the service, if any, helped you to experience the presence of God in worship? How? Why?

Did anyone before or after worship greet you? If so, who were they?

Would you return to worship at this place again? Why? Why not?

Were there any other observations or impressions that you noticed from your visit?

Tom Schwanda