

## **WORSHIP WORKING GROUP REVIEW OF WORSHIP CONSULTATION**

**APRIL 6, 2025**

**Think back to a worship experience that was particularly meaningful to you anywhere, anytime. What made it so?**

**Working Group (WG):**

- Connection with others
- Continuity
- The service was done well

**Task Group (TG):**

- Good people around
- Good flow to the service
- “I could hear”
- Music and prayer experience
- Beautiful surroundings

**What do you believe are the most important elements or values that make worship meaningful? What makes it feel alive, relevant or impactful?**

**WG:**

- Relevant message
- Speak truths but bring to a place of hope
- Music contributes to meaningfulness

**TG:**

- Meaningful relationships and community based on faith
- Variety of musical styles, intentionally programmed
- Relevant, challenging messages
- Opportunities for quietude and reflection
- Inclusivity and welcoming atmosphere
- Consistent order of service with some flexibility

**What might detract from or diminish the meaningfulness of worship for you? What gets in the way of having a deep or impactful worship experience?**

**WG:**

- Length of service. 12-13 minutes maximum
- Long announcements
- A sanctuary lacking a “green” footprint
- Members being overwhelmed by involvement in committees or programs

**TG:**

- Sound system issues are a major detractor from worship
- Disruptions to worship flow
- Concerns about maintaining traditions while being open to change

**When you reflect on worship experiences that were particularly meaningful to you, how did the physical space contribute to that experience? What was it about the space that enhanced or supported those experiences?**

**WG:**

- Good lighting for good vision
- Comfortable seating
- Comfortable temperature
- Space to move around freely

**TG:**

- Space should function as a sanctuary first but be flexible
- Accessibility is essential
- Natural light and connection to nature
- Aesthetics are important
- Iconography helps to create a sacred atmosphere

**As we think about creating a unified church, how can worship engage with and be relevant to the city we serve? What shifts or changes might help?**

**WG:**

- Make church available for other groups
- Change service times
- Offer “messy church.” Families come for craft activities, a meal and a short worship
- Expose children to as much music as possible
- More than one service a week
- Ensure worship for the marginalized.

**TG:**

This question was tabled for now.