

Aura Soraya Pichardo (Angulo)
Worship Service Assignment Plan

I used to attend Times Square Church (TSC), an interdenominational church in New York City for several years. The sermons were great and the praise and worship was incredible; the Spirit was present and filled the Sanctuary. I was not a part of the worship team. Even though I enjoyed attending services at TSC, I stopped going because it was just too big; it was becoming a Mega Church. I would go there and no one knew whom I was. I was just another face in the crowd. Never had the opportunity to meet the Senior Pastor and did not feel as though I was a part of the community, even though I attended Friday Night Bible Study Groups.

Since then, I have attended services at several churches in the hopes of finding a “home church”. I even attended Trinity Grace Church in Washington Heights for a while but there was a major shift in how services were run after the Pastor and his wife left and another Pastor took over and I stopped attending services there as well. Since then, I have not had a “home church” so that’s why I feel that there are certain aspects of this assignment that will be a challenge for me. Although I no longer attend Times Square Church, I will be providing a description on how worship is done there, as it is the only church worship service that I can speak to. I will only be addressing parts I, II and III as the remaining parts are due during week 13.

Part I.

A "point person" from the church who responds to email and who will ensure you have accomplished the task and his/her email.

I will have to find a way to modify this portion of the assignment, as I do not have a “point person”.

Part II.

A detailed description of the way worship is done in your church (number of leaders and their roles, number of "other" participants and their roles (like the sound engineer or point person)

The way that worship is done at Times Square Church (where I previously attended) is wonderful and well organized but not rigid. There is a Worship Leader that sings and directs the entire worship. There is a choir of approximately twenty-five members supporting the service. Additionally, the Worship Leader is accompanied by: 1 Guitarist, 1 Piano/organ Player, 1 (additional singer), several individuals that help with screen projections functions so the audience can sing along with the Worship Team and several individuals that assist with lighting and sound (I do not have an exact number as these individuals are behind the scenes).

As the very beginning of the service the curtain goes up and the Worship Team goes right into praise songs. Usually approximately two energetic and up-beat songs are played to get the audience warmed up. After the praise songs they usually play one very slow, worship song to welcome the Holy Spirit and get everyone ready for the sermon. The music is Contemporary Christian but they will sometimes play some of the traditional and timeless songs such as "Amazing Grace", "How Great Thou Art" or "It is Well With My Soul". The entire choir, along with the musicians and worship leader participate together in all services and sing during various times of the service.

Part III.

A detailed plan explaining how you will be involved in a new way (to you) in the planning and executing of a worship service (this should include more than one task, and at least one of the tasks should be verbal in front of the group; it should include date time of meetings and the service itself.

I will be conducting the worship service from my apartment with a few friends. I have not had anyone over to my apartment at all during Covid and this will be the first time and I must admit that I am a little apprehensive. I will be in the role as Worship Leader as well as speaking

in from of the group (perhaps a devotional, something from Scripture or. whatever the Spirit leads me to say. It will not be rigidly structured at all but will be more of an informal service of Praise and Worship consisting of contemporary Christian music. I will have YouTube on my TV screen projecting the lyrics to the songs that we will be singing or I will have printouts.

Additionally, I MAY lead the worship also by playing a song or two on my guitar (not too sure about that yet). The anticipated date of this service is Friday March 19th at 7pm although that may be modified depending on the schedule of my friends.

As I write this, I wonder if one modification that could be made is the service given on Zoom or Google Meet and recorded rather than having friends in my apartment.