



## Praying and Making Ritual

### About this Faith Practice

Prayer is an essential practice of faith and tradition. Many of us long for a deeper life of prayer. Prayer may be a conversation with God; prayer may also be activity that permeates all of one's life. When we live prayerfully we may begin to develop a worldview that understands our daily lives as an extension of our communal worship. By reclaiming familiar rituals and through exploring new rituals, we may begin to recognize the holy in the ordinary, mark time and space as sacred, and give meaning to the whole of our experience.

### Let's Begin...

Now that you've downloaded the files for your faith practice and age group or setting, you can get started planning one or multiple sessions:

**1 Open the .pdf file for your age group or setting. Choose an Exploration, the approach you think will help your group to best experience the faith practice. Choose any one of the following Explorations to use for one session:**



**Discovery**



**Scripture**



**Discipleship**



**Christian Tradition**



**Context and Mission**



**Future and Vision**

**Note:** If you're planning multiple sessions, you can follow the order suggested above or feel free to use any order that fits the needs of your group. Some groups may choose to start with Scripture and then see where that leads them. Others may be more ready to act in their community and might want to start with Context and Mission.

**2 Locate the Exploration you've chosen**

**3 Look through all 9 activities and select the ones you would like to do with your group.**

- If you're planning a 30–45 minute session, choose 3 activities.
- It is best to select at least one activity from Exploring and Engaging, at least one from Discerning and Deciding, and at least one from Sending and Serving.
- For 45 minutes to 1 hour, choose 4 or 5 activities.
- For a 1½ to 2-hour session, you can use all 9 activities.

**Tip:** Look for this symbol  to find activities designed for Easy Preparation (able to be done with minimal preparation using supplies normally found at the church).

④ Make copies of any handouts () related to your activities. Order posters (), if using art (see “Ordering Posters,” below).

## Use of Art, Music, and Scripture in Faith Practices

Faith Practices activities include many opportunities to grow in faith through the use of scripture, music, and art.

### Ordering Posters

If you choose activities that use an art image, you or your church will need to purchase posters of the art by clicking on the link provided in the activity. If you wish to use art, you will need to plan ahead, since it takes 1 to 2 weeks for the posters to arrive after you place your order.

### Art

Six posters are used with the faith practice Praying and Making Ritual and may be ordered by clicking on the links provided.

#### From Imaging the Word Poster Sets

“Baptism of Christ” by Pheoris West ([https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=17101&store\\_id=1401](https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=17101&store_id=1401))

“No-Traveller’s Borne” by Jess ([https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=17101&store\\_id=1401](https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=17101&store_id=1401))

“Guatemala: Processions” by Betty LaDuke ([https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=15626&store\\_id=1401](https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=15626&store_id=1401))

#### From Art.com

“Tibetan Yellow Monks Using Prayer Wheels” by Landor (<http://www.art.com/products/p12370511-sa-i1740258/henry-savage-landor-tibetan-yellow-monks-using-prayer-wheels.htm?sorig=0>)

“The Reading” by Wilson (<http://www.art.com/products/p10278691-sa-i852604/s-wilson-the-reading.htm?sorig=cat&sorigid=0&dimvals=0&ui=6acc8b6e6b0347f498d112cbdaf18251&searchstring=the+reading+wilson>)

“The Last Supper Detail” by Crespi (<http://www.art.com/products/p12061746-sa-i1508087/daniele-crespi-the-last-supper-detail-of-the-food.htm?sorig=cat&sorigid=0&dimvals=0&ui=6acc8b6e6b0347f498d112cbdaf18251&searchstring=the+last+supper+detail+of+food+by+crespi%09>)

## Praying and Making Ritual

### Music

Three music selections are used with Praying and Making Ritual. We have selected music which is easily found in many hymnals. A web link is provided to give more information about each music selection.

“Standing in the Need of Prayer” (“Not my Brother, not my Sister”)

Tune: Need of Prayer

Haiti Orphanage Children Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3P2YEC-ochc&feature=related>

“Wash, O God, our Sons and Daughters”

Tune: Beach Spring

Lyrics: <http://www.justsomelyrics.com/823745/Oleta-Adams-Wash,-O-God,-Our-Sons-%26-Daught-Lyrics>

Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHEvIRiqBYo>

Liturgical Dance YouTube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UBS1AEs\\_dg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UBS1AEs_dg)

“Down to the River to Pray”

Tune: Traditional

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1FQqSGxBso>

River Baptism Video on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSif77IVOdY&feature=related>

St. Paul UCC, Selinsgrove, PA “Angel Choir” singing “Down to the River to Pray”

### Scripture

Twelve Bible passages are used with Praying and Making Ritual, two with each Exploration.

Discovery	Joshua 4:1-7, 19-24	Psalm 23
Scripture	Luke 11:1-13	1 Chronicles 29:10-18
Discipleship	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Christian Tradition	Matthew 6:7-15	1 Corinthians 11:17-26
Context and Mission	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Philippians 1:3-4
Future and Vision	2 Samuel 7:18-29	Philemon 1:1-9

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