

The following Sample services are constructed under the labels

CONNECT, CONTEXT, CONTENT, CONSIDER, CONSEQUENCE'

These are meant to be helpful cues to the PROCESS that we are undertaking together, but are not our regular liturgical categories. However, they do line up happily, so that as you choose activities from under these headings, you can construct a service that might not diverge too far from your usual order. In this way if you are taking your first steps as a community in including all ages, just substituting in one element at a time can be a gentler strategy. Here's how the forms of a service might emerge...



Connect:

Call to Worship
Praise
Passing the Peace/Welcome

Every community has
their own rhythms

These are important.



Context:

Kids Talk/Early Word
Confessing

Even in the midst of
change there are things
we know we need to take
care of. Things which for
your particular place need
to be held.

We respect those things
deeply.



Content:

Bible Reading

In providing Multi-Age
service components and
suggesting a pattern for
constructing a gathering
time, there are things that
have been left out. Weave
your local elements
around and through the
ideas that you find helpful
here.



Consider:

Sermon



Consequence:

Offering
Responding
Sending



Music:

Most Services begin with a call to worship, followed by or in the midst of singing. If you are unaccustomed to Multi-Age worship, at least beginning your service with singing in a familiar way is a good start. Add some intentional invitations from the ideas in the Music chapters.



Connect:

Many traditional services include a time of welcome and passing the peace. This is an important liturgical component in which we recognise that we are not doing something abstract and other worldly in our worship, but that we are with others, being formed into the body of Christ. These connecting ideas expand on this opportunity to eyeball each other and get started on the process of sharing our individual and common story of God.



Context:

Some churches have an 'Early Word'. Others give a kid's talk. These often serve as a means for the whole community to become oriented around a common theme or context. This is an opportunity to signal "this is what we are thinking about and engaging with together. This is the window frame we are looking through today."



Content:

Reading the Bible together forms the central part of our gathering. Hearing and experiencing God's Living Word together. Perhaps you will find that you read more of the Bible together in this kind of gathering.



Consider:

The one we've been waiting for, the sermon! The time to consider the Word, to consider our lives and what God might be saying to us. Considering time need not be passive, so this time offers options for those who need to do and express as they consider.



Consequence:

Following our consideration of the word, we need opportunity to respond, to decide and to take seriously and actively the consequence of our engagement with our God. We make offerings, of ourselves, of our resources, and of our prayers. We do the work of prayer for the world, and our own hearts in the manner that God has spoken to us about, and we are sent out in the power of the Spirit to love and serve the world.