



## Week 1 Worship Resources: When You Have To Wait

**Scripture Passage:** Luke 24:13-32 (13-21; 27-32)

**Call to Worship:**

Welcome to the community of faith, the family of God!

**We come seeking God's love.**

God's love is here for you.

**Help us to understand how we are connected to God.**

We abide in Christ Jesus, in love and compassion.

**May our spirits be renewed and our connection to God be strengthened through our worship today. Amen**

**Opening Unison Prayer:**

Amazing God, we come together today grateful for this community of faith. We welcome old and new friends to this time of worship. May we celebrate the past that has set the foundation for today and step joyfully into this new season of learning and love in Jesus' name, Amen.

**Offering Introduction:**

As we prepare for the offering, let us reflect on how we are each called to share our gifts, our prayers, our time, our service and our witness to create a community of amazing grace.

**Offertory Prayer:**

Everlasting God, you are kind and trustworthy. Every day you graciously provide what we need from your abundance. We are grateful that you bring healing and hope for our life as individuals and as a faith community. Accept these monetary gifts and offerings to strengthen our church's outreach to our neighbors. May more people come to know you and your love through our ministries. We ask this in the precious name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

**Music Suggestions:**

Traditional/Contemporary Global Praise Song

Great is Thy Faithfulness – UMH 140

Through it All - UMH #507

Lead Me Lord - UMH #473

Everlasting God – CCLI Song # 4556538



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## Week 2: When You Have To Listen

**Scripture Passage:** Exodus 3:1-17

**Call to Worship:**

Open unto me – light for my darkness.

**Open unto me – courage for my fear.**

Open unto me – hope for my despair.

**Open unto me – peace for my turmoil.**

Open unto me – joy for my sorrow.

**Open unto me – strength for my weakness.**

Open unto me – wisdom for my confusion.

**Open unto me – forgiveness for my sins.**

Open unto me – tenderness for my toughness.

**Open unto me – love for my hates.**

Open unto me – thyself for myself.

**Lord, Lord, open unto me!**

**Opening Unison Prayer:**

Holy One, we bow our hearts before you this day. Strengthen us in our innermost being and dwell in our hearts through faith. May we be rooted and grounded in Christ, whose love is beyond all knowledge. Help us comprehend even the smallest part of the beautiful grace. Grant that we may experience the fullness of your presence with us. Amen. *Howard Thurman.*

**Offering Introduction:**

As God's holy people, we have power when we connect ourselves to the power of Jesus. May our generosity allow us the means to show the world the love of God that surpasses all other things.

**Offertory Prayer:**

Gracious Lord, you have lavished upon us the riches of your glory. As Jesus fed the masses, providing enough for all with more than enough left over, so you have fed us and provided for us. You shelter us, care for us, and bring us safely to each stop on our journey. As you have given to us out of your abundance, we return our offering to you with praise and thanksgiving. In the name of the Savior, we pray. Amen.

**Music Suggestions:**

Traditional/Contemporary Global Praise Song

O For A Thousand Tongues – MVPC #1, UMH #57

Be Still, My Soul - UMH #534

This Is The Day - CCLI Song # 993509, Phil Wickham



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## Week 3: When You're Struggling with Where God Is Leading You

**Scripture Passage:** Jonah 1:1-3

**Call to Worship:**

God has called us here today-

**To sing, to pray, to hear a word.**

God is moving in our hearts today-

**Comforting the broken-hearted, strengthening those who are tired, empowering us for the work of ministry.**

God will send us out into the world-

**May we have the courage and boldness to go where God leads us.**

**Opening Unison Prayer:**

Lord, you call us out of our complacency and our comfort zones to do the radical work of ministry in the world. We confess that we often dig in our heels and come up with a list of reasons as to why we are not the right person, or this is not the right time, or this is not a good use of our talents. Help us to remember that you know us better than we know ourselves and to trust that you will equip us with the tools we need to serve. Grant us the courage to say yes to the calling you place on our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who calls us to a life of service and ministry. Amen.

**Offering Introduction:**

God calls us in many different ways. Sometimes the path God is calling us to is easy; often it is not. May our offerings be a sign of our commitment to answering God's call.

**Offertory Prayer:**

Almighty God, we offer these gifts out of our love and commitment to living into the call you have placed on our lives and on our church. Bless these gifts that they may be used to bring you glory and to serve your people. Amen.

**Music Suggestions:**

Traditional/Contemporary Global Praise Song Suggestions

FWS 2214 Lead Me, Guide Me

UMH 338 Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow

choral anthem suggestion: Even Here, by Mark A. Miller, published by Hinshaw



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# **WHAT TO DO**

When You Don't Know What To Do

## Week 4: It's Okay to Not Be Okay

**Scripture Passage:** Ruth 1:11-21

**Call to Worship:**

Let us rejoice in the God of our salvation, to whom we turn in times of joy and times of sorrow.

**Help us, O God, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive us.**

Let us not be afraid to be real and honest before God in the community of faith.

**For this is a house of love and hope. May all be welcome here, baggage, burdens and all that we bring along with us.**

Restore us, O Lord;

**Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

**Opening Unison Prayer:**

God of understanding, we gather together today as people who go through ups and downs in life. We confess that in difficult times we often close ourselves off to you and to one another. May we turn to you in our need, confident in your ability to handle all we bring to you. Help us to be a supportive community to one another, so that we can accept the present as we step into a future filled with your hope. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Offering Introduction:**

God calls us to be a community of love and service. As we prepare to offer up our gifts, let us remember that God uses us to bless one another, even when we don't have it all figured out.

**Offertory Prayer:**

God of compassion, we thank you for your steadfast love in times of both joy and despair. Bless our gifts to your service in the world that we might walk alongside those who are struggling, even as we ourselves sometimes struggle. May we know your gracious presence along the journey. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Music Suggestions:**

Traditional/Contemporary Global Praise Song

UMH #469 Jesus Is All The World To Me

UMH #496 – Sweet Hour of Prayer; CLUW #330; MVPC #248 Dulce oracion

What A Friend We Have In Jesus – UMH #526; CLUW #333; MVPC #257 Oh, que amigo nos es Cristo!



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## Week 5: Celebrating God's Grace

**Scripture Passage:** Ruth 4:3-17

**Call to Worship:**

Welcome to the house of God. This is a place of acceptance and love.

**Praise be to the Lord.**

In the midst of our struggles, God is offering hope.

**Praise be to the Lord.**

God is working to renew us all.

**Praise be to the Lord.**

As witnesses of God's grace, journey together in love.

**Praise be to the Lord, Amen.**

**Opening Unison Prayer:**

Loving God, thank you for being with us through every step of the storms of life. Thank you that you are Jehovah Nissi; you go before us, and you know what lies ahead. For this, we place our trust in you. We strive to wholly lean on you. And into your care, we place our worries, our hopes and our burdens. For your unwavering love and care, we say thank you. In Christ's name, Amen.

**Offering Introduction:**

Today your offering will help our community inspire those without hope to live abundantly. Your mission will help share the message of God's goodness and grace. Your support will provide for the needs of those who are suffering. I invite you once again to give generously as we worship God through the sharing of our gifts, tithes and offerings.

**Offertory Prayer:**

May these gifts, oh God, be used to help spread your love and light to all. And may these offerings be seeds sown of our trust and faith in you. And as you walk with us through the journey, may we find hope, joy and peace in you, God, the author and finisher of our faith.

**Music Suggestions:**

Traditional/Contemporary Global Praise Song

AAHH #270 – Your Grace and Mercy

UMH #84 – Thank You Lord

With added verses – Been so good; Made a way; Spared my life

How Great Thou Art – UMH #77; CLUW #61; MVPC #2 Senor, mi Dios