

## Appendix A: Orientation Handouts

*All material in the appendices may be downloaded from [www.chalicepress.com](http://www.chalicepress.com) and printed for distribution to your program's participants.*

### Discipleship Class Orientation

1. Opening Prayer
2. Scripture Reading
  - Mark 1:16–18
  - Learning to be a disciple
3. Overall class content
  - Focus scripture for each area of learning
  - Session Themes
    - Confession—learning what we believe
    - Contrition—making Jesus the focus of our lives
    - Covenant—a look at baptism and communion
    - Community—internal and external expressions of our faith
    - Connection—learning and sharing our spiritual gifts
    - Church—our connection to other Christians
  - How our faith makes a difference in our daily lives
  - Learning to pray
4. Learning to live as a covenant people
  - Us responding to God
  - God responding to us
5. Mentorship
  - Choosing a person you admire to be a guide to do activities and learn from while at the same time learning in class sessions (make a list of three people and choose one of them)
  - Giving one-on-one time with a person to grow in relationship to him or her and learn about the life of the church

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### 6. Class process

- Each topic will have a classroom session and an experiential session
- The classroom sessions will be a discussion as a group about the topic of learning and will include an assignment to complete by the next session
- The experiential sessions will be us going out into the community and putting those classroom sessions into practice
- The overall program will end with an extended time together: a day retreat

### 7. Questions

### 8. When to meet

### 9. Closing prayer

## Discipleship Class Overview

### ***Class Component***

- Session 1 Orientation with Youth and Parents
- Session 2 Confession (classroom)
- Session 3 Confession (experience)
- Session 4 Contrition (classroom)
- Session 5 Contrition (experience)
- Session 6 Covenant (classroom)
- Session 7 Covenant (experience)
- Session 8 Community (classroom)
- Session 9 Community (experience)
- Session 10 Connection (classroom)
- Session 11 Connection (experience)
- Session 12 Church

### ***Mentor Component***

- Each youth is connected with a mentor for the duration of the class sessions
- The mentor and youth have continual things and one-time projects to accomplish together
- The mentor will provide insights about his or her journey of faith and connection to the church not covered in the class sessions and relate those insights to the subject he or she is leading in the sessions above

### ***Day Retreat Component***

The day retreat has three components

- Human-to-God relationship—prayer/worship experience
- Human-to-creation relationship—go to a creation setting
- Human-to-human relationship—care project for others

The purpose is to understand the three primary ways we relate in the world

The retreat is intended to come at the end of the twelve class sessions

## Appendix B: Class Outlines

### Confession Outline

Opening Prayer

Sentence Completion Exercise

- My name is...
- I was born...
- Three words that describe me are...
- Something important to me is...
- I am involved in the church because...
- I am in this class because...

Bragging Exercise

What Is Confession?

Scripture Discussion on Matthew 16:13–20

Other Christians' Confessions

- Disciples Affirmation (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 355)
- Nicene Affirmation of Faith (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 358)
- Apostolic Affirmation of Faith (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 359)
- United Church of Christ Statement of Faith (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 361)

First Person Exercise: Role-playing God, Jesus, the Church

Confession Exercise Worksheet

Closing Prayer

## Contrition Outline

Opening Prayer

Chocolate Chip Cookie Exercise

Scripture discussion on Acts 9:1–19

What Is Sin?

Our Relationship with God

1. Benefits

- a. God's unending love
- b. Guidance
- c. Never being alone
- d. Eternal life
- e. Instruction for daily life

2. Expectations

- a. Making God first in our lives
- b. Our time, energy, and resources to serve God
- c. Loving what God loves
- d. Being a part of a church community

3. Applications

- a. Prayer
- b. Reading the Bible/learning
- c. Worship
- d. Serving
- e. Compassion

Forgiveness Exercise

Scripture Discussion on Luke 19:1–10

Contrition Exercise Worksheet

Closing Prayer

## Covenant Outline

Opening Prayer

What Is a Covenant?

Discussion of Baptism Images

The Highway Model

Visit the Baptistry

Thinking about Communion

New Testament Meal pattern—"took, blessed, broke, and gave"

Meal That Stretches across Time

Connecting Baptism and Communion

Covenant Exercise Worksheet

Closing Prayer

## Community Outline

Opening Prayer

The Story of the Seed

Purpose of Community

Inner Church Community

Scripture Discussion on 1 Corinthians 12

- Image of the Church as a Body
- Yarn Exercise

Community outside the Church Building

- City Map Exercise
- Scripture Discussion on Luke 10:30–37
- Who Is Our Neighbor?
- Ways of Serving the Community

Discussion of Community Outing

Community Exercise Worksheet

Closing Prayer

## Connection Outline

Opening Prayer

*You Are Special*

Scripture Discussion on Genesis 1:26–27

Spiritual Gift Exercise

Scripture Discussion on Galatians 5:22–26

Other Ways to Discover Spiritual Gifts

Combining Our Spiritual Gifts

Being Open to the Holy Spirit

Our Spiritual Gifts in Action

Closing Prayer

## Church Outline

Opening Prayer

Church Pictures

Scripture Discussion on Acts 2:37–47

Formation of the Church

Roles of the Church

Different Churches

Your Own Denomination

Purpose of the Church

- We are the examples of Jesus to the world
- We are the ones to show others what love really means
- We are the ones to reach out to those in need
- We are the ones to create a deeper relationship with God
- We are called to work together in unity to serve Christ

Closing Prayer

## Appendix C: Class Exercises/Handouts

# CONFESSIOIN EXERCISE

### Foundations of Faith

God—

Jesus Christ —

Church —



 COVENANT EXERCISE 

**A Family Memory**

I want you to put a picture in your mind of all your family members and extended family. Think of a meal in which all of you, or as many as possible, gather during the year. It is Christmas, Thanksgiving, family reunion, or other special time of the year. Try to recall as much as you can about your latest get-together on that occasion.

What makes this meal and get-together special?

What do you remember most about the meal and time together?

The church has a meal that is considered very special to its members and guests. That meal is our weekly time of communion. We break bread, share the cup, and are invited by Jesus Christ to share in that meal. It is a time to grow close to God, to recall how Jesus said this meal would call us to remember and celebrate. It is also a time to grow close to others who share the meal in that worship service.

Ask your parents why communion is important to them and write down some of their responses.





## The Language of Our Church Music

Look up in the church hymnal the following songs: “When You Do This, Remember Me,” “In Remembrance of Me,” “Come, Share the Lord,” and “I Come with Joy.” Read the words of the songs.

As you read the words of the song, pay attention to the use of the following words: *remember, bread, cup, wine, forgiveness, free, family, joy, Jesus, share.*

If communion is able to help us experience all these words, then why do you think so many people see this as one of the most important parts of our worship experience?







5. When you are asked to remember your baptism, what comes to your mind?

6. Why do you think baptism is important for people who believe in Jesus Christ?

7. What significance does your baptism have for you today?



## COMMUNITY EXERCISE

The exercise for community is to put together a puzzle of at least 100 pieces. Assemble the puzzle by yourself or with the help of your family. When you complete the puzzle, talk to your parent(s) about the following questions:

- What allows the puzzle to hold together?
- If you were missing one piece to the puzzle, would it be complete?
- How is the church like a puzzle?
- What happens if a person is missing from the church, like when a piece of the puzzle is missing?

The puzzle is an excellent example of how the church functions. The church is not about individuals gathering in the same place. The church is when we connect ourselves together to become the image of God to each other and the world. Everyone is needed to make this image. No one piece of the puzzle is more important than another. It takes all the pieces to create the image you are trying to see.

Share a prayer with your family for the blessing of all the people in the church and what they bring to the church to help it be a place of faith.

## CONNECTION: SPIRITUAL GIFT EXERCISE

### Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

#### *Instructions*

For each question, enter the number that most applies to you.

3—That's me!      2—This is probably me.      1—Definitely not me!



- \_\_\_ 1. I try to think more about the needs of others than my own.
- \_\_\_ 2. People come to me when they need to talk out a problem.
- \_\_\_ 3. I have given money to those in need.
- \_\_\_ 4. I don't mind being seen with people who aren't that popular.
- \_\_\_ 5. When I see needy people on cold nights, I really feel like inviting them to my home.
- \_\_\_ 6. On Friday nights, I am usually the one who decides where we go and what we do.
- \_\_\_ 7. I like to invite my friends to church.
- \_\_\_ 8. I have confidence that God will get me through both good and bad times.
- \_\_\_ 9. I like doing jobs that most people don't want to do.
- \_\_\_ 10. I am known for my positive attitude.
- \_\_\_ 11. I get a real kick out of giving stuff away.
- \_\_\_ 12. I would like to work with disabled people.
- \_\_\_ 13. I like having friends stay overnight at my house.
- \_\_\_ 14. I like to organize and motivate groups of people.
- \_\_\_ 15. I can sometimes make discussions relate to God.
- \_\_\_ 16. I believe that God can do things that seem impossible.
- \_\_\_ 17. I have helped other people so their work was easier.
- \_\_\_ 18. I like to help sad people feel better.



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- \_\_\_ 19. I try to be smart with my money so that I can give extra money to people who need it.
  - \_\_\_ 20. I feel very sympathetic toward the needy.
  - \_\_\_ 21. I like having guests at my house.
  - \_\_\_ 22. I have encouraged others to get better grades.
  - \_\_\_ 23. I would like to help someone else become a Christian.
  - \_\_\_ 24. I have confidence that God keeps promises even when things are bad.
  - \_\_\_ 25. I don't mind doing little jobs that other people don't consider important.
  - \_\_\_ 26. I can encourage others through what I say.
  - \_\_\_ 27. I know that God will meet my needs, so I want to give freely to others.
  - \_\_\_ 28. If a friend is sick, I call to see how he or she is doing.
  - \_\_\_ 29. I like having company come to my house.
  - \_\_\_ 30. I would like to help people who are homeless.
  - \_\_\_ 31. I would like to tell others that Jesus is the Savior and help them see the positive results.
  - \_\_\_ 32. I trust that I can call on God and know God will be there when "impossible" situations happen.
  - \_\_\_ 33. Sometimes I do jobs and nobody notices, but I don't mind.
  - \_\_\_ 34. I like it when people are happier after I have talked to them.
  - \_\_\_ 35. I have given away my money or belongings to those in need.
  - \_\_\_ 36. When I see a homeless person, I really want to help.
  - \_\_\_ 37. My friends come over to my house because they feel comfortable there.
  - \_\_\_ 38. When I'm in a group, sometimes people look to me to take charge.
  - \_\_\_ 39. I take any opportunity I can to tell people about Christ.
  - \_\_\_ 40. When everything looks bad, I can still trust God.

## Discover Your Spiritual Gifts Tabulation Sheet

### *Instructions*

1. Put your response (1–3) to each question in the blank next to the appropriate number on the chart below.
2. Add up the numbers going across the blanks and record them in the box under the “Total” column.

Test Question #	Your Response	TOTAL	GIFT								
1		9		17		25		33			A
2		10		18		26		34			B
3		11		19		27		35			C
4		12		20		28		36			D
5		13		21		29		37			E
6		14		22		30		38			F
7		15		23		31		39			G
8		16		24		32		40			H

### *Explanation*

**Gift A—Helping:** The ability to assist and serve other people.

**Gift B—Encouraging:** The ability to support people and help them to regain hope.

**Gift C—Giving:** The ability to give your time and money so it can be used for God’s work.

**Gift D—Mercy:** The ability to act compassionately toward those who are suffering.

**Gift E—Hospitality:** The ability to be friendly and generous to guests.

**Gift F—Leading:** The ability to motivate others to use their spiritual gifts and to do their best for the work of the Lord.

**Gift G—Evangelism:** The ability to help others to come to know Jesus personally.

**Gift H—Faith:** The ability to have a confident belief that God will always do what is best.

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### *Assessment*

Determine your demonstrated, probable spiritual gift(s) as follows:

If the score in the "Total" section is:

- 10–15: There is great evidence that God has blessed you with this gift.
- 7–10: There is a good possibility that God could be developing this gift in you.
- 3–6: You are spiritually gifted in areas other than this one.





## Who Is the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)?

### *Mission*

Our calling to the world is to go and make disciples of all people

### *Core Beliefs*

- We confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of the world
- We believe the unity of the church is essential to God's mission to the world
- We believe the primary authority for the church's life is the Bible
- We believe the Bible is the primary source of God's revelation Jesus Christ
- We believe in the empowerment of all people through the Holy Spirit

### *Values*

We look to the church, God's community of love:

1. As a people of God
2. As the body of Christ
3. As a church both local and universal
4. As a community of faith inclusive, diverse, and welcoming
5. As a body that studies together and supports one another
6. As a body that worships celebrating baptism by immersion and observes the Lord's supper weekly
7. As a body that is in covenant with the different manifestations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – General, Regional, and Local

The communion table is our meeting ground at which we discover

1. Our commonness in Christ
2. The celebration of our diversity
3. A place to find an experiential connection to Christ
4. Our individual and communal voice as a church

Dialogue and discussion of theological topics is done in love and discernment to:

1. Hear each other's reflections and thoughts in a spirit of openness



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2. Respect one another without being judgmental
3. Be open to a belief that might strengthen our faith
4. Have a healthier way to be in faithful conversation with one another
5. Model to those outside the church how to work through topics of importance, controversy, or crisis



## Appendix D: Mentor Materials

### Mentor Expectations Sheet

The mentor is to have contact with the youth throughout the duration of the program. Some of the activities done together are ongoing while other activities are one-time events. Below is a listing of things mentors are asked to do with their youth.

#### ***Ongoing Activities***

- Weekly sitting with your youth in worship (he or she will be your shadow wherever you go, i.e., choir, elder, deacon, worship leader, etc.)
- Take your youth out to eat at least twice
- Call your youth on the phone to check in with him or her from time to time

#### ***One-time Activities***

- Attend a church meeting with your youth
- Be interviewed by your youth about your faith and your reflections of your own baptismal experience
- Go over a worship bulletin to ensure your youth understands all the parts and, thus, the flow of worship
- Go over a church budget with your youth to help him or her understand the financial side of the church
- Take your youth to your place of work or where you volunteer to let him or her see you in your own environment
- Discuss and decide on a servant activity the two of you can do together

#### ***Education Objectives***

- Informally talk about the main topics of learning done through the instructional and experiential classes
- Draw from the youth what he or she is learning
- Reinforce the point that he or she is on a journey and the end of the class is a beginning place for a richer relationship with God

- Help your youth understand that our faith in Christ is not only about knowledge of the Bible and God, but putting into action what it is we believe

The *minister* asks the mentors to serve, in order to make sure there is a firm commitment by the adult to work with the youth.

If the youth ends up being baptized, then the mentor is encouraged to give him or her a gift of celebration for that decision and special event in his or her life.

### **Mentor Assignment Rationale**

The activities to be completed by the mentor and his or her youth are a vital part of the preparation of discipleship. Each request has a specific rationale that assists the young person in faith development, discovery of the church, and forming a closer relationship with the mentor. Below is the rationale behind each activity to give greater perspective, allowing a richer experience as a mentor.

#### ***On-going Activities***

1. Weekly sharing with your youth in worship (he or she will be your shadow wherever you go, i.e., choir, elder, deacon, worship leader, etc.)

We sometimes learn more by what we do than by what we say. A young person can learn a great deal by observing another person in worship. Shadowing a person who takes part in the leadership of worship gives youth a different perspective of worship. At times he or she will be in front of the congregation without needing to speak. The youth gain a new appreciation for what a person does to prepare, lead, and participate in worship to praise God. The weekly, shared experience gives the mentor and mentored a way to engage and talk about worship, leadership, and faith development on a personal level instead of in a more formal teaching relationship. This process is also good in helping prepare young people to be comfortable in front of others as future servants in worship.

2. Weekly phone calls to the youth being mentored

It is important to keep the relationship between the mentors

and mentored consistently engaged. The regular calls allow the youth to feel cared for and important when receiving calls at home. This is where the mentor relationship begins to form beyond the boundary of the church facility. It is important for youth to see how the congregation cares for and develops relationships away from the church building. Youth need to witness faith being applied in the daily life of church members.

### 3. Sharing meals with the youth being mentored (at least two times)

Sharing time around a table creates an informal time with the mentor and mentored. Shared meals feel less like an assigned task. The meal experiences are primarily meant to strengthen the relationship with informal time together. There is no agenda meant for the meals others than being together. It is only natural that the youth will learn and grow by the conversations shared.

### ***One-Time Activities***

#### 1. Attend a Church Meeting

It is important for the youth to attend a meeting of any kind to observe how the church works in its dreaming, planning, organizing, and implementing time. Youth need to learn that the church requires dedicated people giving of their time and talents to create meaningful events for people to connect to God and Jesus Christ. The meetings attended may not be the most exciting events for the youth, but they will gain a new appreciation for how the church operates to serve others who engage in church ministry.

#### 2. Be Interviewed by the Mentored Youth

Youth need to learn the story of others who are baptized and what they remember about their baptism. Each youth will be given a list of questions to ask the mentor. The questions will be about what the mentor recalls about his or her baptism, how important that event was in the mentor's Christian faith, and how baptism makes a difference in his or her expression of faith today. The interview process provides a way for the mentor to tell his or her faith story in a fun format.

3. Review a Worship Bulletin or Order of Worship

We should not assume that our youth know all the parts of a worship service, why they are important, and what each part means. The mentor is to use a worship bulletin and review the order of the worship service to make sure the youth understands all parts of the service. The model of praise, word, table, and dismissal is a simple way to explain the four major parts of how we worship God and celebrate as a community of faith. If youth have a better grasp of worship, there will be a deeper appreciation and engagement in the service in praising God.

4. Review the Church Budget

It is often said the church is always asking for money. The offering is a vital and powerful witness of a church community. Youth need to know that if everyone put only five dollars in the plate, we would not be able to offer church ministries or help people in need the way we hope. Reviewing a church budget lets young people see on paper all that is needed to fulfill the dreams and hopes of the congregation. Budgets normally include four key areas: outreach, church ministries, staff, and property care. A church budget to cover the four categories in living out its vision or ministry. Youth need to see how much money it takes to operate the church in serving Christ.

5. Allow Youth to Attend Your Place of Work or Organization in which You Volunteer

There needs to be a balance of activities done at the church and away from the church. It is helpful for the mentored youth to see the mentor in his or her natural vocational or volunteer settings. The youth will have a curiosity about what you do away from church functions. Share with him or her how your faith is expressed in your daily work or sharing time with others. If you are retired, take your youth to where you give of your time at a nonprofit organization, hobby or interest group, or even a club or social organization of which you are a part (Rotary or Kiwanis).

6. Share in a Servant Activity Together

A final activity to share together is a service project of some

kind. Serve God together. Model what it means to embody the phrase, “Where two or three are gathered...” Make a difference in the local community as representatives of the church. This gives the youth a chance to show compassion toward others, see how the church is to be a witness to those in need, and develop a more meaningful relationship with the mentor. Uniting in Christ to serve gives a common story the two of you will share when having future conversations.

### ***Auxiliary Functions***

#### **1. Gift for Youth Being Baptized**

A mentor is encouraged to purchase a gift if his or her youth is being baptized at the end of the program. The gift is a symbol of celebration for the youth making such an important choice that will be life-changing. He or she is beginning a journey with Christ that will enrich that youth’s life forever. Some sample gifts that could be given include a necklace with a cross, special book of faith, memorabilia piece that has a special meaning between the mentor and youth, or a baptism card of celebration.

I encourage the church to give Bibles to the youth as symbols of faith and books of strength as the youth begin their formal journey in the Christian faith.

#### **2. Aiding the Youth on the Day of His or Her Baptism**

A youth’s baptism is a significant day in his or her life. Encourage family and special friends to come and celebrate the day in worship together. Mentors can assist on this day by helping behind the scenes to make sure all the youth are where they need to be. Youth are typically nervous just before their baptisms. Familiar faces and loving presences can help reduce their anxiety. Mentors can also help them get to the dressing room and make sure they return to worship in a timely manner before communion is served. This will be their first communion as baptized persons in Christ. The mentor’s help on this day allows the parents and family to remain in the sanctuary to witness and celebrate the day without worrying about other details.

### Mentor Letter of Thank You

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am grateful that you agreed to serve as a mentor for \_\_\_\_\_ . Learning about baptism and becoming disciples of Jesus is an important time in the lives of our youth. As you help guide and love *him/her* during *his/her* time in this program, you will also be rewarded. *He/she* will become a true blessing in your life.

I have included the mentor expectations and mentor rationale sheets to ensure a quality experience. Please contact me if you have any questions about the process or specific activities to be fulfilled.

The weekly sitting and shadowing in worship is to begin this coming Sunday. Remember, \_\_\_\_\_ (*youth's name*) will follow you wherever you go (praying at the table, reading scripture, singing the anthem, passing the offering plates, etc.). I want *him/her* to get a feel for the leadership aspects of worship. If you want to include *him/her* in those functions, feel free to find ways for *him/her* to participate.

Other details to review with you are:

- Share meals with your youth when it works out in your schedule (lunch after church, Saturday lunch, weekday evening)
- I will get you a copy of the church budget to review with your youth
- The interview sheets will be given to the youth about halfway through the program and *he/she* will ask to interview you

I have also included a schedule of our sessions from beginning to end. I want you to know the topics we will be learning about throughout the program. Please call if you want additional details about these topics. The mentor relationship will formally conclude on the Sunday we baptize the youth who make this decision.

Mentor relationships change lives. Jesus mentored twelve men into being his disciples. The world has never been the same. We all have gifts and love to share with the young people of our church. Share yourself and God will take care of the rest.

In Christ,

## Appendix E: Retreat Materials

### Retreat Worship Experience

Find a place in the sanctuary where you feel closest to God. Don't go any farther until you find that place. Make sure you have a Bible to guide you through the exercise.

First, take a look at the light on the communion table. The light tells us that God's presence is in this room. Say a short prayer giving thanks to God for always being with us and guiding us every day.

Second, open your Bible to the following New Testament reading: Matthew 7:24–27

When you think of this story of the wise and foolish builders, what are three things you can think of that make for a strong house to make it through a storm?

1.

2.

3.

Why did one of the houses in the story fall down and collapse?

If you think of your faith like a house, name three things you need as a Christian to help you every day of your life.

1.

2.

3.

If you look back at verse 24 of the Bible reading, there are two key verbs in this verse that help us understand what it means to be a faithful follower of God and Jesus.

Everyone then who \_\_\_\_\_ these words of mine and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How do you think God wants you to hear or listen as a Christian? Name three ways you are to listen.

1.

2.

3.

How do you think God wants you to act as a Christian? Name three ways you can act or share your faith with others.

1.

2.

3.

Next, how do you think your life will be different because of your baptism? How does your baptism invite you to be a new person?

Finally, say a prayer to God asking for God's help and support to be a faithful follower of Jesus. Share with God what you are thankful for in your life. Ask God to help you have a faith that is strong like the wise man who built his house on the rock.

## Appendix F: Worship Materials

### Sample Order of Worship for Pentecost Sunday

Prelude—A time for silent meditation

Welcome, Announcements

#### ***We Gather God's People***

Hymn: "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 5)

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: May the flames of the Holy Spirit cause our hearts to warm.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

Leader: May the wind of Pentecost blow right to our souls.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

Leader: May the tongue of the Spirit give your faith a new voice.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

Leader: May you see visions, dream dreams, and sense God around you.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

Hymn: "On Pentecost They Gathered" (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 237)

Scripture Reading

Hymn: "Water, River, Spirit, Grace" (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 366)

Service of Baptism (candidates are introduced and baptized)

Baptismal Anthem

Children's Sermon

Hymn: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 254)

#### ***We Hear God's Word***

Call to Prayer

Leader: The Spirit of God is being poured out upon us.

**People: We receive this gift as we lift our hearts to God.**

Leader: We pray for a spirit of empowerment.

**People: We pray for a spirit of renewal and forgiveness.**

Leader: Let us enter in prayer with silence.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Anthem

Scripture Readings: Acts 2:1–6, 37–42; Ephesians 5:8–14

Sermon "Word, Water, Wine, and Bread"

We Come to God's Table

Hymn: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" (*Chalice Hymnal*, #261)

Offering Meditation

Offertory

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Communion Meditation

Hymn: "Come, Share the Lord" (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 408)

Prayer for the Elements

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

***We Go Forth as God's People***

Confirmation of Baptismal Candidate(s) (See Insert below)

Hymn: "We Call Ourselves Disciples" (*Chalice Hymnal*, no. 357)

Benediction

Postlude

### Confirmation of Baptismal Candidate(s)

**Minister:** These members of the family of Christ who were baptized by water and the Holy Spirit come now to confirm their faith, declare promises, and enter the journey of discipleship. Each of you now shares our life in Christ. You have made a commitment in the act of baptism to let Christ be the Lord of your life. Baptism is not an end but a beginning. Each of you will continually live into this moment of baptism. You have also been nourished through communion at the Lord's table. Do you affirm your baptismal covenant?

**Candidates:** I do.

**Minister:** Do you commit yourself to Christ's service living with faithfulness to the church and world?

**Candidates:** I do.

**Minister:** Please respond by reading the promise and covenant of your baptism.

**Candidates:** I have risen from the water of baptism. I will become a witness for God. I will be a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. I receive the Holy Spirit to be with me at all times. I will be a part of the living church, the body of Christ.

**Minister:** May the spiritual leaders of our church now stand and give words of support and love.

**Elders:** We promise to pray for you, to seek the depths of faith with you, to support you,...

**Deacons:** and to love you. We covenant with you to love God with our heart, mind, and...

**Minister:** soul, and to love you as ourselves.

**Minister:** Will the congregation now stand and give support to the newly baptized?

**Congregation:** We rejoice in God's empowering love, freely given to all through grace. We welcome you, newly baptized, into the circle of love that is Christ's church. We praise God for the gifts of ministry that you bring to this community of faith and the church universal.

**Minister:** Let us say together the Disciples of Christ Affirmation of Faith.

**All:** As members of the Christian Church, we confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world. In Christ's name and by his grace we accept our mission of witness and service to all people. We rejoice in God, maker of heaven and earth, and in the covenant of love, which binds us to God and one another. Through baptism into Christ we enter into newness of life and are made one with the whole people of God. In the communion of the Holy Spirit we are joined together in discipleship and in obedience to Christ. At the table of the Lord we celebrate with thanksgiving the saving acts and presence of Christ. Within the universal church, we receive the gift of ministry and the light of scripture. In the bonds of Christian faith we yield ourselves to God that we may serve the One whose kingdom has no end. Blessing, glory, and honor be to God forever. Amen. [*Preamble to the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*]

### ***Sharing from the Mentors***

(Invite the mentors of the baptized youth to come forward and stand beside them. Ask each of them to share what it meant to be a mentor and a word about the youth he or she worked with.)

### ***Sharing of Gifts with the Baptismal Candidates***

(This is a time for the minister and key leaders to share with each candidate gifts from the church to celebrate this day of baptism. Gifts can include the baptismal certificate, Bible, special symbol of faith in the church, or other gifts appropriate for the occasion.)

### ***Minister's Prayer of Blessing***

God of holy wind and transforming waters, we celebrate the gift of baptism and what this event will mean to these young people for the remainder of their lives. We also know they are welcomed into your eternal family. Bless them and bless us as we seek to be faithful followers of your Son, Jesus Christ. Guide us and love us into the future with hope and peace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.