*They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42*

A SIMPLECHURCH LITURGY & CANDLE LIGHTING

A leader should be appointed the week ahead to prepare for the gathering - choose scripture, song and ensure bread and juice are ready. This same person can lead the liturgy - appointing helpers and participants along the way.

1. **Candle Lighting and Opening Prayer**

To set apart your time (sacred and common time) light a candle and offer a simple prayer of welcome. “Jesus, we are here to worship you. We set this time aside now to see you.”  The candle can be a wonderful tradition for the children and a simple reminder of Jesus presence.

1. **Songs**

Do you have a song or two you want to sing together? Youtube, or live music is great. Or just a song to listen to - something to meditate on?

1. **Scripture Reading & Teaching (Or** **Lectio)**

Read the scripture together - a couple of times through. One person can read for everyone or the group can read together. If you have children, let them read. Another great way to include them.

Then discuss… use simple questions to guide your conversation:

What stood out to you? What is God saying to us in this scripture?

What does the scripture teach us about God?

Where do you struggle?

1. **Prayers**

Pray for each other, your city and world. Keep track of your prayers from week to week in a book and review each week as you pray.

1. **Lord’s Supper**

Feel free to guide your church to understand what the meal is. It’s a way we remember and receive the sacrifice of Jesus which brought our freedom.

*+ Scripture - 1 Cor 11:23-26*

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” 25 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” 26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

* + *Blessing and Breaking*

Something simple. Break the bread and offer a simple blessing. “Jesus, thank you for this meal. Bless it now that we may see you.”

*+ Eat*  - If you know you are a sinner and need Jesus. Eat.

**6. Benediction** - A simple concluding blessing. “The Lord bless us as we follow him.”

**7. Blow out the Candle -** Ask one of the children to do this.