# **OUR STRATEGY:**

## Worship:

Expressing homage (allegiance, devotion, obedience, submission) to God because he is worthy.

#### **Strategy in Worship:**

As we worship together, it is our hope and prayer that those who are worshiping are inspired to grow in their understanding of God through studying His word.

It is also our hope and prayer that those who are worshiping are inspired to acts of service to others in the name of Jesus.

#### Scripture:

Exodus 20:1–5a Then God gave the people all these instructions: 2 "I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. 3 "You must not have any other god but me. 4 "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. 5 You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods.



### Demonstrated by:

Gathering together regularly with other Christians to acknowledge God's sovereignty and give Him praise and honor.

We use this opportunity, before God and others, to repent and receive forgiveness.

We are nurtured in worship through both Word and Sacrament, being encouraged by God's truth and presence.





### Thoughts:

"No man gives anything acceptable to God until he has first given himself in love and sacrifice."

— A.W. Tozer

"Worship is the believer's response of all that they are - mind, emotions, will, body

- to what God is and says
- to what God is and says and does."
  - Warren Wiersbe

"We must never rest until everything inside us worships God."

- A. W. Tozer

"How quickly we forget what it's all about. We can get so strategic that we worship so our church will grow, not because He is worthy. But we're doing all this because God is worthy and we want to worship Him."

— Tommy Walker

### **Scripture continued:**

Joshua 24:14–15 (NIV)

"Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. <sup>15</sup> But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

<u>Matthew 4:8–10</u> Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him."

#### **Reflections:**

Think of a time when you were at a worship service and decided to join a study group or a service activity. What was it that motivated you to act?

When was the last time you were surprised by something in worship? What was it?

What can you do before arriving at the service to be best prepared to fully engage in worship?

What do you experience in worship that you would want your friends to also experience?

How might you approach worship with humility?

How might you approach worship with greater reverence?

