

# Worship and Devotions

## Introduction

Services at camp offer a unique opportunity to connect campers and creation in worship. The resources in this section are designed to help you and your campers express your faith and give thanks to God. You will find cabin devotions and song recommendations, as well as outdoor worship resources that are age appropriate.

**Song Recommendations:** Remember that we are simply giving some suggestions, and our list should not be considered the definitive list for the themes. The goal is to provide you with a starting place for music selection, while also providing some recommendations from different genres or generations you might not have thought about. Some music will be great for sing-along, while other is best used for reflection or as a response to scripture. Singing is a powerful community builder. Be sure to provide enough time for campers to learn songs by singing them more than once, while teaching new songs to engage the various tastes and preferences of your camp.

**Cabin Devotions:** We recommend doing devotions in cabins before bed. This is a good time to let campers reflect on their day and connect with one another. Showers and getting ready for bed can be a chaotic time that is particularly difficult for younger campers and those who are homesick. It can also be a time when community is challenged by teasing or the insecure posturing of peers. A devotion to end the night can put things back on track or help keep community norms in the forefront of camper's minds. Versions for Youth and Children/Intergenerational cabins are provided.

**Planning Worship:** We recommend having campers plan worship. While they will need help, camp provides an opportunity for campers to step into roles normally played by adults. There is also some creative freedom not found in the local congregation. Campers can be loud, silly, angry, excited, joyful, or thankful as they share their hearts with God. Each age group has

its own challenges and gifts when it comes to planning. Lean into the blessings of your camp and find ways for personal gifts to become a gift of worship.

*Daily Worship* resources will provide you with a simple structure for planning, but you can also use the various pieces in your own way. You can mix and match – pick and choose. They are arranged in a suggested order of:

- Opening Prayers / Litany
- Prayers of the People
- Scripture Sharing
- Celebrating and Centering Responses
- Stewardship
- Communion
- Benediction/Blessing

We hope these resources will help you create worship services that allow campers to express their faith, creation to sing God's praise, and the community to feel the Spirit move. However it might look to others, we know that when creation, Christ, and community come together, worship is happening!

## Parts of the Service

*Opening Prayers or Litany:* This is intended to center the camp for worship in a way that connects with the scripture or daily theme. You might want to write words for any responses on posters if you are worshipping outside. If you have technology in your services, these can be projected.

*Prayers of the People:* Each day's prayer experience is different, but each invites campers to be connected in prayer. Some are more reflecting and some more expressive, but all are a good way to pray through the daily themes or in connection with the day's scripture reading.

*Scripture Sharing:* Some scriptures work well as a skit. Some lack a narrative but can be shared in other creative ways. This section is provided to help you present the scriptures to campers in a creative way while still being true to the text.

*Celebrating and Centering Responses:* You probably want to pick one of the two or put them at different parts of your service. Celebrating responses are more active, while centering tries to create a calmer mood in the service. You might want to use these as described, or use them as a jumping off point for the creativity of your campers.

*Stewardship:* More than “giving,” stewardship is about being responsible for what God has put in our care and working as partners with God for the care of all creation. At camp, we might take an offering for a special project, mission, or even to support camp scholarships, but we can also talk about care for the earth, and how to use our blessings to care for others.

*Communion:* This curriculum is created by representatives of many church traditions, and all celebrate communion in different ways. The communion resources provided are intended to be an “introduction” or “invitation” to the table that can be used with liturgy and prayers specific to your tradition. These resources also assume the table is open to everyone present. If this is not the case for your tradition, remember that these are just resources and you are free to edit or use other resources that reflect your beliefs and practices.

*Benediction/Blessing:* A closing prayer is often called a benediction. It is a blessing and sending out. Remember that worship has moods, and how you leave worship can impact the rest of your day. Think about what comes next. Do you need campers upbeat, or do you need them calm and attentive? Will you make announcements after the benediction or before? We recommend making the benediction the last thing as often as you can so that in your gathering time, the last words are either to or from God.

# Daily Worship - Children & Intergenerational

## DAY 1

### Opening Litany

*If the word of the day has not yet been introduced, consider spending a moment explaining aloha's multiple meanings.*

One: Camp has invited us here this week. And so, we say, "Hello!"

**All: Aloha!**

One: When we worship, we thank God for bringing us together. And so, we say, "love."

**All: Aloha!**

One: Jesus reminds us that every person is part of God's family. And so, we say, "Welcome!"

**All: Aloha!**

### Prayers of the People

Use this repeat and answer prayer to help your campers "bless" the staff that will lead them at camp. Have campers form a circle around their group or cabin leaders and reach their hands out as a sign of blessing.

Dear God // Bless our leaders // Help them lead us // Help us hear them

We welcome them // into our lives // and we promise // to help them lead // by praying for them // and working together. // Amen.

### Scripture Sharing

Read Luke 14:15-24 out loud, then say, "I wonder what it would sound like today?" Have some counselors act out the story using more modern excuses, maybe even silly ones. They can pull up random campers to be "extras" in the reenactment.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Creation Welcome

### CELEBRATING

**How:** Explain to the campers that we are welcomed to camp by staff, leaders, and even by other campers, but that even God's creation welcomes us. Invite them to think about how it would sound if they were welcomed by different creatures that are common at your camp. What would a squirrel's welcome sound like? How would a frog welcome you to camp? Campers can use real works in a funny voice or make animal sounds and imagine it means "welcome." Invite everyone to turn and greet someone else in one of their favorite ways. If you have not yet introduced *aloha* as the daily theme, you might want to close by explaining that it is a way many people say "hello" and "welcome," inviting campers to repeat the word with you as a greeting to everyone.

### Warm Welcome

### CENTERING

**How:** Invite campers to think about the people who make them feel most welcome, or times they have felt the most welcome in a new place. Ask them to focus on one person and their face and imagine them standing at the Great Banquet as host. Ask them to imagine how that warm welcome might make a difference in the party. Ask campers to imagine themselves as the host of the party and how they might be able to make others feel welcome. Close with a short prayer, asking God to help everyone share a warm welcome to everyone who comes to camp this week.

### Stewardship

Before worship, make a list of all the ways camp practices stewardship, for example: recycling, short showers, composting, food share, protecting nature, etc. Write each of these on a piece of paper and trim it to the shape of a pineapple. Have someone explain all the ways the camp will be practicing stewardship while campers hold up the different pineapple signs. Go back through

each way again and invite the campers to shout *aloha* after each if they are willing to be partners in those projects.

## Communion

I wonder if you have ever wished an invitation would show up that never did. Maybe an invitation to a party. Maybe an invitation to sit and eat with someone. Maybe an invitation to attend Hogwarts. There are some invitations that will never come, but we know that one invitation never stops showing up. God is always inviting us to live together in love. Like the host of the Great Banquet, God invites all of us, and there is always room for more people at God's table. Welcome to this special meal where everyone is family, and everyone is invited! *Aloha camp, aloha!*

## Benediction

Read by camper or counselor: *God, thank you for welcoming us to this place. Help us welcome one another and make new friends. Help us learn, grow, play, and share an amazing week together with you. Amen.*

## DAY 2

### Opening Litany

Invite worshipers to respond to each statement that applies to them with clapping, cheering, or by doing some other celebratory sign.

One: All of us have different gifts. Some of us like playing sports...

*Worshipers respond.*

One: And some of us like music or making things with our hands.

*Worshipers respond.*

One: Some of us like to learn by reading or writing...

*Worshipers respond.*

One: And some of us would rather learn math or science.

*Worshipers respond.*

One: We can use all of our gifts to worship God, and we say together:

**All: Praise the Lord!**

## Prayers of the People

Invite campers to find a partner with whom to share a prayer concern. Each of them tells the other one thing they want to lift to God. These can be joys or concerns. Together they say, "*ubuntu*," then link arms. Campers then try to connect with others by sharing a prayer and then linking arms. Once connected, campers cannot divide from each other. As you go, pairs become groups of four, and so on till everyone is connected. There should be two campers left at the end who share a prayer to form a circle. You might want to close in a communal prayer of thanks for all the connections made.

## Scripture Sharing

Invite campers to participate in the reading of 1 Corinthians 12:1–27 by responding to words with particular responses. You will need to read a little slower to allow them to respond. Here are some suggested cues, but you can create more of your own:

One – hold up one finger and repeat the word.

Spirit – say, "Ooh, Ah" and do "jazz hands."

Body – shake your body all over.

God – put hands over heart.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### *Being the Body*

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Butcher paper, marker, tempera paint, paper plates, hand wipes, markers, trash bag

**How:** Before the service, trace a life-sized body on a large roll of paper lying on a table in the center of the space or on the floor. Pour several colors of slightly watered-down tempera paint on paper plates. In the service, invite each camper to come to the sheet of paper. Ask them to gently

dip the palm-side down of their hand in a color of paint and then place it inside the outline of the body. Ask an adult helper to write the name of the camper underneath/around the hand. Have hand wipes available to clean the hand after this activity.

At the end of the painting time, note how each of us contributed to this body, like we are all one in the body of Christ: different colors, different sizes, and different gifts. You may want to play some music while campers are moving and painting. You can hang this in your worship space or other common area after it dries.

### **Parts of Me**

### **CENTERING**

**How:** Invite campers to think through the different people who have shaped them and made them the people they are today with this simple guided reflection. Ask campers to get in a comfortable position, then think about their brain, and then people who have helped them learn. Invite them to whisper the names to God. Ask campers to think about their arms and then people who have either carried or lifted them. Invite campers to whisper their names to God. Ask campers to think about their heart and think about people who love them. Invite campers to whisper their names to God. Ask campers to think about their feet and think about people who already follow or look up to them. Invite campers to whisper their names to God. Ask campers to stand and reach up high as you remind them that from their fingertips, to their feet, they can remember all the people who are connected and care for them.

### **Stewardship**

Remind campers that we are all part of one body, and that each person's an important part. Explain that at church, we often pass an "offering plate" for money, but that in this service we will be offering the gift of ourselves, and the things we can do for others. When the plate or basket comes to them, invite the campers to place their hand in the space where money might be placed, and say a silent prayer to God about what they can do to support the camp community. You might give some examples, like sharing or cleaning up, or making a new friend.

### **Communion**

Have you ever had a missing piece in a puzzle? It's really frustrating. Sometimes it's a new puzzle and we know it's lying around somewhere – or maybe the dog ate it. Sometimes it's an old puzzle and we worry that a piece got lost along the way. When a piece is missing, it is frustrating. We see a picture, but it's not all that it could be. As we celebrate communion, we remember that, like a puzzle, our community is so much better when we have all the pieces. Unlike a puzzle, we always have room for more pieces. There are no straight edges. Our church can just keep growing and growing, as more people add on their pieces. As we celebrate communion, we are thankful for the people to invited us to share our piece of the puzzle and those who remind us how special we are. We know that when we come together, Jesus is with us.

### **Benediction**

Ask campers to form a circle and link arms. Remind them that we will be sharing lots of fun times at camp and even doing some deep thinking together. Ask campers to look around and see how they are all connected and see if they can get to know as many of the people connected to them as possible before the week is over. Say, *"God, may ubuntu be our reality as we are all connected in your love. Help us get to know each other and teach each other about your love. Amen."*

## **DAY 3**

### **Opening Litany**

One: Sometimes, like Jacob and Esau, people don't get along. It can be hard when our feelings are hurt, or when we hurt someone else's feelings. But God reminds us that we can say we're sorry and forgive other people when they do. One way to act out that forgiveness is to say, "The peace of Christ be with you." As we come to worship together, turn to someone next to you and say, "peace be with you." (Pause.) Turn the other way and say it to someone else—"peace be with you." (Pause.) Let us worship God!

## Prayers of the People

Explain to the campers that “confession” is a word for admitting the times we could do better and invite them to participate in a simple confession prayer by saying or thinking a response to your statements.

God, we know we get cranky when...

God, we know we get angry when...

God, we know we get stubborn about...

God, we know we have been mean to...

Forgive us, God, for the times we hurt others or didn't pay attention to others when they needed us. Amen.

## Scripture Sharing

You may want to use the “Genesis Family Drama” script from page 160 in place of or to supplement the scripture reading. You can use the handout for the parts before and after the scripture, or just tell the story from the handout.

This is also a great scripture to act out with a narrator. You can do a modern version or let them reenact the scripture. Campers may have come up with skits in their group time to tell the story, and this would be a great time to share those with the full camp.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Sign of Peace

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** White poster, washable ink pads, hand wipes, trash bag

**How:** Draw an outline of a peace sign on the poster board, filling the poster as much as possible. Set out a table with the ink pads next to the poster. You might want to place the poster on the ground or on a lower table for access. Tell the campers that each one of them is a person of peace who can offer hope to any situation. Ask them about tough situations/places of conflict that they might have back home. Invite the campers to place their fingerprint inside the peace symbol outline and as they do, to pray to work for

peace. They can make one print for each problem that they are thinking about. Hold up the finished piece and share a prayer for peace.

### Peace Pieces

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Dark-colored poster, pencil, glue, scissors, white paper, basket

**How:** Before worship, draw the outline of a dove on a large dark-colored poster. Put paper and scissors on a focus table in the front of your worship space and invite campers to come forward while you play some appropriate music. As they come forward, campers think about times they said something hurtful to someone or did something to hurt someone's feelings. Let each person cut up a piece of paper, however they want. Encourage them to silently pray, “I'm sorry for things I've done to make others sad or mad.” Collect all the pieces in a basket. While campers are cutting, spread glue all over the dove. Place the poster on the focus table and spread pieces of the paper cuttings across it to cover the dove shape. Spread extra glue as needed to add more pieces of paper. You won't need to use it all, just enough to cover. Close with a prayer, asking God to lead us to peace, even when we are part of the problem.

### Stewardship

Share a vague story about something you care about and invite campers to ask questions to fill in anything they are curious about or that doesn't make sense. As they ask questions, thank them for asking and then share more details. Once the story is fully understood, thank the campers for listening well enough to ask good questions and remind them that listening is a gift we can give others. Close with a prayer for all the stories that might be heard by our good listening.

### Communion

When you were really little, did you ever throw a temper tantrum at a meal and refuse to eat? At some point we all probably have. What were we thinking? In the end, we still end up in trouble – and we end up hungry, which makes us even crankier! Sometimes a bad mood just keeps getting worse. Jesus shared a meal with his disciples at a

time he was very emotional, and so were many of them. They were tired, and some were cranky. Still, Jesus sat down and ate with all of them and reminded them how loved they were. Today, we celebrate communion, a meal that reminds us how loved we are. God wants us to live in peace and keeps loving us while we work on it. Maybe this meal will inspire us to work for peace.

## Benediction

Can be read by a camper or counselor: Say, *“God, when we are angry, or cranky, help us share our feelings in ways that don’t make others angry or cranky. Help us listen when people are sad or upset. Be with us this week as we share shalom with each other. Amen.”*

## DAY 4

### Opening Litany

One: Jesus shows us just how much God loves us.

**All: God is good!**

One: God’s love for us shows us how to love one another.

**All: God is good!**

One: Let’s worship God, saying thank you for that love.

**All: God is good!**

### Prayers of the People

Place a large mirror in the front of the worship space and invite campers to come up and use dry-erase markers to draw a symbol or write a word that reminds them of something they feel sorry about. Say a short prayer of thanksgiving for God seeing through our mistakes and loving us. While you pray, wipe off the mirror and draw a large heart in the center. Hold up the mirror so some the campers can see their reflection and the heart. Invite them to hold up their hands to make a heart, and look through their hand heart, matching that shape with the one on the mirror. Say a prayer, asking God to help us see others through eyes of love, sharing *agape*.

## Scripture Sharing

Of all the scriptures used in Peace Works, the story of Jesus washing the disciples’ feet is the best suited to a dramatic presentation, but not in a silly way. If you have staff with acting skills, this is the place to use them. You could use campers or others as the other disciples, but those playing Jesus and Peter need to be well prepared. They need to read over the story and reenact it in their own words well enough to share it with the camp. The power of this story is found in the context and relationships. Avoid the temptation to do a reenactment that could end up silly, so that the power shift and relationship tension can be felt.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Agape Practice

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** White paper, colored paper, pencils, crayons, scissors, tape

**How:** Before worship, cut out enough arm and hand silhouettes out of white paper for each person. Set up a few tables around the outside of your worship space with various colors of paper and pencils. In worship, campers will choose a color of paper and trace their forearm and hand on it with their fingers together. Ask campers to put straight lines to show where their fingers would be, and then cut out the outline and along the finger lines. Give campers one of the silhouettes cut from white paper and invite them to decorate it in a way that shows God’s love. This could be words, colors, or pictures. Campers will connect this hand with their own by weaving the fingers together in a basic basket weave.

### Foot Washing

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Cardboard sign reading, “Free Footwashing”, plastic bins, warm water, towels, chairs, pillows or pads.

**How:** Invite campers to take turns washing one another’s feet. This can take a while, so you may want to play some music or sing some songs while they participate. Start with some staff to set the example, or maybe some peer leaders. The person who gets their feet washed then kneels and

washes the next person's feet. Encourage campers not to trade spots or go out of their way to wash the feet of a friend but to follow Jesus' example and be willing to wash anyone's feet as a sign of service and unconditional love. Be encouraging if someone doesn't want to take on the servant role, but have a leader ready to step in and assist if someone is uncomfortable.

**BTW:** If you have technology as part of your service, you might want to begin this time in worship after watching "Foot Washing Live Love" on YouTube.

## Stewardship

Fill cups with water and use food coloring to provide various colors. Place a coffee filter on a table (with something under it to protect the table) and ask campers to think of a time someone showed them love. Invite campers to come up and choose a color to represent that memory, dip their finger in that water, then gently touch their finger to the coffee filter. Provide some wet-wipes so they can clean their finger on the way back to their seats. Hold up the coffee filter at the end to show the diversity of colors and the beauty created by so many acts of love. If you have a large camp, you may need multiple filters and could connect them into the shape of a heart.

## Communion

We eat in lots of different places. Sometimes it is snacks with a group of friends. Sometimes it is a special family meal. Some of us have a favorite meal. Some of us may remember having a special plate at grandparents' houses when we were little. When we eat together, something happens. We talk more. We listen more. Lots of special memories seem to happen around food. I wonder what special memories this makes you think about. On the day Jesus washed his disciples' feet, he also shared a meal with them, remembering special moments in their past – how God had been with all their families. In the future, the disciples and others who followed Jesus would share a meal like it to remember how special Jesus was and that he would always be with them and their families in the future. Today, we share a meal like that one – where we remember and make new

memories that we can pass on – all to remind us that God has been, and always will be, with us.

## Benediction

Invite campers to make a heart with their hands and hold them high above their heads. Ask them to follow your motions. Say, "*Thank you God for your agape love! Help us remember that your love is bigger* (move your hands apart so your arms are stretched wide) *than any problem or mistake. Help us* (put your hands on your heart) *remember your love and share it* (Spread your arms wide like preparing to give a hug) *with everyone. Amen.*"

## DAY 5

### Opening Litany

One: As we come to worship we say that we love God with our hearts and souls.

**All: With our hearts and souls!** [*Worshippers place their hands on their heart.*]

One: We love God with our minds.

**All: With our minds!** [*Worshippers point to their heads.*]

One: And we love God with all of our strength

**All: With all of our strength!** [*Worshippers make strong arms gesture.*]

One: Let us worship God!

### Prayers of the People

Share a breath prayer as a community to help campers focus on their own feelings and their neighbors' needs. Encourage them to sit comfortably with eyes open and looking down at something that won't distract them. Invite campers to slowly take deep breaths in and out on your cues. Invite campers to think about things they do to take care of themselves. This might include showers, eating right, going to school and learning, or getting rest when they need it. It might include doing things they love and bring them joy. Invite campers to think about things

they do to care for others. This could be chores to help family, service at church, or caring for friends. Close this experience by thanking God for the opportunities that we have to care for ourselves and others.

## Scripture Sharing

This is a short reading and very understandable to all ages. You might want to add some energy and meaning to the reading by having two campers or staff read together. Have them stand back to back, link arms, and squat so they are supporting each other as they read. Because their arms will be locked together at the elbow, you will need two other volunteers to hold the Bibles for them.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Balanced Care

### CELEBRATING

**How:** Ask campers to stand up with their arms out wide and lean one direction as you name things that we do to care for ourselves. Ask them to lean the other direction when you name things that we do to care for others. Practice with an example of each, so they will be straight up again, leaning one way for a “me” and coming back to center for an “other” action. Give some examples of each, having campers sway back and forth as you do. Try to keep them fairly even. Try to end with most campers balanced out, straight up. Remind them that we are also called to love God, and have them reach their hands up. Remind campers that when we care for ourselves, and when we care for others, we are caring for things God created and loves, so we are also showing our love for God.

### Sadako’s Story

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Copy of *Sadako and the 1,000 Paper Cranes*, or storyteller familiar and ready to share the story.

**How:** Share the story of *Sadako and the 1,000 Paper Cranes* with the campers and affirm that it is both a sad and an inspiring story. If campers have made cranes in group or study times, this is a great time to present them in worship. If you are participating in the Peace Crane Project, this is a great time to bless your cranes before sending them.

## Stewardship

Show campers the traditional, “Here is the Church, here’s the steeple” hand poem. Ask them to get a partner and each contribute one hand as they try to recite with you. Remind campers that Church is made up of people who show up for one another—in worship, to help each other, to listen or share, or just hang out. Invite them to think about how their presence (just showing up) is a gift to the Church and how others doing the same is a gift to them. Close with a prayer of thanksgiving for all the people who help form the Church.

## Communion

It’s funny how we all want to outgrow our nap, then as you get older, you start to really look forward to nap. I’m not sure when we get too old for naps, and I’m not sure when we get old enough to need naps again. I do know it can be hard for all of us to stop sometimes. We have things we want to do. We have games we want to play. We have people we want to connect with. Sometimes it is easy to forget that taking a break is important. Taking time for God is important. Today, as we share communion, let’s try to calm our bodies, minds, and spirits. Let’s try to be focused just on this time and place, and trust that God has plenty of fun, silly, important, challenging, and busy things for us to do in the future. For now, let’s take time to love God, knowing that will help us be better at loving one another.

## Benediction

Invite campers to mirror your motions.

Say, “*God, when we are too wound up* (Stand up tall), *help us settle down* (Squat).

*When we are sad or scared* (grab your knees and shake), *give us courage to rise up* (jump up).

*When we are thinking only about ourselves* (point thumbs to self), *remind us about others’ needs* (point thumbs outward to those next to you) *and how much you love us* (hug self). Amen.”

## DAY 6

### Opening Litany

One: Worshipping together is a chance for us to say what we believe out loud.

#### All: Praise the Lord!

One: When we follow the Samaritan's example and help people who need it, we show what we believe through our actions.

#### All: Praise the Lord!

One: With courage and kindness, let's worship God.

### Prayers of the People

Give campers slips of paper and pencils and ask them to write down something they would like to change in the world. This can be a personal concern or a justice issue. They do not need to put their name on it. Collect the slips and draw some of them to read saying, "Can we talk to God about (insert issue from slip)?" Ask the campers to respond, "*¡Sí se puede!*" Close with a prayer for the issues read and those that God knows even though they didn't get read.

### Scripture Sharing

This is another scripture that is great for reenacting, or inviting campers to do a modern retelling. If you don't want to do it as a skit, you could have audience direction cards for different sounds and hold them up as someone reads the story. Campers could "gasp" at the robbers and say "Boo!" or shout, "Shame on you!" to those who didn't help. Signs for applause would also be good.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### I'll Stand With...

### CELEBRATING

**How:** Remind campers that all the people whom they have learned about at school or in stories who helped make important changes have had help. You can give examples campers will know of, like Martin Luther King (thousands marched

with him) or Malala Yousafzai (whose family supported her), who stood up for others. Explain that we can also stand with others who need us and ask others to stand with us when we need help. List some justice issues important to your campers and invite them to stand up and shout, "We stand to help!" for those they want to affirm. Close with a prayer, thanking God for hearing our shouts as prayers for justice and for those trying to make a difference.

### Stand By Me

### CENTERING

**How:** Form a large circle and have one volunteer step forward and name something they need help with. Ask a person who was next to them in the circle to step up next to them as a sign of support. That person then shares something they need help with and the person who was next to them steps up as a sign of their support. This continues all around the circle. It is best to have staff or a couple of strong peer leaders be a part of the first few participants. The activity should end back in a complete circle. The people who started it can take the hand of the last one sharing or put their hand on their shoulder to affirm their need.

### Stewardship

Give each camper a small circle of yarn with Cheerios on it. Explain that we can give money or other gifts to help make a difference in the world. Invite campers to hang their yarn ring on a tree branch where a squirrel or bird might enjoy a snack and explain that birds can also use the string for nests. Close with a prayer of thanks for all the different things people give to support others.

### Communion

I want you to help me get us ready for communion. When I say a line, you respond, "*¡Sí se puede!*"

Can we really make a difference in the world?  
*¡Sí se puede!*

Can we really share God's love with others?  
*¡Sí se puede!*

Can we really be invited to sit at God's table?  
*¡Sí se puede!*

Can there really be room for everyone at God's table? *Sí se puede*®

Yes, there is! Join your neighbors and friends as we share this special meal.

## Benediction

Can be ready by a camper or counselor: Say, “*God, help us be brave and help people who feel alone. Help us be kind and love people who feel sad. Help us be faithful and to keep trying to make a difference, even when we want to give up. Amen.*”

## DAY 7

### Opening Litany

A review of *aloha*'s meanings might be helpful before you begin.

**One:** As we leave today, we're saying goodbye for now.

**All: Aloha!**

**One:** When we worship, we celebrate the peace God gives us to share with one another. And so, we say, “love.”

**All: Aloha!**

**One:** Jesus reminds us that every person is part of God's family. And so, we say, “Welcome!”

**All: Aloha!**

### Prayers of the People

Invite campers to say *aloha* to various parts of camp that have been important to them. This could be physical locations at camp, things in the schedule, or friends. Begin by saying, “God we come to say goodbye, or *aloha*, to (singing prayers before meals). Aloha! What else do we say goodbye to?” Respond to each with “*Aloha!*” Close with a short prayer of thanks to God for all the things listed.

### Scripture Sharing

Instead of reading the word “peace” in John 14:25–27, substitute *shalom* or *heiwa*. You may not have a lot of time for a creative scripture

reading on your last day of camp, but this simple adaptation allows a beautiful scripture to have even deeper impact as a “sending out” that lifts up themes from earlier in the week.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Memories Bubble Up

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Bubble wands, bubble mix (or small bottles of bubbles for each camper)

**How:** Ask everyone to stand in a large circle. Go through each of the daily themes and ask campers to shout out things they learned or remember from each day. Each time they say something, invite them to blow a bubble. If everyone has their own bubbles, invite them to affirm the answers of others, or echo express, “Yes, me too” by blowing some bubbles in response. Close by asking God to receive the bubbles as a prayer of thanksgiving for all the campers will take with them from camp as they work for peace.

### Recognizing Aloha

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Leis

**How:** In your space, ask the campers to get in their small groups. Make sure each group leader has a package of leis for the number in their group. Ask them to sit in a circle with each member of their small group.

When everyone is seated, remind them of the importance of going out in the world, sharing love, peace, unity, service, and a spirit of welcome with everyone they meet. Also share that each camper here has demonstrated an act of welcome in our time together at camp.

Ask each group leader to then place a lei on the camper and say their name and state one example of how they have lived out *aloha*, love, or an act of service.

### Stewardship

Bring back out the pineapples with stewardship ideas on them from the first day of worship. Go through each stewardship task and invite campers to raise their hand and shout “*Aloha!*” if they

witnessed that act of stewardship at some point in the week. If you have time, you can let one person share their story of that experience. Encourage campers to continue these acts of stewardship when they go home. Lead a prayer of gratitude for the ways campers have grown in stewardship this week.

## Communion

In the Jewish tradition, children ask questions at Passover and the adults tell the story of Passover in response. When we take communion, we also remember a story. We remember Jesus' stories about love and the amazing things Jesus did. When we celebrate communion, we help one another remember how much Jesus loves us all so we can share that story with others. As we share this time of communion, let's remember all the things we learned this week and that Jesus sends the Spirit with us to help us tell our story as we work for peace.

## Benediction

When you point to them, invite the campers to answer your statements with the daily themes of camp.

You can make reminder signs to hold up if you need.

Say, "God,

You welcomed us with... (*Aloha!*)

You connected us with... (*Ubuntu!*)

You taught us to seek... (*Shalom!*)

You loved us with... (*Agape!*)

You energized us with... (*Heiwa*)

When we wondered if we could be peacemakers, you said... (*¡Sí se puede!*)

Now we go to be peacemakers and do our Peace Work ... (*Aloha!*)

# Daily Worship - Youth

## DAY 1

### Opening Litany

Reader 1: God invites to worship everyone who has felt overlooked or out of place.

Reader 2: There is space at God's table for all of us.

Reader 1: God welcomes to worship everyone who is excited to be here, or nervous to be here, or not really sure *how* they feel about being here.

Reader 2: There is space at God's table for all of us.

Reader 1: Whether you are here often or here for the very first time,

Reader 2: Let's join together praising God.

### Prayers of the People

Invite campers to call out names or groups of people for each of the prayer prompts that you share. Use the following prompts with some silence in between for sharing and reflection.

God, we give thanks for those who make us feel welcomed and loved:

God, we lift up those who are often left out:

God, we give thanks for those who helped us get to camp:

God, we give thanks for those who helped prepare and lead camp:

Help us live in a spirit of *aloha!* Amen.

### Scripture Sharing

The Great Banquet is a story that lends itself to reenactment, but since parables are not historic events, are intended to be interpreted, you can do some storytelling and some exploring of its layers all at the same time.

In advance, write one good excuse and one bad excuse on three notecards. These can be directly from the scripture if they still work in today's

culture. Use five recruited volunteers, assigning one the role of Host, one the role of Assistant, and three the roles of Friends to act out the story, with a narrator leading with these directions. Read the scripture from Luke 14:15–24, letting the volunteers act it out. Pause to allow time for movements. Have the Assistant take “invitations” (the three notecards) to the Friends. Instead of reading the excuses in the Bible, have the three Friends read the good excuses on their cards. Pause and say, “That doesn’t seem right,” then redo the scene with them reading the bad excuses. Pause and say, “That still doesn’t seem right,” then repeat the scene again, reading the excuses from scripture. Continue on with the scripture, and when you get to the next rounds of invites, bring unsuspecting campers up to be part of the story.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Come to the Party

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Party invitations (one per person), party decorations (like streamers, cake, cookies, hats, horns, etc.), music that focuses on getting people singing/dancing together.

**How:** In advance, prepare party invitations for each person coming to camp. Personalize them and have group leaders hand out the invitations before moving to worship.

After reading the scripture story, remind each camper that they have been invited to a special party! Begin handing out party items and asking the campers what things people do during a fun party. Then turn up the music, make sure everyone has party items, and have an impromptu dance party in worship! This is a fun way to get people talking to one another the first day of camp and breaking down barriers. Keep it light and fun and just a few songs.

**BTW:** If you are doing communion the first night, you could cut cake for your bread.

## Wild Collage Tablescape

## CENTERING

**Supplies:** A white sheet, table, room to move outdoors among the flora and fauna (or a collection of twigs, leaves, etc.)

**How:** In advance, set up a table with a white covering, and on the way to worship, invite campers to take a short walk and select something from nature like a seed, flower, or a leaf. Remind them not to disturb anything that is growing or is alive. You might even ask them to choose something that represents them. Ask them to bring their item with them into the worship space.

In the service, ask campers to hold out their object and compare it with the objects others around them selected. Ask them to think about how different each one is; some are rough, some are smooth, some are long, some are round, and so on. Remind campers that just like their object, they are also unique. Invite campers to bring their items forward and place them on the table, forming a collage. It would be easiest to have an outline of a heart, peace sign, pineapple, etc., on the table for them to fill in. Remind campers that God accepts and loves them, and that their unique beauty adds to God's family. Invite them to imagine how friends and family might have chosen to represent themselves in the collage and say a silent prayer of thanksgiving for all the people whom God gathers at our tables.

## Stewardship

Before worship, cut out enough small pineapple shapes for every camper and write things on them that campers can help care for at camp, or do to be good stewards at camp. For example: water preservation, trash pick-up, wasted food, animals, insects, plants, paths and trails, recycling, waterfront, etc. Place the pineapples in a basket along with some pencils, and ask each camper to take a pineapple and a pencil as the basket is passed. Invite each camper to think about how they might be an advocate for the issue on their pineapple, and a steward of God's resources while at camp. This does not put them in charge of this issue (not picking up trash all week), but challenges them to be an advocate for that issue.

Invite campers to think about what others gifts they bring to the community. Invite them to write something they will contribute to the camp community on their pineapple and return it as an offering as the basket is passed again. They can also drop pencils in the basket. If campers can't think of other gifts to share, they can simply commit to the challenge on their pineapple by placing it in the basket. Say a prayer of blessing for the gifts represented in the basket to close.

## Communion

Some of you may have experienced a meal with a "grown-ups" table and a "children's table." Others may go to school where you sit at particular tables or spaces based on your grade with those who are older holding the prime space. There are lots of rituals around meals, and some people in some places make "having a place at the table" a rite of passage – something to look forward to or even to earn.

At this meal, in this space, there is no seat you will "one day" earn. Instead, every seat at this table is open. There's no waiting. There's no test or initiation required. God invites us all to claim the grace and love celebrated in this meal. God invites us to feast and be transformed. Sure, it may be a small symbolic portion we share today, but the presence of God and those we dine with provide all the sustenance we need. You are welcome. You are invited! All you have to do is sit down and enjoy the meal.

## Benediction

*Read by camper or counselor:* God found a way to invite us to camp and we showed up. God invited us to worship and we showed up. God invites us to live in community all week long – will we show up? Are we ready to be the community God calls us to be? Will we show up to listen? Will we show up to share? We will we show up to be part of the community, even if we are tired? If you are ready to show up all week, for God and one another, shout "Aloha!" (*pause for response*). God, bless us as we live in the spirit of *aloha* and help us make everyone welcome, each and every day of camp! *Aloha!*

## DAY 2

### Opening Litany

One: We come to this place bringing gifts that God has given us.

**All: May we use them to worship God.**

One: Gifts of artistic talent, academic intelligence, listening hearts, strong voices, and senses of adventure.

**All: May we use them to worship God.**

One: We are all unique members of the body of Christ.

**All: Together as one, let us worship God!**

### Prayers of the People

Ask the campers to look at their fingers and try to think of one person who has shared something significant with them for each finger. Allow some silence for reflection. Ask the campers to look at the gaps between their fingers and imagine who else will impact their life in the future. Allow some silence for reflection. Ask the campers to look at their fingers again and imagine five different people for whom they have made a difference. Allow some silence for reflection. Ask the campers to look at the gaps between their fingers and imagine who else God will allow them to impact in the future. You might want to sing a chorus of a song between rounds of reflection. Close with a prayer of thanksgiving for all the ways our community is shaped and grown and the role we are called to play.

### Scripture Sharing

Print out each verse of the scripture on its own slip of paper, keeping the verse numbers, or writing them on the back to easily identify. Write numbers 0–9 on half sheets of paper, and numbers 1–7 on another set of half sheets. This will allow you to hold up one or two pieces to form any of the verse numbers. Give one slip of paper to 27 different campers. Tell any campers who do not have a paper that their job is to visually communicate what is being said through gestures and body language. Have campers form a large circle so everyone can see or stand in the front

of the worship space with the number cards you have made. Start with verse 1 and prompt each camper to read their verse. This way they don't have to remember what verse they are on. You can add another wrinkle to this reading by taking out one of the campers who is supposed to be reading, and let the group run into the problem of having a missing voice. After a bit of confusion or even nervousness, bring the camper back in and applaud as the community can now function together again. Continue the scripture to the end.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Finding Our Place

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Markers, tape, large sheets of paper

**How:** Before worship, hang the sheets of paper labeled as follows (one per page—you can even add an image of each body part to the poster):

Brain: I like to study, think, and help through reading.

Nose: I like to sense what God is up to and share it.

Eyes: I like to see where there is a need and make it happen.

Ears: I like to listen for the needs around me and the voice of God asking us to show up for the world.

Mouth: I like to speak prayers, share with people, and talk about my faith.

Heart: I like to share about my life and my faith with joy and passion.

Hands: I like to roll up my sleeves and get to work helping people.

Feet: I like to go places and meet people who are different than I am, as I share my faith.

After the scripture, invite campers to consider their personality, likes/dislikes, and talents. Remind them that everyone represents to the world a part of Christ's body. Ask them to look at the posters around the room and find the body part that best represents them or their gifts. Invite campers to write their name on the matching

poster and give thanks to God for their gift to the community and the world.

## Breathe with Me

## CENTERING

**How:** Invite campers to close their eyes and take slow deep breaths. Ask them to try to match their speed with the person next to them, breathing in deep and breathing out slowly together. As they do, remind them that we are all a connected community, with each person influencing and being influenced by everyone else. Ask the campers to imagine it is the Holy Spirit blowing in and out of each person with each breath. You can close with a brief explanation of *ubuntu*, a prayer, or maybe go into a song.

## Stewardship

Ask campers to think of something they have been taught, or some piece of wisdom that they would want to pass on to their children or future generations. It can be a saying, a scripture, or a quote. Invite them to share their wisdom with someone next to them. If you have time, invite campers to share something they heard from their partner that they thought was particularly insightful. You could even have them write them down and turn them in if you want. Close with a prayer for the wisdom we receive from previous generations and a blessing on the campers, as the keepers of generational wisdom, as they pass it on.

## Communion

The sankofa is a bird in west Africa that flies with its head looking backward. You might think this sounds silly. I'm sure it looks silly. The legend says that sankofa birds fly with an eye on the past to remember who they are and where they come from. By remembering where they came from, they know where they are and trust the direction they are going. We are not the first people to follow Jesus. We are connected to generations before us, and their wisdom is found in scripture, in the Church traditions we pass on, and in the relationships we have with mentors and friends. By looking at how God led them, we can see God directing us. We celebrate communion—we are looking back—to remember Jesus and to remember who we are, and we trust that God will lead us into the future together.

## Benediction

Move into a circle, then invite campers to hold their hands up with their fingers spread apart. Explain that the fingers they see around the circle represent the gifts of every person, and the space between them represents the ways we impact one another's lives. Ask everyone to join hands, linking fingers, and holding their hands up high. Say, "*Lord may we remember how connected we are – to one another – to those who came before – to those who will follow after us – and to you who has been and always will be. Amen.*"

## DAY 3

## Opening Litany

One: When we live through conflict firsthand, and things don't go quite as planned,

**All: God gives us peace.**

One: When our hearts are scarred, and recovering feels a little too hard,

**All: God gives us peace.**

One: As we worship together, let us always remember,

**All: God shows us a way to peace.**

## Prayers of the People

(Ice cubes needed)

Invite campers to take an ice cube from bowls being passed and think about the ways they are stubborn or hardheaded. As they hold the cube, ask them to think about the things that cause them to change, or become more open to others and their feelings. Remind campers that we all have times we become cold to others or put up emotional walls to keep from dealing with issues. Offer a time of reflection as they hold the melting ice, allowing each camper to think about the things that melt their hearts, and allow compassion to flow. Close with a prayer, asking God to help us all be less closed off, and more open to others, even when it is uncomfortable.

## Scripture Sharing

This story is easily adapted to a “reader’s theater” or you might want to use the Story Overview from the Younger and Older Youth sections. You could use the overview before and after the portion of the story included in the daily reading, then pause to hear Genesis 27:1–26 directly from the Bible before going back to the overview.

If you have two creative leaders, you might make this scripture reading a competition between two “expert readers.” They could hold a mock reading contest where they take turns interrupting one another to read more and more melodramatically as they proceed.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Peace Ripples

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Small river stones, a water bucket (tin/aluminum is best for sound effects), basket, water.

**How:** Before worship, place a bucket (add water to fill about 1/3–1/2 of the bucket) in the front of the worship space. Fill a basket with the rocks and set it next to the bucket. If this service is at night, consider placing some small tea lights around the edge of the bucket. Ask campers to reflect on how they feel when they are in an argument with someone as they choose a rock. Have them hold it and squeeze it, and think about how hardheaded and hardhearted they can be when upset.

Remind campers of the conflict and arguments in today’s Bible story and the pain it caused. Ask them to think about what result might come out of their own anger and conflict. Invite the campers to imagine letting go of their desire to win or “save face,” and what *shalom* might look like in their own conflicts.

Point to the bucket of water and invite campers to drop in their stone as a prayer for *shalom* and a promise to work for peace in their personal relationships. Encourage them to take their time and watch the ripples from their rock and imagine what impact they might have by letting go of anger or other hurts.

Before campers leave, invite them to take a stone and pray for whomever might have dropped the stone and the conflict it represents. Remind them that God releases all we hold and challenges us to seek peace.

### Seeking *Shalom*

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Large pieces of paper and markers

**How:** Write the words *Family, Friends, Church, Community,* and *World* on separate sheets of paper and hang them around the worship space. After the scripture reading, invite campers to visit each page and write a conflict they wish could find *shalom*. It can be from their own experience or others they know. Play some soft music in the background as they move.

### Stewardship

Explain that listening can be a gift, and not listening is often the cause of conflict. Invite campers to turn to a partner and share one thing they worry about. Ask the listener to ask a follow-up question to show they were paying attention and care. After getting an answer to the question, the listener says, “I hear you, and so does God.” Invite everyone to shout out in unison, sharing their personal worry as a communal cry. Close with a prayer of thanksgiving for the passion and compassion shared and for God’s listening ear.

### Communion

Do you remember the Snickers commercials where random celebrities played cranky people who were hungry? After they ate a Snickers, they were back to their normal, happy (and not celebrity) selves. We all have times when we are tired or cranky. We all have had bad moments where being “hangry” caused us to say something we shouldn’t have or act out in other ways. As we take communion, we remember that God understands all of our emotions and loves us anyway. We can bring our feelings to God. We also remember that Jesus set us an example to reach out and heal what is broken. This meal reminds us we are loved, even when cranky, and it also challenges us to work for *shalom*, offering others grace when they are at their worst. God invites us all – gathering us as one at this table. May it lead us to *shalom*.

## Benediction

Invite campers to respond to each statement with the words, "Help us seek *shalom*."

The statements can be read by a camper or counselor.

Say: "Dear God,

When we are angry ...

When we are stubborn...

When we struggle to forgive...

When we want our own way...

When we are really tired and cranky...

Each day of camp, Lord...

Amen."

## DAY 4

### Opening Litany

One: Jesus did more than just talk; he led by example.

**All: His love shows us how to love one another.**

One: Jesus gathered together with his disciples; we gather here with friends.

**All: His love shows us how to love one another.**

One: In Jesus we see just how big God's love for us is.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### Prayers of the People

Show campers a basic heart shape with your hands, matching the daily icon for today. Invite them to make the shape with their hands. For this prayer time, invite them to complete the sentence, "I see love when..." Ask them to make a heart hand and lift it up to God for each prayer. Campers can share as many statements as they want. Close with a communal prayer for the abundant love in the lives of all campers.

### Scripture Sharing

Today's story can easily be acted out, but remember that it is also a powerful story that you

don't want to make too silly. If you are going to do a foot washing activity in worship, consider having a few peer leaders act out the scripture as it is ready, then become the ones washing the feet of others, moving from scripture to application without much of a stop. Campers become other disciples of Jesus in the room, having their feet washed too, and passing on the example.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Loving Service

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Slips of paper, pens, large jars/baskets

**How:** Explain that *agape* is not a feeling but a motivation for action that we are free to choose or reject. Invite campers to think about some act of service they can do in the next 24 hours at camp for someone else. (Give some examples like hold door for everyone in my small group, let someone go in front of me in line, take someone's tray at lunch.) Give everyone a slip of paper and ask them to write this action down and place in a basket. Once they are all collected, pass the basket back around and ask everyone to draw a task. Remind them that they can choose to accept or reject the challenge, but God will always choose to actively love them—this is *agape*.

### Foot Washing

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Cardboard sign reading, "Free Foot Washing", plastic bins, warm water, towels, chairs, pillows or pads.

**How:** Invite campers to take turns washing one another's feet. This can take a while, so you may want to play some music or sing some songs while they participate. Start with some staff to set the example, or maybe some peer leaders. From there, the person who gets their feet washed then kneels and washes the next person's feet. Encourage campers not to trade spots or go out of their way to wash the feet of a friend but to follow Jesus' example and be willing to wash anyone's as a sign of service and unconditional love. Be encouraging if someone doesn't want to take the servant role but have a leader ready to step in and assist if someone is uncomfortable.

**BTW:** If you have technology as part of your service, you might want to begin this time in worship after watching “Foot Washing Live Love” on YouTube.

## Stewardship

Explain that memory has power, and that in our memory we can preserve things. By remembering, we pass on what we have received or what we have known. Give each camper a small rock and remind them that scripture is filled with people stacking rocks to name God’s presence in places. Invite campers to take a moment of silence to think about a moment when someone reminded them that they are lovable. Ask them to think about that person who reflected love to them as they come forward and place their rock on a table or altar. Share a prayer of blessing on the rocks, giving God thanks for the acts of love represented. Invite campers to take a rock with them and place it in a natural place (not indoors) they pass regularly at camp so when they pass that spot, they will remember they are loved and called to love others.

## Communion

Is there anyone who tries to overfeed you? Is there a grandparent who is always trying to offer you more, even when you are stuffed? Is there a person at church who is always encouraging you to have a donut or slips the younger kids candy when no one is looking? Meals and shared food are often a gift from one to another – a way of expressing our love and being a family or community. When Jesus washed the disciples’ feet, they were gathering for a special meal that reminded the community of God’s love. Jesus went a step further by washing their feet as they came in. Can you imagine the emotions in that room? I wonder what you are feeling for the people around you tonight? I wonder if you are feeling how much God loves you? As we share this communion – bread and cup – know that you are always loved and claimed as part of God’s family. Even when we are full of crankiness or doubt, God feeds us love and keeps on feeding us. Come on, eat up!

## Benediction

Can be read by a camper or counselor: Say, “*God, help us love like you love. Help us serve like Jesus served. Help us be the people you call us to be, and when we fall short, remind us again of your amazing agape love! Amen.*”

## DAY 5

### Opening Litany

Reader 1: Love God. Love yourself. Love your neighbor.

Reader 2: That’s way easier said than done sometimes.

Reader 3: Love God. Love yourself. Love your neighbor.

Reader 1: Imagine the peace that might be possible!

Reader 2: Love God. Love yourself. Love your neighbor.

All Readers: Let us praise God, who shows us how.

### Prayers of the People

Invite campers to reach up high and sway to the left or right with you as you give prompts for prayers. Explain that you will offer opportunities to name a need or prayer for yourself, and then a need or prayer of someone else, and that you will offer multiple prayers for both, going back and forth. Ask the campers to bend to their left and call out a prayer concern for themselves, then after a moment of silence, ask campers to bend to their right and call out a prayer for someone else. Ask campers to reach straight up and say, “Hear our prayers, God.” Repeat this pattern four to five times without being in a hurry. If you have time, consider mixing in some basic yoga poses before and after this prayer, involving the full body.

### Scripture Sharing

Invite campers to follow your motions as the scripture is read. You may want to repeat a few times keeping, creating a prayerful reading experience.

Reach your hands up high at “Hear, O Israel...”

Hold your hands to your heart at “You shall love the Lord...”

Hold your left hand out wide at “love your neighbor...”

Hold your right hand out wide at “as yourself.”

Reach your hands up high at “There is no...”

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Love Thy Neighbor

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Large whiteboard and markers or chalkboard and chalk or paper and markers

**How:** Prep for this encounter by writing over and over:

“Love thy \_\_\_\_\_ Neighbor,” being sure to leave the blank line so it can be filled in. Fill in the first one or two as an example such as:

Love thy addicted neighbor.

Love thy worried neighbor.

It is easy to not think of people as our neighbors. Think about your own town for a moment. Who is a “neighbor” who needs love? When you are ready, come forward and offer your prayer. You can write their name and adjective, or just pray silently.

### Mirroring God’s Love

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Different kinds of mirrors (hand, mirror tiles, mirrors on stands, etc.), dry-erase markers, separate mirror tiles

**How:** In advance, place some mirror tiles on a focus table with some dry-erase markers. Invite campers to look into one of the provided mirrors and think about the following questions: What does God love about you the most, and what is one way you can reflect God’s love to others? Invite campers to reflect on their answers, then write one with a marker on the mirrored tiles.

## Stewardship

Ask campers to think of times that not giving is a good thing. Write each one on a piece of paper and drop it in a tin can with holes punched low on the sides. Once the brainstorming is done, remind campers that there are lots of times we can help by not giving people a hard time, not giving our opinion, or not competing with them. Lift up other examples the group listed. Use a lighter to burn the suggestions and let the smoke lift up “what we do not need to give” as a prayer to God.

## Communion

Love God – Love self – Love neighbor. Somehow, we are supposed to balance all of these. It can be hard. People can be difficult. On occasion, even we can be difficult, right? Loving God sounds easy, but doing that things that show we love God gets complicated. Maybe sharing a meal is a good place to start when we don’t know how else to keep the balance. Sometimes when we offer a person food, or sit and share a meal, something happens that brings us together. Sometimes when we are eating, we stop long enough to let our hearts and minds catch up with each other. Sometimes when we are sharing a meal, the divisions and expectations that pull us away from each other fall away and there is suddenly room for us to notice God with us. May this time of communion help us set aside distractions and divisions, making room for others in our heart and God in our midst.

## Benediction

Can be read by a camper or counselor: Say, “*God, help us find our center. Help us find our balance. When we are too wound up, settle us down. When we are apathetic, set our hearts on fire. When we are too self-centered, remind us of others’ needs. When we are not taking care of ourselves, remind us how precious we are. May loving ourselves and others be just two of the things we do to show our love for you. Amen.*”

## DAY 6

### Opening Litany

One: Sometimes the world tells us we can't take care of others and still protect ourselves. God says,

**All: Yes we can!**

One: Sometimes classmates make it feel like other people's opinions are the most important thing we have, that we shouldn't risk our reputations to help a stranger. God says,

**All: Yes we can!**

One: Sometimes society makes it seem like peace is impossible. God says,

**All: It can be done!**

One: Let us worship our God of hope and action.

### Prayers of the People

Remind campers that God hears our prayers, and that we are often the answer to one another's prayers. God can work through a community to change lives, and when a community stops to pray, we are already participating in the outcome. Invite campers to call out justice issues or prayer concerns. After each, ask the question, "What do we need to start a response?" and have campers answer, "Just us!" Point out that "Just us" and "Justice" sound a lot alike, and that we are called by God to be the answer to the justice prayers of those who need help. Invite sharing and have a staff member or peer leader ready to model the call response as you start the prayer time.

### Scripture Sharing

Today's scripture would be a good opportunity to lift up the reading in multiple languages. You could also do a "tag-team" reading where campers take turns reading, with one taking over for the others as they go and reading a few overlapping words as they transition. This could be a few readers, or many. Readers could also change languages as they go, as long as the next person knows where to start.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Peace in Action

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Poster boards, paint sticks, tape, markers

**How:** Invite campers to work together to design a sign to celebrate a cause, protest an injustice, or advocate for their beliefs. Encourage them to be clever or use words that are easy to chant. Ask them to bring their signs to the front of the worship space so they can all be seen. Choose a few that echo the Peace Works theme and invite campers to chant them together. Remind campers that these signs are prayers to God, and that being an advocate can be spiritual work. Close by inviting campers to pray loudly, "We work for peace because peace works!"

### Bandages of Hope

### CENTERING

**Supplies:** Large self-adhesive bandages (one for each person), markers, string, paper clips.

*\* This activity is done in two parts. The first would be a part of group time earlier in the day, and then it is concluded in group worship.*

**How:** In group time ahead of worship: Hand out a bandage and marker to each camper. Ask them to think about something about life that hurts. You might need to give an example (I'm being bullied; I'm sad a lot, etc.) Ask them to write the hurt on the bandage and then return it to you. This should be a silent/don't share activity. After group time, bring the bandages to the worship space.

Before service, string up a line in the space. Take each bandage and clip them one at a time to the line. During worship, invite the campers to come and view the hurts that we didn't know about one another. Ask them to prayerfully take one and place the bandage on their arm, as we hold one another with our pains. Pray for this person. Play an appropriate song to give some intentional background music for this prayerful activity.

### Stewardship

Ask campers to think of a cause they care about and imagine what people might need, other than money, to make a difference with that issue.

Invite them to think about what they might have at home or in their church family that would help. If they are willing, invite campers to shout out their cause and what they have to contribute, or share their cause and what is needed that they can't provide. If another camper knows they or their community could fill that need, they can respond, "We can do that." Close with a prayer of thanksgiving for all the resources in the community and the ways we can help one another.

## Communion

Jesus' disciples didn't know if they could manage what was coming. They didn't know the details, but Jesus kept talking like it was coming soon. He tried to warn them what would happen, but maybe they didn't want it to be real. This last supper together was an important time as Jesus encouraged them to remember him when times were hard. Today, we do the same thing. We celebrate communion to remind ourselves that God empowers us to do amazing things. When we feel like we can't be loved, Jesus says, "Yes, you can." When we feel like we can't overcome the fears around us, Jesus says, "Yes, you can." When we feel like we are not worthy and can't take our place at this table, Jesus says, "Yes, you can." *Si se puede.*® Come, eat! And when others have the same feelings, and we see them struggling alone, we stand with them, and even invite them to the Lord's Table saying, "Yes, you can."

## Benediction

Can be read by a camper or counselor: Say, "*Lord, you have given us each amazing gifts and even more powerful is the way we use them together as a community. Give us the courage to face the challenges of our world and confront the problems in our own lives. When we feel like giving up, grant us friends and community who will shout, 'Si se puede!'. Amen.*"

## DAY 7

### Opening Litany

One: God invites to this place everyone who has felt out.

**All: We leave believing we belong.**

One: God welcomes us to worship, wherever we were.

**All: We leave promising to welcome others.**

One: God shows us a way toward peace and compassion.

**All: We join together praising God, ready to make it happen.**

## Prayers of the People

(popsicle sticks and markers needed)

Place a large number of popsicle sticks and markers around the worship space or pass them out as campers arrive. Invite campers to think about things they can do to work for peace when they get home. Campers can write these on the popsicle sticks, then bring them forward and place them side by side down the center of the worship space like a wooden plank bridge. At the end, name the symbol you have created as a bridge from where we are to the future God imagines for us. Ask a prayer of blessing on all the gifts the campers have to share at home and the work that will be done beyond camp.

## Scripture Sharing

Today's scripture has some powerful images and phrases. You might want to have extra voices chime in on those words or phrases, highlighting a copy of the scripture for them so they know when to jump in. You could also read it in the round—having people start at the beginning after other readers have already started. This would be loud and chaotic by the end, but a nod to Pentecost and the Spirit's tendency to both cause and calm chaos as we bring about God's peace.

## RESPONDING TO SCRIPTURE

### Peace Work Tools

### CELEBRATING

**Supplies:** Large sheets of paper, marker, note cards, hammer, roll of tape, tape measure, wire cutters, wrench

**How:** In advance, write the reflection question for each tool as shown below on a note card. Place each of the tools where campers can walk around and look at them. Place a large sheet of paper under each tool along with the corresponding note card.

Hammer: What barriers to peace still need to be broken down?

Roll of Tape: What or who needs to be held together in the face of brokenness?

Tape Measure: What needs to be measured, studied, or explored to help bring peace?

Wire Cutters: What needs to be cut off, let go of, or eliminated to bring peace?

Wrench: What do you need to hold onto tightly if you are to work for peace?

Invite campers to walk around and look at each station and its questions. Ask them to write their answers on the paper around the different items. Play some music while campers are moving and writing. Once everyone has had time to explore the different stations, read some of the responses from each and close in prayer for all the work for peace that is represented by the campers.

## Aloha as We Go

## CENTERING

**Supplies:** Posters with each of the daily themes and scripture written on them.

**How:** After the scripture is shared, invite campers to look at each of the posters and reflect on their week. Read each daily theme and a sentence about the word they learned about. You can even lift up special events from that day, or memorable moments. Go through each day, allowing a moment of silence after each for reflection. At the end, remind campers that *aloha* is a blessing as well as a welcome. Invite them to turn to those around them and say, “*Aloha*, go work for peace.”

## Stewardship

Ask campers to bring the pineapples they received at the beginning of the week to worship with them. During the stewardship time, invite campers to share with the group how they fulfilled the good steward task on the pineapple they drew, or how they were challenged by it.

Say a prayer of blessing for all the stewards and encourage campers to continue their practice of stewardship with them when they are at home.

## Communion

After Jesus died, his disciples hung out in the upper room where they had celebrated his last meal with them. They didn’t know what to do next. They didn’t know how to go back to the world they used to know. As we get ready to leave camp, we might have some similar feelings. How do we go back home after the experiences we have had? Jesus appeared in that room with his friends and told them not to be afraid and assured them that the Holy Spirit would guide them. As we share communion, we remember that same promise—the Holy Spirit will be with us to guide us, even as we make hard decisions. The Spirit will be with us as we try to make changes in our lives and the world around us. We also know that when we forget, we can celebrate this meal again and remember Jesus’ teachings and his love for everyone. When we can’t stay, but don’t know how to go—we remember this table of welcome is also a table of blessing that sends us out. As *Aloha!* greeted us it also sends us out to work for *shalom*, to share *agape*, to find *heiwa*. As we come to this table, imagine Jesus says, *aloha!* And *aloha...*

## Benediction

When you point to them, invite the campers to answer your statements with the daily themes of camp.

Say, “*God,*

*You welcome us in the spirit of... (Aloha!)*

*You gathered us and connected us in... (Ubuntu!)*

*You taught us how much we need... (Shalom!)*

*You reminded us to show... (Agape!)*

*You invited us to seek the balance of... (Heiwa)*

*When we wondered if we could be peacemakers, you said... (Sí se puede!®)*

*Now we go with your Spirit, and with your blessing as we all say again... (Aloha!)*

# Cabin Devotions – Children and Intergenerational

These devotions are designed to be conversational, followed by a brief prayer experience. They are best used in cabins before bed, but you could adapt them for mornings, or even for a “Morning Watch” experience. Devotions are divided into “Conversation Prompts” and “Prayer Suggestions.” Use these as they best fit your campers but remember that your intentionality and ability to be completely present for these devotions will be the biggest factor in engaging campers.

## DAY 1: ALOHA

### Conversation Prompts

- What do you do for someone who comes to visit when you want them to feel welcome?
- Have you ever felt different than everybody when you go somewhere new? What made it feel better?
- How do you think God welcomes?

**Prayer:** Have campers participate in call and response prayer, where the word of the day is the response

Counselor: God, thanks for this time we will spend together at camp.

*Campers: Aloha.*

Counselor: May we feel welcome by everyone during our time.

*Campers: Aloha.*

Counselor: May we help others feel welcome too.

*Campers: Aloha.*

Counselor: May we appreciate what is the same and different about us.

*Campers: Aloha.*

## DAY 2: UBUNTU

### Conversation Prompts

- What was your favorite thing we did as a whole cabin today?
- When is it better to do something as a group? Why do you think that is?
- What is hard about being a part of a group?
- How is every person in a community important?

**Prayer:** Have campers participate in call and response prayer, where the word of the day is the response.

Counselor: God, we thank you for spending time together as a cabin.

*Campers: Ubuntu.*

Counselor: May we feel how each person in our cabin is important.

*Campers: Ubuntu.*

Counselor: May we feel ourselves being important in our cabin group.

*Campers: Ubuntu.*

Counselor: May we help one another know how we are connected while we are here.

*Campers: Ubuntu.*

## DAY 3: SHALOM

### Conversation Prompts

- Has there been a time this week when things didn't go the way you wanted them to?
- Do good things ever come from times that don't start out seeming so good? How does that happen?

- What's the best way to fix problems between people when things seem broken?

**Prayer:** Have campers participate in call and response prayer, where the word of the day is the response.

Counselor: God, be with us during our difficult times.

*Campers: Shalom.*

Counselor: May we still appreciate one another, even when we don't agree.

*Campers: Shalom.*

Counselor: May we find ways to come together when life hurts us.

*Campers: Shalom.*

Counselor: May we see signs of you in each other and in ourselves.

*Campers: Shalom.*

## DAY 4: AGAPE

### Conversation Prompts

- Have you seen someone do something good for another person when they didn't have to do so this week?
- Why is it good to do something for someone even if you don't get something out of it?
- Why did Jesus wash his disciples' feet? Who would you do that for?
- What does it feel like when someone does something for you that they didn't have to?

**Prayer:** Have campers participate in call and response prayer, where the word of the day is the response.

Counselor: God, we are thankful for big love that does great things.

*Campers: Agape*

Counselor: May we look for ways to do good works, even when it isn't easy.

*Campers: Agape.*

Counselor: May we know people who show us that kind of love.

*Campers: Agape.*

Counselor: May we show this love and not worry.

*Campers: Agape.*

## DAY 5: HEIWA

### Conversation Prompts

- What is unique about you from everyone else in the cabin?
- What do you respect about other campers in the cabin?
- When did we all win this week?
- What is the most peace you've felt this week?

**Prayer:** Have campers participate in call and response prayer, where the word of the day is the response.

Counselor: God, we are thankful for the way each one of us is our own thing.

*Campers: Heiwa*

Counselor: All of us are our own thing, and we are all loved.

*Campers: Heiwa*

Counselor: May we feel that love all through the day tomorrow.

*Campers: Heiwa*

Counselor: May we show this love without wanting anything back for it.

*Campers: Heiwa*

## DAY 6: SI SE PUEDE®

### Conversation Prompts

- What's something you did for someone who needed help that felt good to do?
- When is it hard to help other people in need?

- Why is it good to help other people even when it is tough?
- Who would you like to help?

**Prayer:** Have campers participate in call and response prayer, where the word of the day is the response.

Counselor: God, we are thankful for the times you help us when we need something.

*Campers: Si Se Puede®.*

Counselor: May we always be looking for other people in need.

*Campers: Si Se Puede®.*

Counselor: When we see people in need, help us not be too afraid to help.

*Campers: Si Se Puede®.*

Counselor: May we change the world and make it a better place for everyone.

*Campers: Si Se Puede®.*

## DAY 7: ALOHA AND BEYOND

### Conversation Prompts

Before saying goodbye to your campers, challenge them to keep a nightly devotion time. They can simply repeat the themes of camp as nightly reflections to carry them through a week or come up with their own prayer play.

### Prayer Suggestion

Say a prayer of blessing over your campers and ask God to be with them as they continue their spiritual journey.

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## Cabin Devotions – Youth

These devotions are designed to be conversational, followed by a brief prayer experience. They are best used in cabins before bed, but you could adapt them for mornings, or even for an individual “Morning Watch” experience (printing out questions for each camper) that is self-guided. Devotions are divided into “Conversation Prompts” and “Prayer Suggestions.” Use these as they best fit your campers but remember that your intentionality and ability to be completely present for these devotions will be the biggest factor in engaging campers.

### DAY 1: ALOHA

#### Conversation Prompts

- Do you think people in general know how to welcome other people?
- What place in the world do you feel most welcomed? What is it about that place that makes you feel that?
- What has felt welcoming today? What would feel welcoming tomorrow?
- When you imagine God, how do you imagine God welcoming you?

**Prayer Suggestion:** Take a moment of silence. Have your cabin imagine their image of God. Imagine that image of God welcoming them to camp this week. Now have them imagine themselves doing that very same thing at camp. Finish by praying that we might receive and give *aloha* throughout the week. Consider repeating the word “*aloha*,” multiple times at the end of your prayer

### DAY 2: UBUNTU

#### Conversation Prompts

- When did you feel most together as a cabin today?

- What are some things that you think are true of all humans?
- When have you felt most “at one” with a group of people?
- How have you experienced God in those moments you felt “at one” with a group?

**Prayer Suggestion:** Have everyone pray their own prayer aloud, all at once. Explain that when you begin, everyone else will say a prayer, saying whatever they feel compelled to say. Everyone will speak aloud, so as they pray, everyone’s prayers will be heard, but at the same time no one prayer will be focused on. So that no one feels put on the spot for being the last one to finish, have everyone repeat “Amen” over and over, when they finish, until everyone is saying “Amen” together. This is a form of prayer as community. Consider repeating “*ubuntu*” multiple times at the end of your prayer.

### DAY 3: SHALOM

#### Conversation Prompts

- What are some conflicts in your life or the bigger world that you wish would be fixed?
- Have you ever had a big falling out with someone you really cared about? What happened? Did it get fixed?
- Have you seen any moments today where people had a chance to right some kind of wrong? Where should we be looking for those moments this week?

**Prayer Suggestion:** Set this prayer up as a prayer for peace. Have campers, one at a time, name people or situations they’d like to see God’s peace enter into. As each person or situation is named, have everyone say in unison, “Give it/them/him/her peace.” As you close, consider repeating “shalom” multiple times.

## DAY 4: AGAPE

### Conversation Prompts:

- What are the hardest things about people to love unconditionally?
- Have you seen any counselors, staff, or camp leaders doing some sort of task you felt was a humble task?
- Do you think unconditional love can be naïve? Why?
- Why would Jesus choose to love this way?

**Prayer Suggestion:** Use a candle, tea light, or all the flashlights in the cabin. Instruct the cabin that all lights will be turned off when the prayer begins. Begin the prayer by saying, “God please bring the light of your unconditional love to even the darkest times.” After that is said, light or turn on one light. Continue to repeat the phrase with one new light lit or turned on each time, until all are lit. Then have all lights go out again and close saying, “God, may we feel your love even in the dark.” Consider repeating, “*agape*,” multiple times as you close.

## DAY 5: HEIWA

### Conversation Prompts

- Think about someone you have a difficult time respecting. Think what it is about them that is tough to respect. Now think about times in your life when you have been guilty of something similar. How do you think of this person now? How do you think of yourself?
- Have you ever given a gift when you didn’t receive a gift back? Have you ever received a gift from someone you didn’t get a gift for? What does that feel like on both sides? In what ways could a situation like that be a good or beautiful thing?
- How do you think loving our neighbor as our self is similar to loving God?

**Prayer Suggestion:** Write a prayer in haiku (3 lines: first line 5 syllables, second line 7, third line 5) and repeat it together several times. Consider

repeating the word, “*heiwa*,” multiple times at the end of your prayer.

## DAY 6: SI SE PUEDE®

### Conversation Prompts

- Tell about a time you did something good for others that surprised you.
- What are some problems in the world you feel particularly drawn to work on?
- Who are people you have never worked with before, and what do you think it would be like to partner with them?
- What sorts of things do you see changing in the world because of the work that certain groups of people are doing?

**Prayer Suggestion:** Take the different areas mentioned in discussion to which campers are feeling drawn. Do a call and response, where the leader says “God, we hope to see movement in *<insert area camper feels drawn to>*.” The group then responds with “*Si Se Puede*®.” Continue until every answer has been lifted up.

## DAY 7: ALOHA AND BEYOND

### Conversation Prompts

Before saying goodbye to your campers, challenge them to keep a nightly devotion time. They can simply repeat the themes of camp as nightly reflections to carry them through a week or come up with their own prayer play.

### Prayer Suggestion

Say a prayer of blessing over your campers and ask God to be with them as they continue their spiritual journey.

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# Song Recommendations

Music is an important part of camp, and much of singing is communal. It helps create community and builds a “soundtrack” for the week. Repeating songs each day makes everyone feel connected, and even those who are not big singers can fall into familiar tunes and lyrics, even if it is only in their head. The following songs are recommendations to match the daily themes. Some match up theologically, while others are explicitly connected to the scripture. Some will work better in worship or a campfire. Others are better for background music in a worship experience. The age of your campers also impacts song selection. Have other suggestions? Let us know and we can share them online to help everyone’s camp experiences better. If you have video of your camp singing any of these, please share those too. We love to celebrate what God is up to in your camps!

## Peace Works

- “Over the Rainbow/Wonderful World” (Israel Kamakawiwo, 1993)
- “I’ve Got Peace Like a River” (Traditional)
- “Peace Train” (Cat Stevens, 1971)
- “I Can Only Imagine” (Mercy Me, 1999)
- “Let there Be Peace on Earth” (Hymn)
- “Give Peace A Chance” (Plastic Ono, 1969)
- “Imagine” (John Lennon, 1971)

## Day 1

- “A Part of the Family” (Hymn)
- “Table” (Andra Moran and Josh Elson, 2001)
- “The Welcome Table” (Hymn)
- “Grab Another Hand” (Traditional)
- “Table of Friendship and Love” (Bryan Sirchio, 1995)
- “Be Our Guest” (Disney’s *Beauty and the Beast*, 1991)
- “Big House” (Audio Adrenaline, 1993)
- “Come in, Come in and Sit Down” (Hymn)

- “Children Welcome” (David Edwards, 2015)

## Day 2

- “Weave” (Hymn)
- “One in the Spirit” (Hymn)
- “If We Are the Body” (Casting Crowns, 2003)
- “One Bread, One Body” (Hymn)
- “Come Together” (Beatles, 1969)
- “Get Together” (Youngbloods, 1967)
- “All the People Said Amen” (Matt Maher, 2013)
- “We’re All in This Together” (Cast of *High School Musical*, 2006)
- “One Love” (Bob Marley and the Wailers, 1965)
- “Turn the World Around” (Harry Belafonte, 1977)
- “Kids’ Peace Song” (Peter Alsop, 2015)
- “We Are the World” (USA for Africa, 1985)

## Day 3

- “These I Lay Down” (Hymn)
- “We Can Work It Out” (Beatles, 1965)
- “Peaceful World” (John Mellencamp, 2001)
- “Peace Love & Understanding” (Elvis Costello, 1979)
- “Belleau Wood” (Garth Brooks, 1997)
- “Kum Ba Ya” (Traditional)
- “Shalom My Friends” (Hymn)
- “Lift Every Voice and Sing” (Hymn)
- “We Shall Overcome” (Hymn)
- “You Can Do this Hard Thing” (Carrie Newcomer, 2016)
- “Long Hard Road” (Nathan Brooks, 2010)
- “My Life Flows On” (Hymn)
- “Take My Hand” (Hymn)
- “Lead on O Cloud of Presence” (Hymn)
- “We Didn’t Start the Fire” (Billy Joel, 1989)

## Day 4

- “Sister, Let Me Be Your servant” (Hymn)
- “Jesu, Jesu” (Hymn)
- “Dream God’s Dream” (Bryan Sirchio, 1995)
- “New Song (Number 40)” (Andra Moran and Josh Elson, 2001)
- “Heavy” (Birdtalker, 2016)
- “Love Rescue Me” (Bob Dylan/U2, 1988)
- “Pure” (Supercheck, 2010)
- “The Greatest Love of All” (Whitney Houston, 1986)
- “Bridge over Troubled Waters” (Simon and Garfunkel, 1970)
- “Day and Night” (Andra Moran and Josh Elson, 2001)
- “Where Were You?” (Alan Jackson, 2002)
- “Trading my Sorrows” (Darrell Evans, 1998)

## Day 5

- “Come and Find a Quiet Center” (Hymn)
- “The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow” (Hymn)
- “Sanctuary” (Carrie Newomer, 2016)
- “Sanctuary” (Traditional)
- “Amazing Grace/Peaceful Easy Feeling” (John Newton/Eagles)
- “Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult (Hymn)
- “Brave” (Sara Bareilles, 2013)
- “She Used to Be Mine” (Sara Bareilles, 2015)
- “Video” (India Arie, 2001)
- “This Is Me” (Keala Settle in *The Greatest Showman*, 2017)
- “Thankful” (Kelly Clarkson, 2003)
- “Man in the Mirror” (Michael Jackson, 1987)
- “Greet the Day” (Amy Grant, 2013)

## Day 6

- “If I Could Change the World” (Eric Clapton, 1996)
- “Lean on Me” (Bill Withers, 1972)
- “Talkin’ bout a Revolution” (Tracy Chapman, 2005)

- “With a Little Help from My Friends” (Beatles, 1967)
- “He Ain’t Heavy; He’s My Brother” (The Hollies, 1969)
- “I Can” (Nas, 2002)
- “Glory” (John Legend, 2015)
- “If I Had a Hammer” (The Weavers, 1950)
- “Marching to Zion” (Hymn)

## Day 7

- “We Are Walking in the Light of God (Siyahamba)” (Hymn)
- “Step by Step” (Rich Mullins, 1991)