



WORSHIP

DESIGN STUDIO

WDS

Dear friends,

I know you are in the midst of deciding about whether you will gather for worship on Sunday. Some of you have already made the decision to cancel your in-person services. But as my friend and WDS guest expert, Penny Nixon, says, you are not cancelling “church,” you are cancelling your service. The church is the people and there are many ways to gather and stay connected as “church” even if the precautions we must take in this time of pandemic keep us at a social distance.

Yesterday I decided to do a Facebook Live video on... well... doing Facebook Live (or YouTube or whatever live-streaming option you choose). I wanted to show you some ways to offer your folks the content of worship in a meaningful way that is still sensory-rich. You can see the video on the [Worship Design Studio Facebook page](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#). I hope it will give you some ideas about how you might create an authentic connection with folks and still continue the Lent journey already begun.



For those of you who are doing one of my series, please know that **you have permission to use any of the original materials, including the theme song, in live-streaming.** Please add this description somewhere in the comments or worship notes: "Worship series adapted from [name of series] © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series."

Having worship scripts done could offer you some real relief and content for your live-stream (whether you do that from the sanctuary or from home), and/or sending out the scripts themselves to church members. The small group or individual reflection pages are also great ways of encouraging people to continue the journey by sending materials in e-mails or having phone conference calls or Zoom meetings for small groups. [Here is a great example](#) of what WDS member church Claremont UMC is offering to help folks stay connected. They are doing the "Entering the Passion of Jesus" series.

I believe it is well worth the effort to figure out ways to let technology help us stay connected. Besides the health risks, this pandemic will create many other anxiety-producing effects such as economic struggle and isolation. We can do what we do best in this situation - continue to bring the strength of prayer and connection to the Holy One who is always with us and foster a sense of community and connection that also offers the strength we need.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any other way I can be of help to you. And if you are not already active on our social media, especially our Facebook groups, please "congregate" there so we can be in touch to support and create and share ideas with each other.

[Worship Design Studio FB page](#)
["Entering the Passion" FB page](#)
["Roll Down Justice" FB page](#)
["Listen" FB page](#)
["Busy" FB page](#)
["Gifts of the Dark Wood" FB page](#)

My prayers are with you all.



Peace and Passion,

Marcia McFee, Ph.D.

Creator and Visionary of the Worship
Design Studio

marcia@marciamcfee.com