



SVMC Sunday Worship Resources

Growing in knowledge. Rooted in Christ.

Call to Worship

One: Brothers and sisters, we gather in worship today with special remembrance for those called to set-apart ministry. In the words of Paul, “I urge you to offer your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice to God.”

All: Lord, help us worship you with our eyes and our ears; with our mouths and our hands. Because we are rooted in Christ, we give our whole selves to you.

One: Be transformed from the inside out by renewing your mind.

All: Lord, help us worship you with our hearts and our minds. Renew our thoughts as we grow in knowledge - that we may sharpen our focus on you.

One: You will be able to discern what God wills and whatever God finds good, pleasing, and complete.

All: Lord, show us your will for each one of us gathered for worship. Show us your will for our congregation. Help us to please you in our worship, in our service, in our educational endeavors, and in our daily lives.

-- Adapted from Romans 12:1-2 by SVMC Instructors and board members John Hess (So. PA District) and Joe Detrick (Atlantic Northeast District).

Invocation: (Unison)

O God, send your gracious Spirit on our leaders and upon us. Make us ready and willing to offer ourselves as a joyful sacrifice to your holy work. In our worship today, may we be transformed through the renewal of our minds and may we strive to grow more deeply rooted in your Son, the Living Christ. Amen.

Scripture:

Romans 12:1-2

¹Brothers and sisters, in light of all I have shared with you about God’s mercies, I urge you to offer your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice to God, a sacred offering that brings Him pleasure; this is your reasonable, essential worship. ²Do not allow this world to mold you in its own image. Instead, be transformed from the inside out by renewing your mind. As a result, you will be able to discern what God wills and whatever God finds good, pleasing, and complete.

Translation: *The Voice* (Ecclesia Bible Society, 2008)

Prayer: (A supplement to a longer, pastoral prayer.)

Holy Creator, we are all in a lifelong process of learning your ways. Guide us at each step to discern what is “good, and acceptable, and perfect.” Continue to call out leaders from among us and give them opportunities to grow in knowledge and develop their gifts for leadership. Let the wisdom of your Holy Spirit guide all of our lives so that we may faithfully continue the work of Jesus. Amen.

--Ann Bach, Former SVMC Board Member, Atlantic Northeast District

Invitation to give:

Wisdom, knowledge, and the resources to be more deeply rooted in Christ are some of the many blessings God has given us. Our tithes and offerings show our appreciation for these blessings. Let us give generously so that others can experience the blessings of renewed minds--and renewed souls.

--Kay Weaver, ACTS '15, Atlantic Northeast District

Suggested Hymns in Hymnal - A Worship Book:

Here I am, Lord	page 395	Renew Your Church	page 363
There are Many Gifts	page 304	Spirit of the Living God	page 349

Closing Prayer:

God of Hope, You have called us to be your ministers to a world that desperately needs the renewing, transforming power of the Good News. Lord, fill us with your joy and peace; let us overflow with hope by the power of Your Holy Spirit so we may bring that hope to your world. Nudge us upward and outward, Oh God, growing and learning together, rooted in Christ! And all God's people said, "Amen."

--Joy Derck, ACTS '15, Western PA District