

Forum #1 – Worship

Premises

- The building will look like a place of worship.
- There will be traditional and contemporary services.
- The worship will reflect the Lutheran understanding of worship.
- There will be an organ, a praise team, and a baptismal font
- The seating will be adaptable with growth – not 3000 the first year.

Question #1

We all understand that the place where we worship IS just a building, so....what does it mean to you when we say we want/need “sacred space.”

Table Responses:

Intimate, reverent, respectful space (4)

Place set aside to encounter God in prayer, worship, wedding, funeral, etc.

Place for worship only

Quiet with outside distractions removed (5)

Where you feel close to God

Welcoming/Attractive

Quiet during prayer time

Peaceful, reflective mood enhancement

Décor needs to be tasteful and related to sacred space, respectful – not flashy/showy

Not a gym (2)

Not just a stage (2)

Not multi-purpose place (5)

Stained glass – reproduce/take existing (6)

Stained glass – Christian design (5)

Religious Art

Move altar and/or pulpit & lectern

Visible sacred elements (2)

Prominent Cross/Cross (7)

Prominent Christian symbols (2)

Flexible seating

Limit distractions of Contemporary Set-up

Altar – focal point (8)

Altar – can be modern architecture, but reflect traditional focus

Eternal Candle (2)

Candles

Communion rail (3)

Kneelers (3)

Baptismal font at entrance of sanctuary
Baptismal font in dedicated space
Pulpit (4)
Music – not musicians as focal point
Choirs (2)
Comfortable (2)
Great sound system/Acoustics (6)

Question #2

*What is important for you to have in the area where you worship?
Because this isn't just about us...what might be important to a visitor in order to
find meaningful worship?*

Table Responses:

Look of a traditional sanctuary
Stained glass (7)
Area of reverence
Large narthex – to help people transition from entry to worship
Ample Bibles available (8) – larger print
Ample Hymnals available (2)
Screens (4) – hidden/off center
“Non-sacred” things should be subtle (screens, musical instruments, etc.)
Natural light (6)
Cathedral ceiling
Clear sound/good acoustics (8)
Access to hearing impaired equipment (2)
Good Signage (4)
Worship Order – Print/Visual
Climate Control - comfortable
Clear sight lines (7)
Handicapped section
Handicapped Accessible (4)
Easy access to seating (3)
More space between pews (5)
Many aisles (2)
Semi-Circle/angled seating and lots of aisles so you can get in/out (5)
Carpeted aisles
Definite traffic patterns with multiple exits/entrances (2)
Seating -need to consider comfort (6)
Pews, not chairs - padded (7)
No steps to communion
Wheel chair space
No distractions

Focal point – cross (2)
Prominent Cross (3)
Crosses throughout the sanctuary
Choir up front (4)
Praise band to the side (2)
All choirs/musicians to side in designated space (2)
Choir to the back
Grand piano (3)
Trained/helpful ushers
Handbells
Not cluttered (cables/wires)
Air control that doesn't focus on little spaces
Does not look like shell – need to be warm
Simple design
Gothic design
Balcony (2)
Nursery close by
Soft lighting
Controlled lighting (4)
Welcome center right before entering the sanctuary
Place for Signer – for the deaf
Communion Rail (2)
Multiple Communion Stations
Statement/Explanation of Beliefs Visible (2)
Kneelers (3)
Altar (2)
Transept/Chapel Area
Cry room (w/one-way glass) (2)
Greeters (starting with parking attendants)
Future “children’s church” area
Does not look like shell – need to be warm
Banners – scriptures
Artwork
Professional, sacred information

Question #3 – Music (as it relates to worship)

What type of physical space is necessary for both contemporary and traditional worship – both in the worship area and in other areas of the building?

Table Responses:

Area much like an orchestra pit that would lower during traditional service and rise during contemporary service, between pews and sacred area
Dedicated space for musicians with room to grow (2)

Two Choir lofts – Separate for music – traditional choir/praise/contemporary/bell choir/children's/LSA (2)
Choir and praise bands up front/to side – not in back (8)
Raised area in front for musicians
Praise team in front (altar, kneeling rail behind)
Choir to side or back with ample space
Musicians/Instruments not focal point (5)
Good visibility for worship leaders & organist
Space for soloists by accompaniment
Professional designed acoustics – must get it right! (3)
Music rooms for Children's music, youth music, bell choir
More places for hymnals
Music piped into other areas of building
Area for kids to line up for children's sermons or singing
Large space for drama, music ensembles, etc.

Question #4 – Technology (as it relates to worship)

What types of technology need to be incorporated into the worship space?

Table Responses:

Everything wireless (2)
Wireless microphones (3)
Wireless earphones for hearing impaired (3)
Hearing impaired sets in pews for better access
Headset microphones for all singers/speakers
Larger screens (and/or more screens) (8)
Retractable screens
Camouflaged screens
Video-compatible screens
State of the art lighting (4)
Video/audio recordings of services (worship/funeral/weddings) (4)
Technology systems that cannot be seen (5)
State of the art video equipment
Cry room with sound and visuals (2)
Visually pleasing sound system
Quality sound system – no dead spots (3)
Wi-Fi (2)
Audio/Video the service throughout the building (3)
Good video
Good speakers in fellowship area (3)
Permanent cameras covering all areas
Simulcast - streaming on web (2)
Tweet sermons
Plan for expansion

Theater technology

More trained AV people, camera, PowerPoint, etc. (2)

Accessible for sound person so they don't have to run all over the building on Sunday morning (2)

Sound tech – main floor – in back

Ability for pastor/organist/soloists/choirs to see pastors (screens/monitors)

Hi-fidelity

Hi-Definition

Monitors in nursery & other areas

Hand-held silent "beeper" for nursery & Sunday school

DVD recordings of services/events

Compatible systems

Kiosks with on-line to our website

More interactive technology

All activity in front on screens so all can see