

Songs2Serve

Intercultural worship to the *King* of the world

Liturgical Ideas

Songs2Serve is here to help worshipful communities in their pursuits of more culturally diverse music! What is your next step this month to radiate diversity?

Below you find an overview of liturgical possibilities regarding intercultural music and diverse creative ideas for a worship service. Starting from the old traditional way, growing to full integrated blending of worship styles and instruments. With an idea of the message you spread by choosing one or the other, and the (dis)advantages.

Share these possibilities in your teams and with your leadership and develop more vision and awareness for the choices you make!



Liturgical models:

- Traditional/common patterns in liturgy and songs: unity without diversity
 - Message: sing our songs, become used to our habits
 - Advantage: clarity
 - Disadvantage: Not hospitable
- Independent ethnic groups in your congregation: diversity without unity
 - Message: sing your songs in your group
 - Advantage: Ethnic groups have great value regarding mission
 - Disadvantage: missed opportunities in joint worship



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- Ethnic group performs on Sunday at stage: unity with invited diversity
 - Message: sing your songs for us
 - Advantage: appreciating a specific culture
 - Disadvantage: to miss a joint experience of worship
- Sundays are labelled with cultures: focus on diversity in joint experience
 - Message: we value each other's culture
 - Advantages:
 - congregation gets time to sing a multiple styles of music
 - individual music teams can focus on one style
 - there is shared leadership in choosing songs and structures
 - Disadvantages:
 - There is no clear musical identity
 - The teams themselves remain segregated
 - You need many good musicians
 - Lacks cohesion between cultures



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- Congregation chooses a certain 'average' style: Focus on joint experience in diversity
 - Message: our joint experience is important to us
 - Advantage:
 - Strong unified identity
 - Musicians can focus
 - Different people feel attracted to the music
 - Disadvantage:
 - Some people may feel they are a minority, feeling disconnected
 - Musicians and singers who do not know this style can hardly join
- Integrated music, constant blending: unity by mixed diversity
(Ethnic diverse music groups use music and instruments from the present diverse cultures)
 - Message: Let's sing each other's songs together
 - Advantages: - Unity in joint worship!
 - No dominant style, together and equal
 - Musicians and congregation develop skill in different styles and languages
 - Disadvantages: - It will cost time, efforts and good leadership to overcome diverse cultural obstacles
 - Musical identity of church can become unclear
 - Leaders may need high tolerance to chaos

