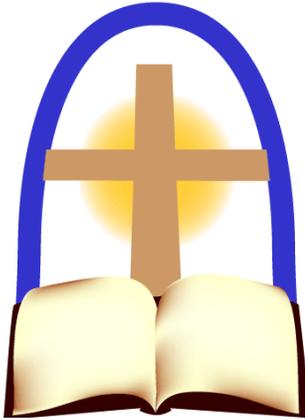


Morning Prayer

by *Kindra Back*

"Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary" (Mondays & Fridays, 8:30-9:30 am using North entrances) YOU are invited!
Read on...



For one hour two mornings a week for the past three years there have been a few individuals coming to the church sanctuary for a sweet time of worship-led prayer. What is "worship-led prayer" and how do we participate? Worship sessions from the archives of the International House of Prayer Kansas City (IHOPKC) Prayer Room are shown on the screens in front of the sanctuary. The sessions are called "*Worship with the Word*", which is devotional and reflective and cultivates a more intimate time with Jesus. In these sessions you may hear songs that you are very familiar with, and you are welcome to sing along! Other times you will hear newly-written songs and spontaneous songs that the worship team leading the session has been inspired to create on the spot by the leading of the Holy Spirit, always rooted in the Word of God.

What are ways to participate in this kind of worship? Some people love to just sit and listen to the words and meditate on them, allowing them to soak deep into the heart. Sometimes it's appropriate to walk around the sanctuary while singing or praying, especially if God has put a burden on your heart. Other times it's more appropriate to kneel or even lay down on the floor in worship before the King! I love to work on my Bible study homework during this time, and I can't even tell you how many times the scripture or song in the session correlates with what I'm studying. It is unbelievable and such a kiss from Heaven every time! You could also read another devotional or Christian book or write in a journal. Maybe you would like to dance or create some art!

You are free to do whatever helps you best engage your heart with God's; however, there are a few things this hour is not. It is not a typical "worship service": No one will be guiding you as to what to do next. It is not a fellowship time: We ask you to have any conversations outside of the sanctuary to respect others' prayer time. It's also not a group prayer meeting, where we share prayer requests and pray together – unless there is something particularly heavy on your heart; then it is appropriate to ask others to pray with you.

I don't know about you, but I struggled to have a consistent devotional life and focused time with the Lord until I started attending Morning Prayer at church. There is something unique about leaving your home and the distractions it holds to attend a time set apart for encounter and fellowship with God. It's also very special and healthy to do this as a church, getting to watch each other love Him and be loved by Him this way too. It can be very hard to quiet your mind, or put your phone down; but I know from experience that the more you do it the easier and more rewarding it is.



Come for 10 minutes or stay the whole hour. Come every time, once a week, or once a month. Whatever time you invest in your relationship with God you will not regret. I would love for you to join us! Feel free to ask me any questions. Those of us who attend Morning Prayer can't get enough. We want you to experience the same.

Be Blessed!