Ordinary Time Year C 2025 Part 2

Intergenerational Worship Ideas

27th Sunday Ordinary Time to Reign of Christ Sunday



Ordinary Time Ordinary People Extraordinary God

ordinary - <u>adjective</u> or·di·nary<u>'or-də-ˌner-ē</u>

: of a kind to be expected in the normal order of events : <u>routine</u>, <u>usual</u>, an ordinary day

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The actual term for ordinary time comes from the word "ordinal" and was simply a easier way of counting the Sundays through to Advent that were not significant feast days in the calendar

The goal of this series is to help build strong connections within your community and consider what every day faith looks like outside of Sunday morning.

This series encourages people to acknowledge that the ordinary parts of life are just as valuable as the 'highs' - and that God is present in our everyday, ordinary lives.

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Ordinary Time Year C 2025 Part 2

Introduction

This resource continues the ordinary time journey from 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time through to Reign of Christ Sunday (23 November 2025).

We are maintaining the practice in the previous series of having someone share a faith moment, opportunities to reflect or discuss and some creative expression.

In place of the handshapes we use a monarch butterfly, as they are known for traveling great distances. We drew on this idea to see how we are called to go out, to spread our wings, to go beyond ourselves reaching out to others.



This resource is designed to be a jumping off point to curate worship for your context by providing some consistent prompts for sharing, discussion and reflection – as well as a range of different ideas that you may want to incorporate.

Sharing Stories

By inviting different people to share stories that relate to the different themes, we help build a culture of listening and learning from others

Creating Together

A collaborative creation that is added to every week helps show the progression and growth that happens over a period of time

Building Community

Discussion and reflection questions and holding events outside of Sunday will help build relationship with one another

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Sharing Faith Stories Building Relationships

Sharing Faith Stories

It is well established in Intergenerational Ministry that a vital part of building community is in the sharing of faith stories. We can call this a **Faith Moment.**

Invite one person every week to share for not more than 3 minutes. Give them the faith moment and invite them to think of three answers:

- What is significant about this moment?
- Where was God in this moment?
- · What changed?

Ask people to prepare their words by writing them down and make sure they are using a microphone so they can be heard.

Invite people of different ages to share.

If you have artists in your midst you could invite them to create something in response to the theme and share that with your congregation.

Group questions/discussion

In each service there are prompts for group questions and discussions or reflections. We use the group questions earlier in the service, and then use the discusisons and reflections as a response to the scripture and any preaching.

Building Relationships

As well as your Sunday worship, use this ordinary time to plan additional gatherings to help foster these relationships.

Choose times that would work best for children and families and older people who may not like to be out when it's too dark, late afternoon works best especially if you are going to include a meal.

Ideas include:

- Shared meals
- Movie Nights
- Games Nights
- Prayer/Contemplation in small groups
- A study group to go deeper in the gospel readings.
- A creative group to paint panels or boards to go outside your church. You could add bible readings or reflections for people in the wider community to experience.
- As you gather, use conversation prompts to help people connect with one another.
- You may want to curate groups so people of different ages intentionally connect

Worship Planning & Leading

Intergenerational services lend themselves to the opportunity for people of differerent ages to create or lead different parts of the service. You may want to create a couple of small groups of differently-aged people or invite family/household groups to lead together, or you might want to shoulder tap people to do a small part of the service. We find that enabling people to lead from their seats/tables decreases some of the anxiety people can experience about speaking in front of others.

Collaborative

Inspiration







Continuing the Journey

Part one of this series had us creating a tree where we added a handprint every week to show our growth. If you have not done this from the first series, feel free to use it for this one.

Part two has us growing outward. We thought of the monarch butterfly and how they travel for thousands of kilometers and we decided that rather than handprints we would add butterflies. These butterflies represent our journey beyond the walls of our church. You may want to design a "path" that takes your butterflies to the door of your church or around the space or you may want to let it just happen organically.

By the end of our ordinary time season, our butterflies were all over the place, extra things had been added the wall, it was chaotically beautiful and a reminder that ordinary time can be the same.



Scripture Worship Stations Preaching

Scripture

Presenting Scripture in different ways is an important part of an intergenerational service. Sometimes it works best if a bible passage is simply read as is.

Other times because of length, subject matter or for variation using different ways of presenting Scripture is useful.

Other ideas can include:

- Using different voices to read different parts of the passage (invite different ages to read)
- Find scripts for dramas, puppets and other all age activities here www.allageworshipresources.org
- Use lostsheep.org.au for theologically sound renditions of scripture in cartoon format that is accessible for any age
- Lumo bible for gospel readings there are videos in multiple languages of all the gospels in several different translations
- Bible Explore at bibleexplore.nz often has different videos available
- Engage Worship at engageworship.org has a variety of different skits and worship ideas
- Use Lectio Divina or dwelling in the word, inviting people to share in small groups about what jumps out at them.
- Visio Divina offering the contemplation of art as part of Scripture presentation works well.
 - Sarah Lee West visiolectio.com
 - A Sanctified Art sanctifiedart.org
 - Art and Theology blog artandtheology.org
 - o Artway artway.eu

Worship Stations

Worship stations are a useful way of giving people an opportunity to explore scripture or themes in a different way.

If you do not have the space to do stations, then you could consider including the different activities as a full group activity.

You may need to adapt what else you are doing to provide sufficient time.

Preaching

Within all these services is the space to include some form of talk, homily or short sermon if you wish. You may want to tweak the reflections or questions depending on what jumps out for the preacher or something that is particularly meaningful to your context.

Being aware of your audience, consider what you want people to hear from your words. If there is a fascinating Hebrew or Greek word that has caught your attention, use that as a basis for wonder and reflection but be aware of time if you are doing more interactive components as they take longer.

The purpose of preaching is essentially to share the good news. It does not mean that it has to be from a pulpit or just words, we can share the good news in many different ways. For more ideas about intergenerational preaching, see David Csinos' book A Gospel for All Ages

Prayers for the series

Coming from an Anglican tradition, written prayers or liturgy are central to our worship and guide us through our service. Other denominations vary in their use of such prayers. Your faith tradition will guide you on whether you choose to use the different prayers here or throughout the material. If you use traditional liturgy, consider incorporating the creative ideas through the series into your worship and then completing them using your preferred prayers. This provides both a different way of praying and connecting with God as well as sharing the traditions and liturgy of your faith community.

Call to Worship

We come today
In our ordinary lives
With routines and disasters
Surprises and no surprise at all
Lives with happiness and sadness
And all of the rest in between
wrapped up together as
ordinary time

In this time we invite God in, into the boring, unremarkable places of our lives into the dusty corners of our everyday

For it is these places where we are, where we find ourselves, the running late, forgot-where-I-put-it selves, as well as the organised, have-got-on-top-of-it selves.

We trust that God cares for us in our ordinary lives,

we trust that in this ordinary time we will hear God's voice

Creator, Redeemer, Giver of Life
We welcome you into our lives today
Fill our hearts with hope
Remind us that our ordinary lives are
beloved by you.
Help us to hear your voice
Help us to follow your call on our lives.
Be with us in our worship
Amen

Blessing

May God lead you to places of rest and comfort May Jesus be with you in the valley May the Holy Spirit fill you to overflowing. And may you share this with all you meet

And as you go today may the blessing of the Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life be with you all **Amen.**



Mustard Seed Faith

27th Sunday Ordinary Time

Scripture and Themes

2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10

This session explores what having faith looks like and what we might do to get closer to God.

Group questions

How did you come by your faith? Was it a sudden conversion or a gradual dawning?

Discuss/Reflect

You will need - butterfly shapes to be coloured or decorated, colouring supplies. Our ordinary time tree is full with the journey that we have made so far... now we are spreading out, wider, bigger. We have chosen butterflies to represent this part of ordinary time... inspired by Monarch butterflies who have been known to travel thousands of kilometres each season. As we grow in our faith, we know more about God, about ourselves, about each other, we can spread out and go further.

What is something that we can do to share that mustard seed sized faith with someone else as someone may have done with us years ago.

Write down what you might do next on the butterfly and go and stick it up on the wall



Faith Moment

Share a time where you had to hold onto your faith really tightly.



Mustard Seed

You will need: Mustard Seeds in a small bowl I'll invite you to hold a mustard seed in your hand. They're hard to pick up aren't they? They are so small and seem to wiggle around as you try to get them. Allow time

Look at it in your hand.
Can you even see it?
Does it feel like anything at all?
It's the smallest seed you can imagine

Jesus said that we could move a mulberry tree with faith like a mustard seed, a mulberry tree is huge, it can dominate an area.

It doesn't seem like much faith does it? So small that we can hardly see or feel the seed in our hand

How often do we assume that we are not enough? Too old or not old enough? Not wise or learned enough? Not good enough?

In Timothy, Paul says that God gives us a Spirit of power, love and self control.

We have the power to change our actions and our tiny corner of the world.

We have the ability to love – without conditions

We have the ability to control what we do and when we do it, what we listen to and who speaks into our lives.

All we need is mustard seed faith, this tiny seed that we can barely feel and see. That is all we need.

The One Who Came Back

28th Sunday Ordinary Time

Scripture and Themes

Jeremiah 29:4-7 Luke 17:11-19

Today we will be exploring the story of the 10 lepers and the one who came back and reflecting on how often we do not notice God's work in our lives or also, what others do for us. We will spend some time today in gratitude.

Group questions

How important is gratitude and thankfulness? Do you engage in a regular gratitude practice?

Confession

Too often we don't notice the blessings you give us

Forgive us

To often we take other people's work and effort for granted

Forgive Us

To often we don't reflect on our lives and see how you have changed us or others **Forgive us.**

Follow with an absolution that is familiar for your community.



Faith Moment

Share about a time where God did something important in your life

A note about worship stations

You will need to consider how to support younger and older people when using worship stations. Some people might need some help and prompts. You may want to shoulder tap a few people who can be available to help people if needed. And while parents will often help their own children, it can be nice for another adult or young person to go alongside a child and assist. The same can go for people who might have mobility issues or cognitive issues, having others who are happy to explain, help and assist.

Each station needs to have written instructions of what to do. I find menu holders useful or you could use blu-tac or similar to attach them to a wall.

To introduce the stations and what people have to do it is also useful go go around each one to show people where they are and briefly say what they do.

If moving around the church isn't an option then you can adapt this to corporate worship - providing the papers/pens, passing around a basket of grapes through the service, setting up candle lighting to occur during the communion time or, if it is your normal practice, having a prompt for reflection at your candle lighting station.

The One Who Came Back (2)

28th Sunday Ordinary Time

Worship Stations

Meeting Jesus Part 1

We will need: sand tray, candles, instructions

Last week we remembered people who had been instrumental in sharing their faith with us. Do you remember a time when you first realised who Jesus was or how much Jesus meant to you?

The 10 men in the story today saw Jesus for the first time, and, realising who he was, asked to be healed.

Light a candle and thank Jesus for meeting you (if you are not sure that you have ever 'met' Jesus, ask Jesus to meet you).

Meeting Jesus Part 2

We will need: paper, pens, gift bag

As you meet Jesus in your life journey, and specifically today, what comes to mind when you think about:

- One question you would ask Jesus
- One gift you would give Jesus
- One person you would want to introduce to Jesus.

Take some time to think and then write your response. You can put your piece of paper in the gift bag or you can take it with you.

Showing gratitude to Jesus

We will need: instructions, plate with grapes on it

Like the one person who returned to thank Jesus for healing, how do you live out gratitude to Jesus in your daily life?
Take a grape and eat it, savouring the sweetness and the abundance of God's love for you. Say a short prayer of thanksgiving. Make a commitment to practicing gratitude on a daily or weekly basis.

Showing Gratitude to Others

We will need: Instructions, heart-folding instructions, scrapbook paper cut into squares, pens

There are so many people in our church who spend their time and energy serving God and us in the church. Most of the time people are happy to give their resources of time and energy to us without anything in return, and it is important that we do not take their efforts and ministry for granted.

Write a short note of thanks on a square of paper and fold it into a heart. Write the person's name on the front. If you want us to give it to them, pop it in the basket making sure their name is easily seen (and last name too if there is more than one person with that name), or you are welcome to give it to them yourself.

Praying others will know Jesus

We will need: instructions, colouring pencils, butterfly shapes (coloured and plain)

Think of someone you know who might not know Jesus or maybe has wandered off a bit. As you colour the butterfly, pray for them and then stick your butterfly to the wall, imagining that your love and prayers are going towards that person.



Written On Our hearts

29th Sunday Ordinary Time

Scripture and Themes

Luke 18:1-8 Jeremiah 31:31-34

Today in Jeremiah we are reminded that God would write laws on our hearts and minds and in the gospel reading from Luke we have the woman who persistently demanded justice, and reminded how we must persevere in our prayers.

Confession

Creator God - Sometimes we forget that you created the world and all that is it in. We take and take without thought, we damage your world and hurt others.

Forgive Us

Saviour Jesus - Sometimes we forget your command to love others. We exclude and we blame, we point out the speck of dust in another eye without removing the branch from our own. We fail to remember the meaning of your sacrifice

Forgive Us

Holy Spirit - Sometimes we ignore your prompting in our heart, sometimes we refuse to see the work you do through others in the world. Sometimes we are so busy listening to our own voices that we fail to hear yours. **Forgive Us.**

Through the cross of Christ, God the Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life forgives you, forgive others, forgive yourself.

Help us to write your words on our hearts Amen.

Group questions

You will need: a large heart shape per group of people, colouring pens/pencils
You will notice a large heart on your table. Use this heart to write things you know about God, whether from the bible or what you have been told. Decorate and illustrate the heart (you can keep doing this through the service).

Faith Moment

Share about a time where you had an answer to a persistent prayer

Reflection

Here is the new agreement that I, the Lord, will make with the people of Israel: "I will write my laws on their hearts and minds.
I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Jeremiah 31:33

What will you write on your heart today? What is a promise or a truth that you need to be reminded of? Write this truth on a butterfly and stick it to the wall

Prayers

You will need: paper, pens/pencils

Everyone take a piece of paper and pen. take turns going around in your group and answer these questions:

- Is there something you would like prayer for today?
- Is there something happening in the wider community or world that you would like to pray for, particularly around injustice.

Write down everyones responses to these questions, just make a little note with one or two words. If someone needs help writing, offer to help.

In your group pray together for everything that people have mentioned.

Commit to praying for these things as a group each day this week, during next weeks sharing time, feel free to share if you had any answers to prayer.

Pharisee & Taxman

30th Sunday Ordinary Time



Luke 18:9-14 Joel 2:23-32

God's call to people of all ages to serve together and how humility is a vital part of being intergenerational.

For more reflection on humility, read the chapter on Humility in *Being an intergenerational church* by Darren Philip and Suzi Farrant.

Scripture Presentation

The gospel reading would lend itself well to imagination contemplation or to be acted out by two different people. The Joel reading could be divided among different aged people.

Group Discussion

You wish to have copies of the reading, marked bibles or invite people to re-read the scripture on their phones.

Considering the Luke reading, in what ways does our community benefit from humility (people being humble) as we seek to be more intergenerational?

Look at the Joel reading again... what kind of world does this imagine?
What promise jumps out at you today?

Allow time for all ages and generations to talk.



Faith Moment

Share about a time where you were able to work together with a diverse range of people.

Group question

Last week you were encouraged to pray for the other people at your table. Did you experience any answer to prayer? How did you get on praying daily for everyone?

Intercessions

For those who are lonely, sick and tired **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who are stressed and anxious **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who live in places of war and violence

Lord hear our prayer

For those who seek to bring peace and healing

Lord hear our prayer

For those who are leading our cities and our country

Lord hear our prayer

For those who lead our church **Lord hear our prayer**

Reflection

While we listen to this song by Paul Baloche, think of what God is challenging you today? What promise are you holding on to? Write these on a butterfly and stick them on the wall. Play Same Love by Paul Baloche

Zaccheus

31st Sunday Ordinary Time

Scripture and Themes

Habakkuk 1:1-4 Luke 19:1-10

We will be exploring the connections of justice that come up in these two passages, as well as acknowledging All Saints Day.

Lost Sheep has a story available called Zac the Tax Man.

Group Questions

You will need: M&M's for everyone to eat

Red - Something difficult that happened Yellow - Something great that happened

Blue - Something you learned

Brown - Food you enjoyed

Green - Something that you are looking **Orange** - Something you read or listened

Group Discussion

Can you think of an issue of injustice in the world today that is important to you. What would it look like if true justice flowed into that situation? What would restitution look like?

Talk about this in your groups. As you do, write your justice issue on your butterfly and attach it to the wall as prayer for justice.

Other ideas

Consider using liturgy related to the scripture, check out https://re-worship.blogspot.com/ and click on Proper 26.



Share about a justice issue you are involved in.

All Saints Day

The 1st November is All Saints Day, when we particularly remember the people who have passed away this year, as well as those we love who are no longer with us.

One of the readings for All Saints Day is from Hebrews 12:22-24, and it reminds us what eternity might look like:

"You have now come to Mount Zion and to the heavenly Jerusalem. This is the city of the living God, where thousands and thousands of angels have come to celebrate. ²³ Here you will find all of God's dearest children, whose names are written in heaven. And you will find God himself, who judges everyone. Here also are the spirits of those good people who have been made perfect. ²⁴ And Jesus is here! He is the one who makes God's new agreement with us, and his sprinkled blood says much better things than the blood of Abel."

If you have someone you would like to remember today, whether they passed away recently or a while ago, I invite you to come up and light a candle. If you would like to share their name, I will be here with the microphone.

Allow time

Pray together to finish:

Lord we thank you for your promises of your eternal kingdom
Be with those who are grieving the loss of their loved ones today
Help us to remember your promises of hope and peace.

In Jesus name we pray, Amen.



Generational Faith

32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Scripture and Themes

Luke 20:27-38 Job 19:23-27 Haggai 1:15-2:9 Psalm 145

There can be discouragement but also hope, we come from a long line of faithful people, we can give thanks for that.

Group question

Share highlights and lowlights of your week

Confession

We come to a time of confession, remembering the times we have failed to reflect God's love in the world.

Creator God - Sometimes we forget that you created the world and all that is it in. We take and take without thought, we damage your world and hurt others.

Forgive us

Saviour Jesus - Sometimes we forget your command to love others. We exclude and we blame, we point out the speck of dust in another eye without removing the branch from our own. We fail to remember the meaning of your sacrifice

Forgive us

Holy Spirit - Sometimes we ignore your prompting in our heart, sometimes we refuse to see the work you do through others in the world. Sometimes we are so busy listening to our own voices that we fail to hear yours.

Forgive us.

Absolution

Through the cross of Christ, God the Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life forgives you, forgive others, forgive yourself. **Amen.**

Faith Moment

Share about someone in your family who inspired you in your faith journey

Prayers

For those who are lonely, sick and tired **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who are stressed and anxious **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who are sad and grieving **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who live in places of war and violence **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who seek to bring peace and healing **Lord hear our prayer**

For those who are leading our cities and our country

Lord hear our prayer

For those who lead our church **Lord hear our prayer**

Group Reflection

Using the link below, engage the congregation in a group reflection of all the generations inspired by Psalm 145. You may wish to present the Psalm here rather than reading it with the other readings (this may take some time so make sure you allow for that). https://www.engageworship.org/ideas/generations-meditation-psalm-145

When this has finished you invite people to write the name of someone who they will pass their faith to on a butterfly, pray for them and sitck it on the wall.

New Hope

33rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Scripture and Themes

Luke 21:5-19 Isaiah 65:17-25

There are and will be times of difficulty but there is also the hope of what is to come.

Introduction

To introduce the idea of both facing difficulty and holding onto hope through a excerpt from Lord of the Rings.

I was reminded of this scene in Lord of the Rings, the Two Towers, where Frodo, during his quest to return the ring to the fire, is being held captive and has lost all hope, and Samwise speaks some powerful words.

Show video https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=AlyYBtASteQ

Our ordinary lives can be difficult. Jesus is pretty honest when he tells us that there will be difficult times. So how do we hold onto hope during these hard times? What promises can we hold onto?

Group Question

You will need: A3 size paper with a large picture of the earth on it, drawing materials for each group

On your paper today you will notice the earth. Our readings todays are quite prophetic, telling us what will come about and the Isaiah reading is about a new earth. If we had a new earth today what would you like to see? What would you like a new earth to look like? Take some time now to brainstorm in your groups and write down everyones ideas (there are no wrong answers either).

Faith Moment

Share a about a time where the future seemed overwhelming, what did you do.

Reflection

The gospel reading is quite a serious one, one that foretells great hardship and difficulty alongside the promise of protection and hope for something new. The things of this world, the buildings we have built, the monuments we create to other people, to ourselves and what we value, will fall away. It is a hard thing to hear and a challenge.

And then there is the hope presented in Isaiah of what a new earth would look like, a world where babies will not die, where old people would not either, where people would have time to both plant vineyard sand then eat and drink from it later, years later once all the vines have matured and been cared for to produce fruit. This is not a short term, instant, superficial hope but a long deep hope of a world that lasts.

Butterflies are often a sign of new life and new birth. Something has changed and transformed. Thinking about your brainstorming earlier, the readings and sermon, what transformation are you going to seek for yourself and your world this week? What hope are you holding onto?

Write it down on your butterfly and put it on the wall.

Intercessions

Identify some local and international issues that are important to your community. Print out some pictures to help with prompting and invite people to pray in groups for hope and transformation.



Reign of Christ/ Celebration

34th Sunday Ordinary Time



Luke 1:68-79 Colossians 1:11-20

Celebrate the end of the year by giving thanks for what God has done

You might already have a time where you celebrate your community, if you don't, consider using this week as a time to come together and have a bit of a "end of year" celebration.

Celebration

As part of our practice, every year on Reign of Christ Sunday we review our year. We include:

- a slide show with pictures of the different parts of our ministry, including our worship.
- Invite people to go around the room and share something they are grateful for
- decorate the space with bunting, streamers.
- organise a shared lunch

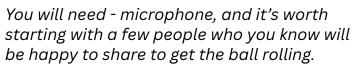
Reflection

Reflecting on the future...

- what is something that you are being prompted to do?
- Is there something that is stirring within you?
- Is God telling you something and you are not sure how to respond?

Write it on your butterfly and place it on our tree... our tree that is spreading out into a glorious chaos.

Group Sharing



Reign of Christ is traditionally the end of the church year, so in that spirit we will we give thanks for what God has done for us and our community. It has been, as other years have been, a year of ups and downs and also a time where we have seen God work in our lives.

So I will invite you know to think of something that has happened this year that you are thankful for and we will take turns to share that. I will begin... I am thankful for....

Stir It Up Intercessions

Stir it up Sunday is traditionally on Reign of Christ Sunday. It is a time where you can make Christmas fruit mincemeat or a Christmas cake together.

Stir It Up works particularly well for intercessions, creating fruit mince meat/cake while using prayer prompts to pray for different issues.

You will need to plan ahead to have all the ingredients and utensils needed but it can be a lovely way of connecting and learning. Get people to bring jars and everyone gets to take home some fruit mincemeat.

You can download more information including prayer prompts and recipes at https://aucklandanglican.org.nz/intergenerational-ministry/



