

Virtual Liturgy

How to host a worship gathering on Zoom

Inviting people

- Create a scheduled meeting on Zoom or simply use your personal meeting ID for a room.
- Copy the invitation and send it out to your group via email or text message.
- If there are people in your group who are unfamiliar with Zoom, send them to <https://victorypoint.org/connect/worship-gatherings/zoom-faq/> for a quick troubleshooting guide.
- Initiate the Zoom call a couple minutes before your scheduled time to welcome people as they come in and make sure your video and audio work.
- If you expect to have more than 6 people join you and you also plan to have in-depth discussion, [enable Breakout Rooms on your Zoom profile settings](#).

Gathering People

- People will not all show up at once. Have a list nearby of all the people you are expecting so you can make decisions about when to begin.
- Once you have everyone there, welcome everyone.
- Note the size of the group.
 - You'll notice there might be some awkwardness if there are more than 6 cameras on the call. Lots of silence is to be expected. First of all, they don't want to be embarrassed by talking over someone else. Second of all, they can't "read the room" to know whether it's safe to share.
 - If there are more than 6 cameras, you'll have to do some facilitating. Either call on people so they know it's their turn, or organize Zoom Breakout Rooms for people.
 - As the host of the call, you can jump between groups (mute audio and video to be as unobstructive as possible) to see how things are going.
 - Click "close breakout groups) to initiate a timer and invite people to rejoin the main session.
- If there are fewer than 6 cameras, plan on a pretty natural flow of conversation. Pray for your time together.
- Invite people to check in. Give them a simple prompt to help them break the ice.
 - "What are you thankful for today?"
 - "What has been challenging for you today?"
 - "Where are you seeing God today?"
 - Read a short scripture passage and have them respond. Psalms are good.

- As people share, give some response to let them know they were heard.
- Alternately, have someone play some music and lead out in worship. Mute everyone to make sure they don't feel self-conscious about singing out loud. Music is not necessary to worship, but it can be a blessing to the group.

Teaching

- Introduce a scripture passage and why it was chosen.
- Read the scripture passage, or better yet, have someone else read it.
- Take 10 minutes to share your own thoughts, questions and reflections about the passage.
 - Where is there trouble/conflict/challenge within this passage?
 - What is troubling/conflicting/challenging *you* about this passage?
 - Where is there grace/hope/salvation within this passage?
 - How has this passage spoken grace/hope/salvation to *you*?

Discussion

- Introduce 2-3 questions and invite discussion.
 - What is getting your attention about this passage?
 - How does this challenge you?
 - What is one thing you can do in response to this passage?
 - Who could you share this passage with?
- Again, if there are more than 6 cameras, your discussion is going to be greatly improved with Breakout Rooms.
- As you approach 10 minutes left in your gathering, draw people back together (and close the breakout rooms). Ask people to share what they heard from *others*. This is an exercise that ensures that the introverts are amplified and the extroverts practice listening.

House-keeping

- Leave plenty of time to discuss logistics.
- When is your next gathering?
- What is happening between now and then?
- What shall we be praying for?

Prayer and Dismissal

- Pray for the group, or alternately, ask a specific person to pray for everyone.
- As people are waving goodbye, click "End Meeting for All".