**Orders of Service**

Below is described an option for an order of service for a regular Sunday service that does not include Communion, baptism or other special events. It gives a general guide to a traditional form of ordered worship. Specific litanies and prayers can be obtained using the links on our web site Resources page (see below).

The Uniting Church in its publication, *Uniting in Worship 2 (© The Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia 2005, Uniting Church Press, Sydney*), have a range of orders, including the following order. It is a good starting point. The parts in bold describe the section of the service that are listed below it. Headings with the symbol  are considered essential. As mentioned above, they can be done in a variety of ways in addition to the traditional use of words. There are links listed below that may be of use in providing litanies and creative ideas for the service you create.

**The Gathering of the People of God**

Call to worship

Hymn

Greeting

Prayers of adoration and confession Declaration of forgiveness

Doxology

**The Service of the Word**

First reading

Psalm

Second reading

Gospel

Hymn

Preaching of the Word

Affirmation of faith

Hymn

Offering

Notices and concerns of the Church

Prayers of the people The Lord’s Prayer

**The Sending Forth of the People of God**

Hymn

Word of mission

Blessing

Dismissal

This order can also be used as a guide for more creative options. Hymns and songs can be used as prayers. They can also be inserted as responses and reflections. Audio-visual material, including videos, slide shows, listening songs as well as symbolic actions can be used in worship instead of tradition written and spoken litanies. Story-telling, personal responses, the sharing of experiences and discussion can all be helpful. Incorporating a balance between visual, auditory and kinaesthetic elements can engage and enable deeper worship. Likewise, including a balance between space for silence as well as engagement and noise can allow the worship to be inclusive.

As you prepare to lead the worship, begin with prayer, listening for the leading of God’s Spirit. Use the resource, Preparation Guide for Services, available on the resources page of our web site to help in your reflections. (The direct link is: [*https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/b39fcd\_4e3a1d59a93145708b168b840b80c7bc.docx?dn=Preparation%20guide%20for%20services.docx*](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/b39fcd_4e3a1d59a93145708b168b840b80c7bc.docx?dn=Preparation%20guide%20for%20services.docx)*.*)

See the **Resources page** of our web site,[*https://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/resources-and-event-diary*](https://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/resources-and-event-diary) for links to specific litanies, prayers and creative ideas.

If you have any questions or would like some assistance in preparing a service, contact Rev Peter on 0418 570 013 or via email, [revpeterc@gmail.com](mailto:revpeterc@gmail.com). If you have not prepared a service previously, doing so in the presence of an experienced person can be helpful.