



**CANADIAN
BAPTISTS**
of Ontario
and Quebec

CBOQ
SUNDAY

WORSHIP RESOURCES
2017

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Gathering

God calls us into relationship, abundant life and holiness. We are invited to join together as a community to worship the living God, regardless of where we are in our spiritual journey. We gather to encourage our sisters and brothers in Christ to remain faithful.

Come, let us bow down in worship.

Psalm 95:6

Call to Worship (Option 1)

We gather here today to worship
We gather because for us to live is Christ
We join with all of creation
We join with all living creatures
We join with the rocks and the trees
We join with the angels in the heavenlies
Saying holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty

We join with our sisters and brothers in Quebec
We join with our brothers and sisters in Ontario
We join with friends throughout [our region/association]
We join with friends throughout [this city/town] Saying holy,
holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.

Call to Worship (Option 2)

A call to worship based on Psalm 95 (Said in canon.)

Leader: Come let us gather to praise the Lord
People: We gather in the name of the Lord
Leader: Let us come before the Lord with music and song
People: We gather to worship the Lord
Leader: Let us remember the Rock of Ages
People: We gather to joyfully praise

All: We worship and bow down
We kneel before our maker
He cares for us all
He loves us so dearly

Men: Let us give of our best to Him who saves
Women: We gather to lift up our hearts
Men: Let us call on the King above all gods
Women: We gather to honour his great Name
Men: Let us seek him who made the great heights
Women: We gather to worship our creator

All: We worship and bow down
We kneel before our maker
He cares for us all
He loves us so dearly

Call to Worship (Option 3)

We want to be open to your leading
We want to be open to you receive from you
We want to be open to hear your word for us
Take our pains
Take our distractions Take our frustrations

Will you do something in me today? Will you do something
in us today? You are holy, just and gracious Today we worship
you.

Call to Worship (Creative Ideas)

- Choose a simple song, or very familiar scripture verse and invite people to sing/say the verse together in their first language.
- Set up some chalkboards or whiteboards at the front or side of the worship space and have people come forward and prayerfully write a word or phrase that speaks of God's character.
- Before beginning a gathering prayer, invite people to close their eyes, take a few depth breaths so their mind can slow down and heart open up to what God's Spirit might have to say to them today.
- Palms Down and Palms Up
Give people a moment of silence. Invite them to turn their palms to the floor as a physical reminder of what they want to leave with God (that which is heavy on their mind or heart). After a few seconds invite people to turn over their hands so their palms are raised up and invite them to consider how they want their hearts to hear from God today.



About CBOQ

What does it mean to be a part of a family of churches? When we are autonomous, how does connectedness help? We have prepared some resources for you to share with your congregation as you think through how to encourage your church members to participate in CBOQ Sunday.

So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:5

Video

By the last week of February, you will be able to view or download a video by our Canadian Baptist family sharing what they love about their churches. We hope you will share the video with your church to help them understand how they're a part of this incredible family. Find the videos at baptist.ca/cboqsunday or vimeo.com/cboq.

- How your church has joined another church for a special service
- The way God used CBOQ to draw them towards God.
- The way that God used your church to transform them.
- Have a youth share about Blizzard or Avalanche
- "Ways that the CBOQ has supported _____ Baptist Church..."

Magazine

Your church will have received copies of The Canadian Baptist's special CBOQ Sunday edition. Please encourage your congregation to read it and share it.

"I love my church because..."

If you missed your chance to be in the video, now is your opportunity to let your church family know why you value them. What is it that keeps you coming back?

Story or Testimony

Invite one or two people to tell a testimony / story of the importance of your church being in relationship with another CBOQ church. Some examples could include:

- How your youth have gathered with youth from a sister baptist church.

Is there someone in your church or on your leadership team that could say what they love about being a part of your church?





Word

Christ calls us to live transformed lives. We gather around the Word of God during worship. We open ourselves to the Word so our hearts and minds will be renewed. While some exercise gifts of teaching and preaching, we all seek to mature as hearers and doers of the word.

Let the message of Christ dwell among you.
Colossians 3:16

Prayer for CBOQ (Option 1)

Your family of churches and the staff that serve it need your prayers! Please pray for:

- **Your family of churches.** That we would be known for how well we love one another and the communities in which we're planted.
- **Board of Directors.** Please thank God for these faithful volunteers as they direct and protect CBOQ.
- **Staff.** Pray that we would be able to provide daily support and encouragement for our churches and their leaders—that we would be able to respond well to the needs of our churches.
- **Finances.** Pray that we would continue to be responsible stewards of the contributions of our member churches and donors.
- **Renewal.** Please pray that God will continue to pour out his Holy Spirit that we might see new and renewed congregations bursting forth with the gospel and experiencing continual life-change among their members.
- **Partners in mission.** Please pray for our sister ministries across Canada—our fellow Canadian Baptist denominations, our partner academic institutions and Canadian Baptist Ministries—as we adapt to changing cultural contexts.

Prayer of Assurance (Option 2)

Our God is faithful to fulfil the promises of his Word.

We have confessed our sins.

God has forgiven us,

because Christ died for us. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Option 3)

Invite each person to come forward and draw round their hands onto a sheet of colored paper. Then ask them to write their name in the middle of their hand print as a way of saying that after confessing their sin they are identifying with Christ. They may also want to write a few words of thankfulness to God on the impression of their hand. The following words of encouragement could be read as people do this.

“Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord: Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; Though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool.” (Isaiah 1:18) ‘But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.’ (1 John 1:9)

Scripture:

Choose a shorter passage and invite several people to read in their first language.





Youth

CBOQ Sunday is an opportunity for **everyone** in the church to celebrate God's movement within and through our Canadian Baptist churches. We know many of you have creative ways to showcase some highlights of how God is leading in your community and by extension where God is leading our tribe called Canadian Baptists. We want your stories and "flavour" in our celebrations. These are some suggestions you could do. If you've got other ideas, share them with your youth leader or pastor!

Student Panel

Some people in your congregation may not know what it means to be a teenager today. Ask some of your congregation's youth to share their experiences through a panel interview hosted by a facilitator with the congregation. Take about 10 minutes to allow your youth to share some insights on what their world is like. Also, if they have been to some CBOQ Youth events, ask them to share how that has impacted them. Some are suggested questions:

- What's the best part of being your age right now?
- What is the biggest struggle/challenge for either you or your friends?
- You've been to [CBOQ Youth event]. How has that influenced your faith journey so far?
- What are ways we could work with other Canadian Baptist churches in making a difference in this world for Jesus?

Memes

With the help of those planning the worship service that day, create memes that can be used in the service (e.g. for announcements, musical worship, sermon, etc.) or even displayed around the church (e.g. a meme for the nursery, for the pastor's office).

You can also take some of the pictures on the CBOQ Youth Facebook page to create memes from those experiences and post them in your church.

Social Media

On that Sunday, CBOQ will be using #cboqsunday. You and your friends can capture and share some highlights from your celebrations via Twitter, Instagram or Facebook (@cboqyouth). You can also showcase some tweets/posts from others during your service. (Imagine a live feed that shows what some of our communities are doing in real time!)

"Street Question" Videos

For those who like to plan ahead get out your smart phones and film some of your church member's answers to questions like these:

- When you think of [church name], what word or image comes to come?
- What's your favourite memory about [church name]?
- Where do you think God is taking this church in five years?
- What are ways we could partner with other Canadian Baptist churches to impact the world for Jesus?

Poster Design

Self-explanatory: design a poster that celebrates your church's Canadian Baptist influence in your neighbourhood. You can also add content about CBOQ from baptist.ca.

You are part of our CBOQ family. Share your gifts as we celebrate together where God has led us, and where he'll take us from here.



Response

The Holy Spirit unites us with the Trinity and each other. We are reminded of this when we gather for communion, in baptism and as we respond to God's invitation to life. There is something powerful when we are in an atmosphere of collective and individual prayerful response. It is a space where we are able to discern God's leading and direction so that our intimacy with God can blessing others.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
James 1:22

Prayer Stations

While this might not work for every congregation, some churches have found it meaningful to set up prayer stations or prayer activities around the sanctuary. These stations can be made in any number of creative way. There might be a table set up with a prayer that can be read or to write down something they want to give over to God and then put that piece of paper in a bowl of water to be reminded of our baptism. There are all kinds of ways that this can look. One pastor indicated that it was the oldest member of the church who requested more of these stations, "It is so great when we have to get out of our seats and do the various stations, even with my walker." While it might feel a bit chaotic at times, it can be a beautiful chaos.

Newspaper Cross

- Gather newspapers before the service
- Tape them onto the floor in the shape of a giant cross
- Hand out black markers and invite people to write a prayer on the cross
- The cross represents the needs of our two provinces or city
- Peoples hands may have some black ink from the newspapers and/or from the markers
- Have baby wipes or hand sanitizers at a table
- Invite people to keep their hands dirty for a few minutes to remember that our hands are black but that through the cross we are clean because of what Christ has done for us. Then collectively invite people after a few minutes to wipe their hands clean.

Responsive Prayer Ideas

Prayer Map Activity

- Get a map(s) of Ontario, Quebec, your city/town or region
- Pin it up on a movable pegboard and place it at the front of the worship space or on the side
- Provide people with pens/pencils and small pieces of paper—have people write a short prayer for your province, town or region.
- Have people walk forward and prayerfully place it on the map.

10,000 Reasons

- Put a table at the front or in multiple stations around your sanctuary
- Have pieces of paper and pens on it and have people write something they are thankful for on their paper and stick it on a wall or on a cross or on a movable pegboard.
- Sing the song 10,000 Reasons

Communion of Abundance

This may not work with every church for various reasons.

Usually when we do a communion service we eat a small piece of bread and drink a small cup. You could serve communion as usual or make it a communion of abundance. Place an actual feast of food at tables at the front of the sanctuary. You can keep the food under a tablecloth. It can serve as a reminder that Christ's death and resurrection is a reminder that we share in the abundance of God's provision.

Offering

Please consider taking up a special offering for the work of CBOQ and your family of churches this Sunday. Your gifts will be used to continue to resource and support your community. We are deeply grateful for your sacrificial giving above and beyond your membership contributions.



Targum

Targums were originally used by rabbis in the ancient world as spoken paraphrases, explanations and expansions of the Jewish scriptures in the common language of the listeners, which during the time of this practice was commonly, but not exclusively, Aramaic. The Psalm 104 targum below could be read by two people. One could read the scripture passage (plain font) and another person could read the Targum (bold font). This targum was written by the worship leader Glen Soderholm.

O Lord how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all
The earth is full of your creatures.

**O Lord, what I see before me has me reaching for the
calculator
The stethoscope and the observatory telescope
because I'm astonished
By the detail and expanse of what you have made.**

Yonder is the sea, great and wide
Living things both small and great

**Over there is the city, stretching out and up
[Full of parking spots], [Jackson Square] and the
[James Street Art Crawl], people with their dogs,
and people with their stories**
[Feel free to include some places from your town/city]

These all look to you to give them their food in due season
When you give to them, they gather it up
When you open your hand they are filled with good things

**Every person and element is needy, scrambling to fit in
Then ravenous when something good comes their way
Suspecting there might be a source of goodness
somewhere beyond them.**

When you hide your face they are dismayed
When you take your breath away, they die
And return to their dust

**When the good times stop rolling, it's empty and bleak
We're knocked into an epidemic of insecurity,
depression, and fragility**

When you send forth your spirit, they are created
And you renew the face of the ground

**When your reconciling energy comes around again,
the clouds are cleared away
We see the possibility of a way through**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever
May the Lord rejoice in his works
Who looks on the earth and it trembles
Who touches the mountains and they smoke

**Keep coming around, O Spirit of God
Because when you inhabit neighbourhoods and streets
Parks and splash pads
There's a buzz that is unquenchable
A shimmering in the air we can't push away**

I will sing to the lord as long as I live
May my meditation be pleasing to him

**There's a summer cruising song that we
Can't get out of our minds
As we keep humming it, may it make you smile.**





Sending

The Church is Christ's partner in earthly ministry. We don't exist for ourselves, our church community or to make us feel good. Rather we exist to live faithfully present in our own contexts serving the spiritual and material needs of those around us in Christ's name.

Jesus said to them again,

“Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

John 20:21

Benediction (Option 1)

Leader: It is the Lord who fills you with hope and peace. And all God's people said:

Congregation: Amen. Let it be so

Leader: Go now in his name.

May you now abound in every good work. And all God's people said:

Congregation: Amen. Let it be so

Leader: Go now and live for his praise.

It is the Lord who fills you with power through the Holy Spirit

And all God's people said:

Congregation: Amen. Let it be so

Leader: Go now and walk in his ways.

Congregation: Amen and amen

Benediction (Option 2)

And now as you go... Into your neighbourhoods And into your work places Into your schools

And into your favorite spaces

You go in the grace of the Almighty Father You go in the hope of the Resurrected Christ You go in the freedom of the Holy Spirit

Who has delivered you and saved you so that you may be a blessing to others

Benediction from 2 John 3 (Option 3)

Go now and be

Open to where God's Spirit may be leading you Open to receiving those who are hurt and broken Open to welcoming the stranger

Open to sharing the Good News

Open to the gift of grace that others may extend to you And may God be your protection and safety May the power of Christ Jesus dwell in you and may the Holy Spirit be your guide forever

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, In the name of Christ. Amen.

Thank you for participating in
CBOQ Sunday!

We look forward to seeing you at
Assembly 2017.

baptist.ca/assembly





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