

Calvin University

## Calvin Digital Commons

---

Symposium on Worship Archive

2013 - The Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5 - 7)

---

### Planning Worship with Hymnary.org

Greg Scheer

*Church of the Servant*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.calvin.edu/uni-cicw-symposium>



Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Liturgy and Worship Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Scheer, Greg, "Planning Worship with Hymnary.org" (2013). *Symposium on Worship Archive*. 26.  
<https://digitalcommons.calvin.edu/uni-cicw-symposium/2013/allitems/26>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Symposium on Worship Archive by an authorized administrator of Calvin Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dbm9@calvin.edu](mailto:dbm9@calvin.edu).

*In recent years, an explosion of resources and music styles has made worship planning an almost overwhelming task. Hymnary.org can help tame this process, allowing planners to search for songs by scripture, meter, lectionary, etc, narrow searches by denomination or year, and even restrict results to those hymnals in your own collection. This session will review the basics of using Hymnary.org, highlight new developments such as “featured hymns” and a streamlined user interface, and show how Hymnary.org can kickstart your worship brainstorming.*

## **Session B21: Planning Worship with Hymnary.org**

**Greg Scheer**

### What’s New at Hymnary.org

- Featured hymns
- New user interface
- Lectionary hymns
- DNAH/NEH

### **Planning a Worship Service** (Church of the Servant 2/17/13 and 2/24/13)

#### SET UP

Consult online calendar.

Transfer service information to working document:

- Scripture, theme, sermon title
- Musicians
- Music styles
- Other considerations

List song slots (any place in the service where a song will be sung).

Start a brainstorm list at bottom of document.

#### FIRST DRAFT

Goal: the first draft is the collection stage. Give yourself lots of options—you can edit later.

Start with the most difficult song choices first.

No idea is too crazy. (Mostly.)

- Songs don’t necessarily have to be an exact fit.
- Look for associations, themes, cross-references.
- An appropriate sung emotional response might be a better fit than a direct topical/scriptural hit.

Strategy: find 3-5 possible songs for each slot.

- List key, citation, and notes for each.

#### SEARCH HYMNARY.ORG

Search everything box

Scripture

Topic

Full text

## GET PROFESSIONAL HELP

### Worship planning aids:

<http://archive.pcusa.org/calltoworship/index.htm>

[www.gbod.org/worship](http://www.gbod.org/worship)

<http://www.reformedworship.org/>

### Lectionary resources:

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

<http://www.textweek.com/scripture.htm>

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/ReverseLectionary.html>

### Scripture searches:

<http://www.biblegateway.com/>

<http://bible.oremus.org/>

### General web searches:

<http://www.youtube.com/>

<http://www.google.com/>

<http://lmgty.com/>

## SECOND DRAFT

Goal: finalize themes and begin to prune back possibilities until you arrive at the right mix of head/heart, historic/modern, well-known/new, etc

Strategy: write the non-negotiable songs in pen, fill in the rest of the puzzle

## NARROW SEARCHES BY

Denomination, Year, etc

Text/tune combination

Only hymnals in your own collection

Only the hymnal in your pew

## PREPARING MATERIALS FOR CONGREGATION AND MUSICIANS

Featured hymn resources

Find the best version of a text for your context

XML files → notation programs

Powerpoint files

Published arrangements

**Questions? Suggestions?**

**Future Features**