

Liturgical Drumming Handout

From Paul T. Robinson (From Liturgical Drumming Workshop):

Liturgical dance is a key part of the SGN worship practice. Drumming supports and guides the dance steps by providing audible cues that people can use to remember which step to do when. So, while obviously the drums must keep time as accurately as possible, it's equally important to think about how the sound of your instrument fits with the others playing with you to form an overall pattern that aligns with the dance.

60 minute workshop adapted for use with Godly Play class (Winter 2015)

(The drumming practice takes the place of the "Story & Work" section of the Godly Play session)

Gathering (15 minutes) Circle, Rocks & Water, "Come Join us" Song, "Be Still & Know Song", then introduce the plan & expectations for the day's session

- * Today's story & work is a little different from usual.
- * Invite older child to read aloud Psalm 150 (Bible is marked on focal shelf)
- * We "Praise God with tambourine and dance" every week! Today we are going to learn how to support the praise of the whole community when we sing and dance with drums, tambourines, and shakers.
- * Playing instruments in church is a VERY IMPORTANT job, and it takes a lot of concentration & practice to do it well. This is fun work, but it is also serious work, and we expect you to take it seriously. If you are not ready to concentrate and take the work seriously today, then we will ask you to just sit and watch, and you can try again another time, when you are more ready.

Practice Session (30 minutes)

1) Review Tripudium & Carol Steps

Everyone practices dances

2) Introduce Tripudium & Carol "Instrument Songs"

Everyone practices dance while singing "Instrument Songs"

ex. Tripudium Song goes

Drum

Drum

Drum

Tambourine

OR

Shake down, down, down

Rattle up

ex. Carol Song goes

Drum, Drum, Drum, Drum

Drum Tambourine

Drum Tambourine

OR

Shake and Shake and Shake and Shake and
Shake down Rattle Up, Shake down Rattle Up

3) Introduce 3 categories of instruments: Drums, Tambourines, Shakers (Systra & Maracas).

* Pass out instruments to the children in the circle: Drum, Tambourine/Shaker, Drum, Tambourine/Shaker, etc.

* Practice tripudium with instruments

* pass instruments to your right

*practice again

*practice carol with instruments

*pass instruments to right

*practice again

etc.

Snack, Discussion & Goodbyes (15 minutes)

These are just suggestions...not mandates! Do whatever works. The goal is to give the kids the tools and the practice they need to be able to play instruments in a way that supports the song, dance, and praise of the whole community!!!