

# A PLACE FOR YOU LEADER SOURCEBOOK:

Holy Communion  
Resources for the  
Whole Congregation



AUGSBURG FORTRESS

# Table of Contents

---

## INTRODUCTORY CONTENT

- 4 An Introduction to Daniel Erlander
- 5 How to Use This Leader Sourcebook
- 9 Collaborator Bios
- 11 Theological Backgrounds

## CONTENT FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, AND ALL AGES

### For Children

- 17 Early Childhood Session
- 29 Elementary Session 1
- 41 Elementary Session 2
- 55 Elementary Session 3

### For Youth and Adults

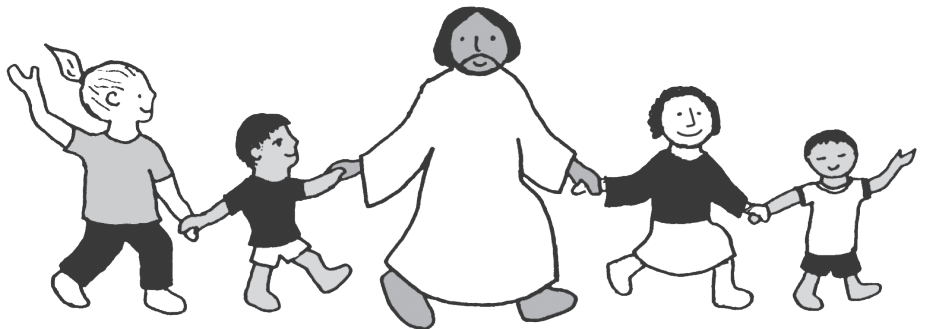
- 65 Youth/Adult Session
- 71 Self-Study Resource
- 75 7 Mini Bible Studies

### For All Ages

- 89 Intergenerational Event
- 111 12 Prayer Stations
- 145 Holy Communion Litany

## REPRODUCIBLE CONTENT

- 149 A Holy Communion Glossary
- 153 6 Children's Bulletins
- 165 6 Family Devotions
- 171 Welcome Sign
- 172 Sign-in Sheet
- 173 *A Place for You* Nametags
- 174 Jesus Hug Poster
- 178 Activity Pages



Review this Sourcebook chart and choose a type of content, audience, and format that interests you.

Begins on Page	Content Type	Who Is This For?	Purpose of the Content
11	Theological Backgrounds	Pastors and other leaders	Helps leaders already familiar with <i>A Place for You</i> dive more deeply into Bible texts and underlying theology
17	Early Childhood Session	Children birth to age five and their caregivers	Introduces young children who may already be communing and their families to the meaning behind the meal
29	Elementary Sessions	Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade; parents can accompany younger kids	Presents engaging, age-appropriate, multisensory ways to learn about Holy Communion in parent-child or kid-only groups, with many opportunities to use <i>A Place for You Interactive Edition</i>
65	Youth/Adult Session	Youth and/or adults	Provides content for leaders to guide youth or adult participants into a deeper understanding of Holy Communion
71	Self-Study Resource	Youth and/or adults	Guides an individual learner through looking more closely at Holy Communion with easy-to-use questions and prompts
75	Mini Bible Studies	Youth and/or adults	Encourages further biblical study of the texts included in <i>A Place for You</i>
89	Intergenerational Event	All ages	Gathers congregation for a meal and intergenerational learning experiences about Holy Communion
111	Prayer Stations	All ages	Integrates ideas and images from <i>A Place for You</i> into spaces for prayer, contemplation, and learning
145	Holy Communion Litany	All ages	Introduces and celebrates those in the congregation who have been studying Holy Communion
149	Glossary	All ages	Supports further learning about Holy Communion with definitions of key people, places, and things
153	Children's Bulletins	Elementary kids who can read	Invites kids to explore communion-related ideas and images in playful ways during worship
165	Family Devotions	Families with young children	Helps families practice faith at home and on the go with ideas and images from <i>A Place for You</i>
171	Additional Reproducibles	All ages	Supports sessions and events with vivid images and activities

Format	Additional Resources	Suggested Uses
Three theological backgrounds with Questions to Consider	<i>A Place for You Original Edition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For deeper study of Holy Communion</li> <li>★ Before leading any of the sessions with children, youth, and adults</li> </ul>
One 45-minute session, with options to extend time	<i>A Place for You, Little One: My Holy Communion Board Book</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For families whose young children already receive communion or are asking about it</li> <li>★ For families of 3-year-olds starting Sunday school</li> </ul>
Three 45-minute sessions, with options to extend time	<i>A Place for You Interactive Edition, A Place for You Animated Videos</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For lower elementary kids and their parents</li> <li>★ For upper elementary kids during regularly-scheduled Sunday school</li> <li>★ For a mixed-age group of kids preparing to receive first communion</li> </ul>
One 60-minute session formatted so content can be spread over two or more sessions	<i>A Place for You Original Edition, Optional: A Place for You Animated Videos</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ As main content during adult education time on Sunday morning</li> <li>★ As an alternative to regularly-scheduled Bible study</li> <li>★ As a session during youth group time</li> </ul>
Three pages of take-home content	<i>A Place for You Original Edition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For inclusion in new member packets</li> <li>★ For a newly-baptized youth or adult</li> </ul>
Seven double-sided take-home pages	<i>A Place for You Original Edition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For use as bulletin inserts</li> <li>★ For inclusion in new member packets</li> <li>★ For a newly-baptized youth or adult</li> </ul>
One 75-minute event including a meal and activities, with options to extend time	<i>A Place for You Original Edition, Optional: A Place for You Animated Videos</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For the entire congregation</li> <li>★ For families of kids receiving first communion</li> <li>★ For community outreach event</li> </ul>
12 stations providing a range of ideas for one or more worship services or other times of prayer	<i>A Place for You Original Edition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For use during one or more worship services</li> <li>★ For families of kids receiving first communion</li> <li>★ For the congregation during weeks when they are studying Holy Communion</li> </ul>
Three pages that can be adapted for many worship contexts	None needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ During the worship service following a group using one or more of the sessions</li> <li>★ During worship when some people will receive first communion</li> </ul>
Three reproducible pages	None needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ As an additional handout during sessions for kids, youth, and adults</li> <li>★ As a bulletin insert</li> </ul>
Seven double-sided reproducible bulletin inserts	None needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For the congregation during weeks when they are studying Holy Communion</li> <li>★ For the weeks of Lent leading up to Maundy Thursday</li> <li>★ For follow-up after the elementary sessions</li> </ul>
Seven foldable family devotions (see <a href="http://www.pocketmod.com">www.pocketmod.com</a> for folding and cutting instructions)	None needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ As bulletin inserts</li> <li>★ As a take-home page after elementary sessions</li> <li>★ For handouts in Sunday school or before summer vacation</li> </ul>
Reproducible pages	None needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ For specified use in sessions</li> <li>★ As decorations, activity pages, and worship activities</li> </ul>

# Welcome to this Sacred Space based on *A Place for You!*

Please enter in silence and honor each other with your silence as you pray the stations.

In this series of prayer stations, you will use all your senses to pray!

How each station works:

- \* Read each sign and take time to do what it describes.
- \* You're invited to look, listen, smell, touch, taste, draw, and write. This experience is all about participating and praying with *all* of your senses.
- \* You may visit all the stations or choose only a few.
- \* Today you may just need to sit and rest. There is a station for that too!
- \* Families with young children are invited to explore the stations together so adults can read each sign to their children and try what it asks.
- \* Be still, listen, be open, and allow God to speak to you!

**Welcome! We are glad you are here! Jesus has a very special place for YOU!**

**Reminder:** Waiting is a part of life—and can be a part of these prayer stations too! If you need to wait for a station, ask Jesus to open your heart and help you listen for him.

Pray for the people at the station to hear from God.

Pray for the people waiting with you. Ask Jesus to open their hearts to his love for them.

# The Arms of Jesus

\* Look at all the people in Jesus' arms!  
Can you find babies? Can you find  
little kids? Can you find grown-ups?

\* Count Jesus' toes. How  
many toes are hiding  
under his sandal straps?



\* Try to discover how  
many people you can  
hold in your arms.

\* Put heart stickers on this picture, or color  
hearts around it. God sent Jesus into the  
world to show that God loves everybody.

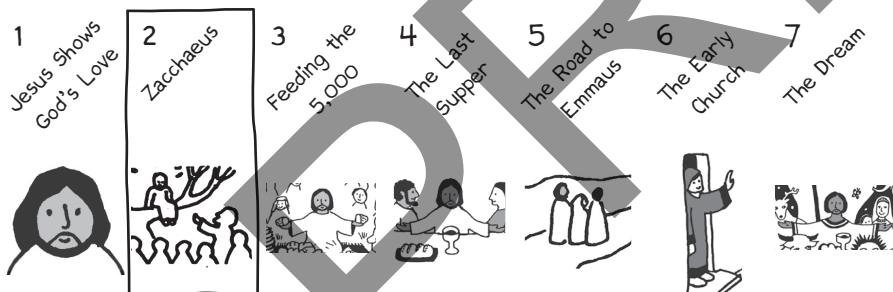
## Holy Communion Connections

Throughout *A Place for You*, this message is clear: God sent Jesus into the world to show that God loves everybody. Jesus' actions were sometimes bold and life-changing. Jesus' actions were sometimes common, taking the form of everyday activities like eating with other people. Sharing a meal, breaking bread, taking time to be together—these are powerful actions that show God's love. These are actions *we* are invited to participate in through Holy Communion and in our day-to-day lives.

## Faith in Action

Now that you've read about Jesus' loving actions—and the crabby people who tried to interfere—how could you respond? Maybe that starts with a reminder to choose joy over crabbiness. Clip out the image of the crabby people on the previous page and keep it someplace where you'll see it frequently. You could tuck it in your wallet, put it on the fridge, or tape it near your charging station. Each time you see it, do a quick inventory of how you're feeling—joy over crabbiness. Then remember that God loves you, even when you're crabby.

\* WANT TO EXPLORE MORE? Ask for Mini Bible Study 2 about Jesus eating dinner with Zacchaeus.



## Mini Bible Study 1: Jesus Shows God's Love

Jesus showed God's love in many ways to many people.

This Bible study focuses on these readings from the Gospel of Luke:

Luke 5:12-16

Luke 13:10-17

Luke 5:17-26

Luke 15:11-32

Luke 6:20-21

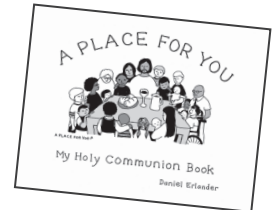
Luke 17:11-19

Luke 6:22-31

Luke 18:15-17

## What You'll Need

- \* *A Place for You: My Holy Communion Book* by Daniel Erlander (pages 2–3)
- \* Your Bible
- \* Colored pencils
- \* Scissors



## Welcome!

In this Mini Study, you'll explore some Bible stories about Jesus showing God's love in many ways.

To get started, look at the pictures of Jesus and the people on pages 2–3. Use a colored pencil to color Jesus' robe in each scene. He's everywhere!



# How are you feeling at worship today?

Worshipping God can calm us, comfort us, and help us face difficult situations. Being with a caring church community can help us know we are not alone.

Worshipping God can calm us, comfort us, and help us face difficult situations. Being with a caring church community can help us know we are not alone.

40	13	75	13	48	75	60	11	57	1
38	21	43	94	19	57	25	21	60	19
13	13	75	13	48	75	60	11	57	1

A	61	+14	C	14	+33	D	10	-6	E	25	+12	F	36	+24	G	14	+3	H	47	-9	I	20	+34	L	23	-25	M	85	-19	O	40	-48	R	72	+4	S	9	-15	U	55	+8	V	86	-97	Y	98
---	----	-----	---	----	-----	---	----	----	---	----	-----	---	----	-----	---	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	-----	---	----	-----	---	----	-----	---	----	-----	---	----	----	---	---	-----	---	----	----	---	----	-----	---	----

Solve each math problem. Then write the letter in the blank above the number. You might feel challenged (or even crabby) trying to decode the message. After you fill in all the blanks, the answer will reveal how God can change our crabby selves through worship.

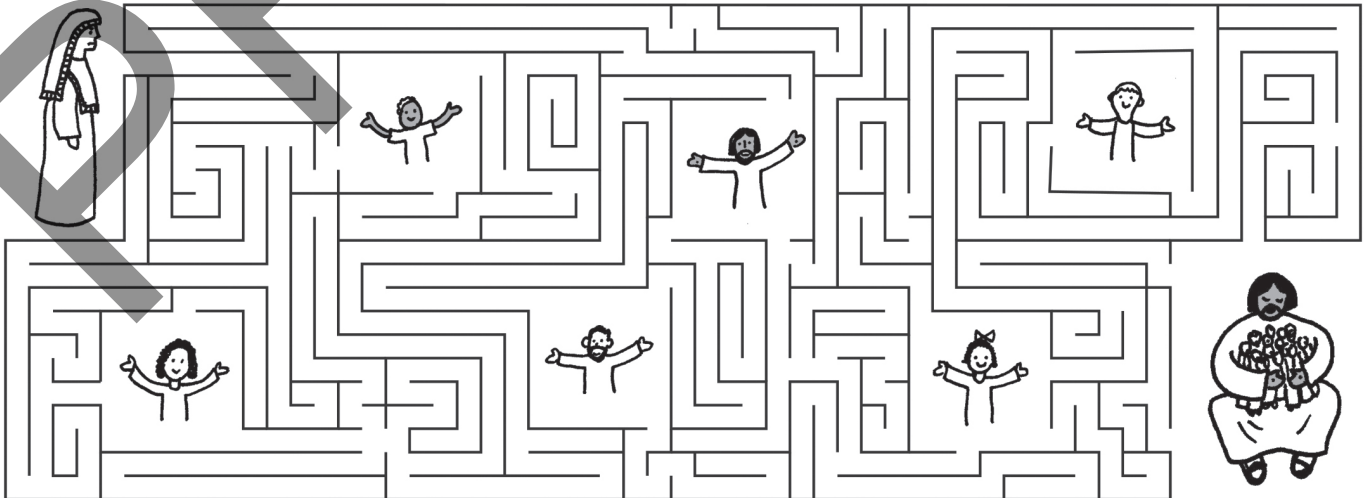
## Worship: A Time for Change

FOLD HERE

# Jesus Loves Crabby People

Acts 5:17-21

We all feel crabby sometimes. And that's okay! God loves us anyway, no matter what. Help the crabby people get through the maze and meet Jesus at the end. Help the crabby people experience Jesus' love through the many twists and turns of the maze.





## What's in your lunch?

You can also find this story about Jesus in the gospel of John. In this version, a boy offers his lunch to share. Imagine the child was Sarah, who you've seen throughout the pages of *A Place for You*. When Sarah sees that Jesus needs food for the crowd, she wants to help. She has five loaves of bread and two fish, but they're scattered all over the place! Help Sarah move through the crowd, pick up *exactly* five loaves of bread and two fish (no more, no less), and share her food with Jesus.

