

Creating a Visual Center for Worship

Create a visual center that symbolizes Wisdom's table where we "lay aside immaturity, and . . . walk in the way of insight" (Proverbs 9:6). Begin with a table covered with a solid-colored cloth. Green represents Ordinary Time, but feel free to use whatever color fits aesthetically with your worship space. Consider putting the logo or theme words (Wisdom, Time, People, Peace) on a banner behind the table or pulpit, or perhaps on the tablecloth itself. On the table, arrange symbols that fit the focus for the service—but avoid making the center cluttered or distracting! The following are some suggested options:

Sunday 1: an hourglass, sundial, or other large, visible timepiece representing time and our challenge to live according to the wisdom of God's time

Sunday 2: a cup or chalice, a pitcher, a bowl of fruit and a loaf of bread (or several loaves) representing Wisdom's feast and/or Abigail's hospitality (see <http://peace.mennolink.org/articles/bread.html> for a recipe for "Reconciliation" bread).

Sundays 2 and 3: a crown representing Esther, Solomon, and/or Jesus; or a jester's cap representing the "foolishness" of God's wisdom

All Sundays: a large pillar candle or several votives in glass containers representing the light of God's insight that wisdom brings; additional objects that symbolize our vocation as Christian peacemakers—such as an open Bible, a dove, olive branches, a peace lily, pictures of peacemakers important to your congregation, an Iraq oil lamp, a red Christian Peacemaker Teams cap, a *More-with-Less* cookbook.