Guidelines for the Group Project

Your working group will plan and lead the class in a worship service of 30-35 minutes. Guidelines for your preparation are as follows:

1. Read Chapters 6 and 7 of S. White’s *Foundations of Christian Worship* and discuss with your group to brainstorm your group’s worship project.
2. Define your congregation. It might be your own church, your denominational gathering, an ecumenical or interreligious conference, or the Iliff community. The working group should assume that the congregation is a heterogeneous mix of those who have varying degrees of formation and familiarity with the tradition or traditions you will represent. Diversity in race, ethnicity, class, gender, age, sexual orientation, political conviction, and theological orientation must be taken into account.
3. Choose a liturgical context. For this group project, you are encouraged to consider a special worship service rather than a regular Sunday service. For example, it might be a corporate prayer meeting, the commemoration of a specific event (e.g., a funeral, an anniversary, etc.), the celebration of a major liturgical event (e.g., Christmas, Easter, etc.), or a denominational, ecumenical, or interreligious service.
4. Choose a theological theme for your worship service. For example, it might be justice and peace, sin and forgiveness, or reconciliation and solidarity. Discuss with your group how the theme should be interpreted in your particular congregational and liturgical context.
5. Consider what kind of worship style your group is going to use. Traditional? Contemporary? Emergent? Blended? Or any other creative style?
6. Design the order of the service and discuss the components of worship. For example, what kinds of music, prayer, technology, creed, text(s), sermon, etc. will be included in the service? Why should (or should not) some components be included in the order of the service? If you need some professional musicians, you may invite them at your own cost.
7. Think about how the space will be organized for worship and prepare some decorative liturgical artifacts if necessary.
8. Post in Canvas 1) the Order of the Service and 2) Interpretive Notes of Worship, summarizing the entire process of the worship preparation (3-4 pages, single-spaced, 12 pt.), by one day before your group presentation date.
9. Make enough copies of the worship bulletin if necessary and bring them in to the class on your group presentation day.