



Project #4

CREATE SONG TRANSITIONS

OBJECTIVE: To develop practical skills in crafting worship song sets that flow seamlessly, engaging the congregation in transformational worship through intentional musical and textual connections. This exercise will help you apply the principles of song linking, ensuring variety, familiarity, and a powerful worship experience.

Read pages 155-164 in *The Worship Ministry Guidebook*.

For this project, you will design **at least five distinct worship song sets**. Each set should consist of **3-5 songs** that could be used in leading corporate worship. For each set, you will detail the musical and textual connections between the songs. **OPTIONAL:** The songs should only come from the song lists prepared in Project #3.

NOTE: If you are using songs from the song list you developed in Project #3, you can use the tabs of the Google Sheet you created to help you with songs that provide smooth transitions from one key to the next. See the description in the **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES** section in this document.

Create at least five sets of 3-5 songs with these requirements:

- » No more than two songs in a row should be in the same key unless you are using an abbreviated version of songs.
- » There should be at least one instance of *planned spontaneity* in each of at least three of the sets.
- » You should utilize all *three types of transitions* (*intro overlap*, *short gap*, and *no break*) within this exercise (not in each set). See pages 155-164 for further explanation.
- » You should strive to include a textual or thematic connection in as many transitions as possible. Remember, you can begin a song with the chorus, bridge, or a verse other than the first verse to make a better connection. Seek the best way to connect the songs.
- » All keys **MUST** be in congregationally friendly keys. (You can use the resource: lamm.fyi/bestkeys.)
- » Create a document outlining each of the worship sets as in the example given here:

Worship Set Example:

1. *Agnus Dei* (Key of A)
2. *Worthy Is the Lamb* (Key of A)
3. *Worthy, You Are Worthy* (Key of D)

Transition from *Agnus Dei* (Key of A) to *Worthy Is the Lamb* (Key of A):

- » **Musical Transition Type:** No Break.
- » **Key Relationship:** Same key (A to A)
- » **Execution Description:** End the first song on the word “Lamb,” leaving out the final “amen,” adding rhythmic building and crescendo for four beats to begin the chorus of the next song.
- » **Textual/Thematic Connection:** The congregation sings “Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb” at the end of the first song and will begin with the chorus of the second song singing, “Worthy is the Lamb.” This provides a strong textual connection between the songs.
- » **Planned Spontaneity Note:** Not applicable for this transition.

Transition from *Worthy Is the Lamb* (Key of A) to *Worthy, You Are Worthy* (Key of D)

- » **Musical Transition Type:** Short Gap.
- » **Key Relationship:** Up a fourth (A to D).
- » **Execution Description:** The final chorus of the first song is strong with a big decrescendo on “crucified”, then quiet on the final two declarations, “Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb.” The band will sustain an A/C# chord with a natural decay, leaving only pads playing over the final word. A vocalist spontaneously leads into the second song. Note: although the songs are in different keys, the melody note ending the first song and the one beginning the second song are the same.
- » **Textual/Thematic Connection:** The first song ends with, “Worthy is the Lamb,” and the second song begins with “Worthy, You are worthy,” connecting the idea of proclaiming the great worth of the King of Kings.
- » **Planned Spontaneity Note:** This will be a planned spontaneity moment. After the final chorus of *Worthy Is the Lamb*, the worship leader will pause briefly during the sustained chord, then begin the first line of *Worthy, You Are Worthy* with minimal instrumentation (e.g., keyboard pads), allowing the song to build naturally as a response of deeper worship to God’s worthiness.

Turn in your project as a written report with all the details described here.