

## » Segue Builder

### What's a segue?

Segue (pronounced "SEG-way"): a smooth transition that connects songs, prayers, or Scripture so that worship feels like one continuous conversation with God. A segue is like stitching fabric, it connects each piece of the service into a single garment of worship.

### Anatomy of a non-cringe 10-20-second segue

Use one sentence that does four things, fast:

*Address God → Name an attribute → Name our response → Hand us into the next song.*

Example:

"Holy God, You are worthy of all praise; we bring our voices and join heaven's song."

Keep it conversational, present-tense, and God-ward. Think "one breath," not mini-sermon.

### What not to say (and what to say instead)

Don't: Quote the next lyric ("As the song says, I Surrender All...").

Do: Paraphrase the theme and invite response.

*"You've been kind to us all week, Lord. We open our hearts again."*

Don't: Hype the room ("Are you excited?! Can I get an amen?!").

Do: Aim for participation, not volume.

*"Let's sing this together as a prayer, not a performance."*

Don't: Apologize or explain mechanics ("We haven't done this one in a while... band in C...").

Do: Handle logistics on talkback.

*Say nothing out loud; give a silent nod and count-off.*

Don't: Preach a detour (30–60 seconds of commentary).

Do: Use one line; save teaching for the sermon.

*"Because You're faithful, we trust You again. Receive our praise now."*

Don't: Scold the church ("C'mon, why aren't you singing?").

Do: Offer a gentle on-ramp.

*"Even if you're new, try the chorus with us."*

### When to say nothing

- If the band can vamp a two-bar transition that clearly points to the next song.
- If a Scripture slide or one-line prayer on screen can do the work.
- If the room is in a holy hush, don't break it; go straight into the next intro.

## Quick guardrails for tone

- God-ward (“You are... we will...”) more than crowd-ward (“How we doing?!”).
- First-person plural (“we/us”) to invite participation.
- Concrete verbs (return, trust, thank, obey), not vague adjectives (awesome, amazing).
- One idea per sentence.
- Keep language Biblical, prayerful, invitational (not insider or hypey).

## Mini craft kit: write your own in 60 seconds

- Name the move (Call, Praise, Confess, Thank, Trust, Surrender, Mission).
- Start with God (attribute/action): “Faithful Father...”, “Risen Lord...”.
- Name our response: “...we trust/return/thank/obey...”.
- Hand-off to song: “...as we sing / in this song / now.”
- Time it: Aim for 10-20 seconds.

## Examples

### Call to Worship / Gathering

“Father, You gathered us by Your mercy and called us by name. Lift our eyes from the week and fix them on Your glory; receive our praise as we sing.”

### Praise / Adoration

“Holy God, there is none like You: steadfast in love and mighty to save. Our hearts rise to adore You; be honored in this song.”

### Confession / Return

“Merciful Lord, we’ve chased lesser loves and trusted our own strength. Thank You that in Jesus there’s cleansing and a way home; we return to You now as we sing.”

### Assurance / Grace

“Jesus, by Your cross our debt is canceled and our shame is lifted. Spirit, bear witness that we are Yours; we sing as a free people.”

### Thanksgiving

“Giver of every good gift, You’ve filled our hearts, carried our sorrows, and kept us by Your hand. Gratitude rises to You; receive our thanks in this song.”

### Lament / Trust

“God of all comfort, You see every heavy heart in this room. Be near and bend our worries toward Your promises; teach us to trust You as we sing.”

### Surrender / Consecration

“King Jesus, all we are and all we hold belongs to You. We lay down our plans and our fears; let this song be our surrender.”

### Seasonal

Advent: “Light of the world, we wait with hope - come and renew us as we sing.”

Easter: “Risen Lord, You’ve conquered death - raise our praise now.”