1. INDIGENOUS: definition
2. Belonging to a place; originating in and naturally living, growing, or occurring in a region or country;
3. Natural; inborn
4. Examples:
   1. Indigenous people: American Indians, Native Americans – the only indigenous Americans
   2. Indigenous ideas: free enterprise; Manifest Destiny; life, liberty, pursuit of happiness
   3. Indigenous culture: Southerners; slave; Beverly Hills; New Orleans; Chinatown; Disneyland
5. What do we mean, then, when we speak of indigenous worship & music?
6. Worship with THESE PEOPLE
7. Worship in THIS COMMUNITY
8. Worship at THIS TIME
9. Worship that pays attention to the CHARACTERISTICS and CONTEXTS of the worshiping community
   1. Question for Discussion: Who are the people who have gathered in your congregation?
10. Indigenous Worship -- worship that THESE PEOPLE:
11. love and long to do
12. can do with excellence
13. experience the presence of God
14. communicate with God
15. voice their needs, joys & concerns, deepest desires, confessions, thanksgivings in their own voice and words
16. Indigenous Worship is both EXPRESSIVE and DESCRIPTIVE:
17. EXPRESSIVE: it gives rise to the feelings, emotions, thoughts, voice of the people
18. DESCRIPTIVE: it describes and characterizes, even shapes, forms, and transforms who the people are, their identity
19. Thus…..
    1. We sing and worship the way we do because it expresses who we are
    2. We are the people we are because of the worship and music that has shaped and formed us
20. Why do we disagree over worship & music? Why the worship wars?
21. Because we are people with different identities (theology, race, culture, language, age, socio-economic, accustomed worship practice)
22. Pastor or musician is outside the indigenous character of the people
23. Questions for Consideration and Discussion
24. Name the indigenous characteristics of your congregation
25. How is that indigeneity expressed or reinforced by your congregation’s worship?
26. How do your worship & music help to form and shape your congregation’s identity?
27. Identify specific songs & hymns that express your church’s indigeneity.
28. Do United Methodists share any indigeneity in worship and song? (Wesley, liturgy, sacraments, theology, hymnal and *Book of Worship*)