

# “WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE” VIDEO SERIES

## COMMON ELEMENTS OF HOUSES OF WORSHIP: A DISCUSSION GUIDE

IMHouston.org

### Discussion Questions:

1. After viewing these videos, discuss similarities and differences across religious traditions. What thoughts do you have about these shared elements and distinctions?
2. How do worship spaces, religious artifacts, or interviews with faith leaders express these similarities and differences?
3. What do worship spaces and religious artifacts reveal about the most significant spiritual practices of each faith tradition?
4. How do the buildings and their contents highlight the importance of prayer, music, scripture, and community?
5. Religious communities often view their house of worship as a space that holds the presence of God. What elements in the videos helped you see how God's presence is expressed through architecture, artifacts, and worship?
6. Have you ever attended a religious service or festival different from your own? What was that experience like for you?
7. How can experiencing the religious traditions of others benefit your own faith journey?
8. Would you feel comfortable visiting a worship service different from your own? Why or why not? How has this video series helped you feel more confident about visiting a different house of worship?
9. Consider your school, community group, or workplace. Why is it important to learn about different faith traditions?
10. Add your own questions!

Tell us how you used these videos and how your discussions went.

Email **Kim Mabry** at: [kmabry@img.org](mailto:kmabry@img.org).

The Interfaith Relations and Community Partnerships Department of Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston is pleased to present our *Welcome to Our House* video series, showcasing the common elements of houses of worship in our community. The first four videos focus on the shared features of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish houses of worship.

Additional videos highlighting Greater Houston's diverse faith communities will be added to this *Welcome to Our House* series through June 2024. Each video is approximately 15 minutes long and provides insight into what people see when they step into these beautiful, sacred spaces.

Enjoy these videos on your own or with your family. Host a classroom discussion. Share them during a corporate lunch-and-learn. Use them in adult education classes at a house of worship. Unite youth in meaningful dialogue. These videos are designed for audiences of all ages and various settings. The discussion questions below will help guide conversations, fostering understanding and dialogue.

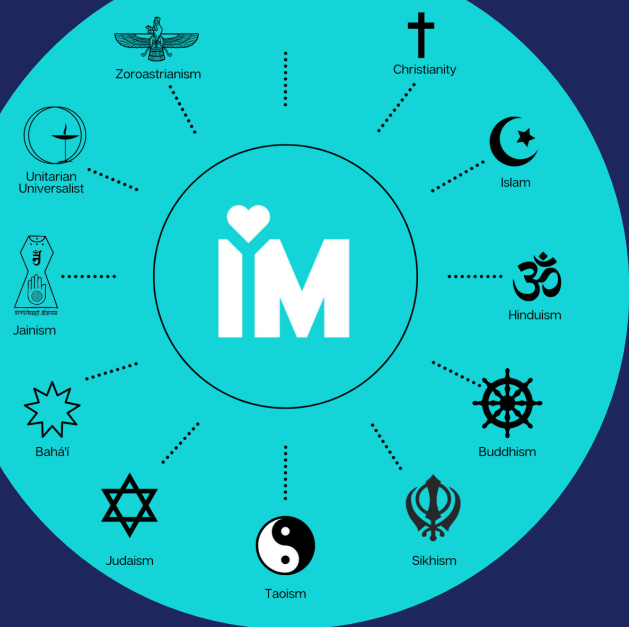
### Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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**The Eleanor and Frank Freed Foundation**

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