

LTRGY 510 United Methodist Worship
Spring 2025 Mondays 6:30-9:30 pm
In-person / online synchronous

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Course Objectives

This course surveys the authorized worship resources of the United Methodist Church, with attention to their history, theology, and pastoral practice. In particular, we will explore the shape and practice of corporate Christian prayer, liturgical time, the relationship of word and sacrament, the meaning and practice of baptism and Eucharist, and the liturgical pastoral offices of the Church.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to:

- ❖ describe and interpret the basic structures of United Methodist worship;
- ❖ construct basic prayers for use in public worship;
- ❖ identify and explain the key seasons of the church year and the relationship of the common lectionary to the year;
- ❖ recite a Great Thanksgiving from memory;
- ❖ demonstrate the ability to appropriately use the resources of the *United Methodist Hymnal* and *Book of Worship*;
- ❖ construct and lead services for baptism, eucharist, healing and anointing, marriage, and funerals;
- ❖ describe and interpret key elements of a United Methodist sacramental theology; and
- ❖ plan a teaching session about some aspect of worship in a local congregation.

Required Texts you must purchase

(All prices as of October 21, 2024, on Amazon. Kindle and used versions are also available for most of these books. Some books are also available as e-books through Styberg Library)

Michael Hawn, *One Bread, One Body: Exploring Cultural Diversity in Worship* (Bethesda, MD: Alban Institute, 2003). ISBN 1-56699-277-X. \$24.52.

Hoyt Hickman, *The Worship Resources of the United Methodist Hymnal* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1989). ISBN 0-687-43150-6. \$15.97.

Gail Ramshaw, *A Three-Year Banquet: The Lectionary for the Assembly* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2005). ISBN 9-780806-651057. \$11.99.

Laurence Stookey, *Baptism: Christ's Act in the Church* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1982). ISBN 0-687-02364-5. \$12.99.

Laurence Stookey, *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1996). ISBN 0-687-01136-1. \$14.89.

Laurence Stookey, *Eucharist: Christ's Feast with the Church* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1993). ISBN 0-687-12017-9. \$16.99.

The United Methodist Hymnal (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 1989). ISBN 978-0687431335. \$21.88.

The United Methodist Book of Worship (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 1992). ISBN 0-687-03572-4. \$54.35. (Also available [online](#))

The Faith We Sing (Nashville: Abingdon, 2000). ISBN 0-687-09054-7. \$12.99.

Note: You must bring your own copy of the UMH and UMBOW to class each week.

Other Required Readings (provided on Moodle)

By Water and the Spirit (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1996). See the link on Moodle; use this version only. (Free pdf download.)

This Holy Mystery (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2004). See the link on Moodle.; use this version only (Free pdf download.)

E. Byron Anderson, "The Role of the Presider" in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 123-129.

Herbert Anderson and Edward Foley, Ch. 5 "Preparing for Marriage" and Ch. 6 "Encountering Death" from *Mighty Stories, Dangerous Rituals* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1998).

Daniel T. Benedict, "How to introduce Baptism by Pouring or Immersion," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 2 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 134-141.

_____, "Ordering Congregational Life around the Means of Grace," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 43-50.

_____, "Worship at the Heart of the Congregation's Ministry System," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 15-22.

Daniel T. Benedict and M. Anne Burnett Hook, "The Role of Deacons and Assisting Ministers" in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 130-136.

Taylor Burton-Edwards, ed. *Living into the Mystery* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006)

Walter H. Cuenin, "History of Anointing and Healing in the Church," in Peter Fink, ed., *Alternative Futures for Worship*, Vol. 7: *Anointing of the Sick* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1987), 65-81.

Adam Erickson, "Living, Serving...Praying: A Christian-Muslim Conversation," *Liturgy* 26.3 (July-September 2011): 19-22.

Richard L. Eslinger, "Creating Space for Proclaiming the Word," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 2 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 101-110.

Gayle Carlton Felton, "Reclaiming the Centrality of Baptism," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 51-57.

Jennifer Glen, "Rites of Healing: A Reflection in Pastoral Theology" in Peter Fink, ed., *Alternative Futures for Worship*, Vol. 7: *Anointing of the Sick* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1987), 33-64.

- Samuel Gordon and Stephanie Perdew VanSlyke, “‘All Flesh Shall Come to Worship’: Can Jews and Christians Worship Together?” *Liturgy* 26.3 (July-September 2011): 23-33.
- C. Michael Hawn, “Keeping Worship Focused on Christ,” in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 37-42.
- Hoyt Hickman, *Companion to the Book of Services* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1988), 115-144: “The Ministry of the Church at Death”
- Phillip Kenneson, “Gathering: Worship, Imagination, Formation” in Stanley Hauerwas and Samuel Wells, ed. *The Blackwell Companion to Christian Ethics* (New York: Blackwell Publishing, 2011). Blackwell Reference Online (accessed 17 June 2015)
- Ruth Langer and Stephanie Perdew VanSlyke, “Interreligious Worship: An Introduction,” *Liturgy* 26.3 (July-September 2011): 1-10.
- Phillip Pfatteicher, “Daily Prayer: Hallowing Time” in *Liturgical Spirituality* (Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press, 1997), 32-70.
- L. Edward Phillips, “Whose Worship is it anyway” in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 80-85.
- L. Edward Phillips and Sara Webb Phillips, *In Spirit and Truth*, 2nd ed. (Akron: OSL Publications, 2006). ISBN 1-878009-53-2. (Chaps. 1, 2 and 4)
- Melinda Quivik, “Life Passages, Occasional Services, and Cultural Patterns: Necessary Tensions,” in *Worship and Culture: Foreign Country or Homeland*, Gláucia Vasconcelos Wilkey, ed. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2014), 342-366.
- Lester Ruth, “Creating Space for Baptism and the Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant” in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 2 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 93-100.
- Don Saliers, *Worship and Spirituality* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1984; 2nd ed. Akron: OSL Publications, 1996), 86-97 (chap. 6 “Remembering the World to God”).
- Clayton J. Schmidt, “The Living Word: Restoring Life to Scripture Reading in Worship,” *Liturgy*, 22.4 (October 2007): 23-31
- Robert Schnase, “The Practice of Passionate Worship” in *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2007), 33-57.
- Dwight W. Vogel, “The Work of Singing the Psalms,” in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 2 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 29-37.
- John Wesley, “The Means of Grace,” in *The Works of John Wesley*, Vol. 1, *Sermons* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1984), 376-397. [Also available at http://wesley.nnu.edu/john_wesley/sermons/016.htm]
- _____, “The Duty of Constant Communion,” in *The Works of John Wesley*, Vol. 3, *Sermons* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1984), 422-439. [Also available at http://wesley.nnu.edu/john_wesley/sermons/101.htm]
- _____, “On Baptism,” in Albert Outler, ed., *John Wesley* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1964), 318-332.
- James White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 3rd ed. (Nashville: Abingdon, 2000): chapter 6 “The Service of the Word”.
- Susan J. White, “Creating Space for Holy Communion,” in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 2 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 85-92.

Optional/Supplemental Readings

Hoyt Hickman, "The Work of Communion Stewards, Servers, and Altar Guilds," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 2 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 54-60.

[Kimberly Long and David Gambrell, "The Revised Marriage Rite in the 2018 *Book of Common Worship*," *Liturgy*, 34.3 \(2019\): 31-41.](#)

Thomas Long, "[The Good Funeral: Recovering Christian Practices,](#)" *The Christian Century* 126, no. 20 (October 6, 2009): 20-25.

[Ruth A. Meyers, "'I will bless you, and you will be a blessing': New Marriage Rites for the Episcopal Church," *Liturgy*, 34.3 \(2019\): 42-51.](#)

Laurence Hull Stookey, "The Distribution of Communion by the Laity to those who cannot attend worship," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 147-154.

Grant S. White, "Celebrating the Eucharist more Vitality and Frequently," in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 58-62.

Susan White, "Who gets Communion?" in E. Byron Anderson, ed. *Worship Matters*, Vol. 1 (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999), 137-146.

Grading

All assignments are weighted to a specific percentage of your final grade. These percentages are indicated on the grading scale posted on Moodle. Your final grade is cumulative—the result of the work you do throughout the course.

Each assignment also has its own set of *grading rubrics*. *Rubrics* are assessment tools that explicitly represent the performance expectations for an assignment or piece of work. *For the Liturgical Prayer and Annotated Word and Table assignments, you will have the opportunity to re-submit the assignment with revisions you make in light of instructor feedback.* You will also have the opportunity to repeat the Great Thanksgiving memorization assignment.

Course Requirements:

Including the final paper, this course has nine "units." Each unit, except for the final paper, includes most or all of the following:

- required readings (the first weeks are the heaviest),
- class lecture and discussion,
- an open-book quiz related to the readings,
- "application" and written assignments, including several Moodle "Forum" posts, the composition of a set of liturgical prayers, the development of an "annotated" service of Word and Table, memorization of a Great Thanksgiving, and group design of a service of worship for either baptism, healing and anointing, death and resurrection or Christian marriage, and
- a final paper. The final paper has *two required components*, to be submitted on Moodle in a *single* document.

a) A 3500-4000 word *theological position paper* in which you answer the question “What is the meaning and significance of the sacraments?” with particular reference to Baptism *and* Eucharist. In this paper you will develop your theology of these sacraments in conversation with, and as a reflection of, the sacramental theology of The United Methodist Church. Your argument should draw on and be supported by the assigned readings for the course as well as the official liturgies of the church.

b) A *lesson plan for one teaching session* (for a specific age group within your congregation), developed in light of what you have written about the meaning and significance of the sacraments, that invites exploration of one of the main ideas expressed in your theological position paper.

The design of this teaching session *must include*:

1. a description of the context in which the program will occur (where, when, what age group);
2. a goal statement for the session (what you want students to learn or be able to do as a result of this session); and
3. a detailed lesson plan for the session, in which you provide a complete description of the resources you will use, what you will do, what you will say, and how you will say it. (You might think about this as a “script for a play”—including a listing of all “props”, all stage directions, and the script of what is to be said.)

Details for the application and other writing assignments are provided on Moodle in their respective weeks. *Successful completion of the course requires completion of all of its component parts.* The practica assignments will require working with a small group.

Required format for all papers is double-spaced lines, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1” margins top and bottom, and 1” or 1.25” margins on each side. All footnote references should follow the footnote/bibliography format given in Kate L. Turabian, [*Manual for Writers*](#), 9th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

All written assignments must be submitted electronically through Moodle.

Course Outline and Assignments

- 1. Jan. 27 Foundations**
Readings: Hawn, *One Bread, One Body*, 1-34, 177-183
Kenneson, “Gathering: Worship, Imagination, Formation”
Phillips and Phillips, *In Spirit and Truth*, chaps. 1, 2, and 4
- 2. Feb. 3 Basic Structures**
Readings: Hickman, *Worship Resources (WRUMH)*, 14-26
Phillips and Phillips, *In Spirit and Truth*, chap. 3
Wesley, “The Means of Grace”

Benedict, "Worship at the heart"
Benedict, "Ordering congregational life"
Phillips, "Whose worship is it anyway"

Read/Explore: "An Order of Sunday Worship" in the *United Methodist Book of Worship (UMBOW)*, 13-39. Pay close attention to the commentary about the service and the many options possible within it. Note what parts of it seem to be required and what parts are optional.

Quiz: Complete Quiz 1 on the readings for Weeks 1 and 2. **Due by 6 pm Feb. 10**

3. **Feb. 10** **Christian Liturgical Prayer**
Readings: Review/explore *UMBOW* 447-564
 Saliers, *Worship and Spirituality*, chap. 6
 Hickman, *WRUMH*, 28-34, 43-46, 50-52

Written Assignment: Complete the Liturgical Prayer Assignment. Submit it through Moodle. **Due by 6 pm on Feb. 24.**

4. **Feb. 17** **Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs**
Readings: Hawn, *One Bread, One Body*, 113-139
 Hickman, *WRUMH*, 110-126
 Vogel, "The work of singing the Psalms"
 Review/explore *UMH* 913-962

5. **Feb. 24** **Word and Time**
Readings: Eslinger, "Creating space for proclaiming the Word"
 Hickman, *WRUMH*, 177-198
 Pfatteicher, "Daily Prayer"
 Ramshaw, *Three-Year Banquet*
 Schmidt, "The Living Word"

Application: Complete the "Proclaiming the Word" assignment as posted on Moodle. **Due by 6 pm March 3.**

Application: Use one of the Daily Prayer resource links on Moodle and pray the daily office on at least three *consecutive* mornings or evenings. After three days, write a 200-300 word reflection on your experience with it. Post this reflection to the "Daily Prayer" forum on Moodle. Failure to use one of the designated resources will constitute failure of the assignment. **Due by 6 pm March 17.**

6. **Mar. 3** **Christian Time: The Christian Year**
Reading: Stookey, *Calendar*, pp. 15-157, and appendix 2

Quiz: Complete Quiz 2 on the readings for Weeks 5 and 6. **Due by 6 pm March 10.**

Written reflection: Review Appendix 2 in Stookey, *Calendar*, pp. 158-161. On the "Calendar" forum write 300 words explaining how *three* of his "if you were taught this...consider this" items prompt changes in your own understanding of the church year and the implications of these changes for your pastoral leadership. **Due by 6 pm, March 10.**

7. **Mar. 10** **Holy Mystery/Holy Communion**
Readings: Stookey, *Eucharist*, 11-154
Wesley, "Duty of Constant Communion"
8. **Mar. 17** **Living into the Mystery**
Readings: *This Holy Mystery*
Anderson, "The role of the presider"
Benedict and Hook, "The role of deacons and assisting ministers"
- Optional Readings:*
Living into the Mystery (a "practical companion" to *This Holy Mystery*)
Stookey, "Distribution of Communion by the laity..."
Hickman, "The Work of Communion stewards..."
White, "Celebrating the Eucharist more vitally"
White, "Who gets communion"

Quiz: Complete Quiz 3 on the readings for Weeks 7 and 8. **Due by 6 pm March 31.**

Written Assignment: Annotated service of Word and Table. Details are posted on Moodle. **Due 6 pm March 31.**

Application: Memorize the Great Thanksgiving, using either the text found on pp. 9-10 in *The United Methodist Hymnal* or the alternate text for general use found on pp. 78-79 in *The United Methodist Book of Worship*. **Due April 14 or April 21** with scheduled time before and after class. Other times may be scheduled by appointment.

March 24-28 *Spring Break*

9. **March 31** **Water-washed, Spirit-born: Baptism**
Readings: Stookey, *Baptism*, pp. 11-158
Wesley, "On Baptism"
10. **April 7** **Baptism and Renewal**
Readings: *By Water and the Spirit*

Felton, "Reclaiming the centrality of Baptism"
Benedict, "How to introduce Baptism by pouring or immersing"
Ruth, "Creating space for Baptism"
Hickman, *WRUMH*, 86-109

Quiz: Complete Quiz 4 on the readings for Weeks 9 and 10. **Due by 6 pm April 14.**

Practicum: Service of Baptism

- 11. April 14** **Pastoral Rites: Marriage**
Readings: Anderson and Foley, Ch. 5 "Preparing for Marriage"
Hickman, *WRUMH*, 127-144
Quivik, "Life Passages, Occasional Services, and Cultural Patterns"

Optional readings:

[Kimberly Long and David Gambrell, "The Revised Marriage Rite in the 2018 Book of Common Worship," *Liturgy*, 34.3 \(2019\): 31-41.](#)

[Ruth A. Meyers, "I will bless you, and you will be a blessing": New Marriage Rites for the Episcopal Church," *Liturgy*, 34.3 \(2019\): 42-51.](#)

Practicum: Marriage

- 12. April 21** **Pastoral Rites: Healing and Anointing/Death and Resurrection**
Readings: Anderson and Foley, Ch. 6 "Encountering Death"
Cuenin, "History of healing and anointing in the church"
Glen, "Rites of Healing"
Hickman, "The Ministry of the Church at Death"
Hickman, *WRUMH*, 145-176

Optional Reading:

[Thomas Long, "The Good Funeral: Recovering Christian Practices," *The Christian Century* 126, no. 20 \(October 6, 2009\): 20-25.](#)

Practicum: Healing and Anointing

- 13. April 28** **Renewal and Reform**
Readings: Hawn, *One Bread, One Body*, 141-176
Erickson, "Living, Serving...Praying"
Langer and Perdew VanSlyke, "Interreligious Worship"
Gordon and Perdew VanSlyke, "All flesh shall come"
Schnase, "The Practice of Passionate Worship"

Written Assignment: Hawn provides “ten strategies for cultivating common prayer.” On the “Common Prayer” forum, write 250-300 words in which you respond to strategy 5 and to one other strategy of your choosing. With the latter, begin by telling us why you chose it. As a framework for this response, you might simply ask, “What are the challenges and implications of this strategy for my church context?” **Due by 6 pm Friday, May 1.**

Practicum: Death and Resurrection

Final paper due no later than 9 am May 5 for graduating seniors, 5 pm May 15 for all others.