

## **STMM 510 Theology and Practice of Worship (Summer, 2009)**

Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry

June 22-26, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, Boston University (kbwt@bu.edu)

The purpose of the class is to: (1) examine the history, theologies, and practices of Christian worship from an ecumenical perspective; (2) aid the development of foundations and skills for worship leadership in the Church; and (3) encourage theological thinking and evaluation in regard to the liturgical life of the faith community.

### **Required Texts** (bring all these resources to campus)

E. Byron Anderson, *Worship and Christian Identity* (Liturgical Press)

“Egeria’s Description of the Liturgical Year” (<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~mikef/durham/egetra.html>)

G. Robert Jacks, *Getting the Word Across* (Eerdmans)

Horace Miner, “Body Ritual among the Nacirema” (<https://www.msu.edu/~jdowell/miner.html>)

Laurence Hull Stookey, *Calendar* (Abingdon Press)

Laurence Hull Stookey, *Let the Whole Church Say Amen: A Guide for Those Who Pray in Public* (Abingdon Press)

James F. White, *Introduction to Christian Worship* (Abingdon Press)

World Council of Churches, *Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry*

(<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-commissions/faith-and-order-commission/i-unity-the-church-and-its-mission/baptism-eucharist-and-ministry-faith-and-order-paper-no-111-the-lima-text.html>)

*Worship Sourcebook* (CRC Publications)

“Living Worship” DVD: Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church (to be supplied)

### **Recommended Texts**

Paul Bradshaw, ed., *The New Westminster Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*

Geoffrey Wainwright and Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, eds. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*

### **Denominational Texts** (bring your denomination’s resources to campus)

#### **African Methodist Episcopal Church**

*Book of Worship* (1984); *A. M. E. C. Hymnal* (1984)

#### **African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

current *Discipline*; *A. M. E. Z. Hymnal* (1996)

#### **Christian Methodist Episcopal Church**

current *Discipline*; *The Hymnal of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church* (1987)

#### **Church of the Nazarene**

current *Manual*; *Sing to the Lord* (1993)

#### **Disciples of Christ**

*Chalice Worship* (1997); *Chalice Hymnal* (1995)

#### **Moravian Church**

*Moravian Book of Worship* (1995)

#### **National Baptist Convention, USA**

*The New National Baptist Hymnal* (1977)

#### **Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.**

*The Book of Common Worship* (1993); *Directory for Worship in the Book of Order*;  
*The Presbyterian Hymnal* (1990)

**Southern Baptist Convention, Southern Baptist Alliance, Cooperative**

**Baptist Fellowship**

*The Baptist Hymnal* (1991); *A Manual of Worship*, new ed. (1993);

*Gathering for Worship* (Baptist Union of Great Britain, 2005)

**United Church of Christ**

*Book of Worship* (1986); *The New Century Hymnal* (1995)

**United Methodist**

*The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989); *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (1992)

**Others**

use denominational hymnals and/or worship books

**Requirements**

**Assignments to complete before June 22**

1. Read all the assigned texts. Be prepared to discuss them and draw upon them while on campus. Practice the exercises in *Getting the Word Across* and complete the exercises in *Let the Whole Church Say Amen*.
2. Read all the texts supplied on the DVD and view all the sections.
3. Several weeks before we gather on campus, you will be assigned a scripture text to be used as part of a brief liturgy that you will lead during one class session. The structure of the liturgy that you will prepare is: opening sentences or call to worship (your choice); scripture lesson (the one assigned); silent reflection; collect (an original prayer by you, reflecting the content or images of the scripture lesson; consult *Let the Whole Church Say Amen* for how to write a collect); and benediction (your choice). An electronic copy of the original prayer should be given to the instructor. At the conclusion of the course, all original prayers will be collated, copied, and made available to the entire class.
4. Drawing upon your reading of *Worship and Christian Identity*, "Egeria," and *Calendar*, write a 500 word reflection paper, double spaced, that explores the contributions of the Triduum (e.g., its meanings and practices) to Christian corporate/personal identity. Be sure to document all borrowed material with footnotes or endnotes. The paper is due in hard copy on the first day of class or may be submitted electronically to the instructor prior to June 16.
5. After reading *Introduction to Christian Worship* and reviewing all the material on the DVD, write this paper consisting of a collection of short essays and supporting documentation. The paper is due the first day of class. In addition to the instructor's copy, be sure to have both a hard copy and an electronic version of the paper for yourself when you come to campus.

**Part 1:** Choose a Christian worshipping community with which you are quite familiar.

- a. In 250 words or less, identify the ecclesiastical affiliation(s) of the community and its particular history.
- b. In 250 words or less, identify the social, cultural, and economic makeup of the community.
- c. In 500 words or less, describe the location of the place of worship (e.g., main highway, rural area, urban center, etc.) and the physical features (architectural style, internal layout, furnishings, decoration) of the principal worship space. Include a sketch of the space with the main areas and furnishings identified.
- d. In 500 words or less, identify the principal worship leaders (e.g., clergy, lay leaders, musicians) for this community and discuss their styles of worship leadership (since the instructor alone will read this information and will keep the material confidential, honesty

is encouraged).

- e. Provide worship bulletins/leaflets for 3-4 different Sundays of services (from the same time of service, e.g., 11:00, if a congregation offers multiple services) you have attended in this community. If the community does not use print outlines, either obtain the order of service from the community's leadership or reconstruct the order with as much detail as possible.

**Part II:** Review for a second time the recording and printed order of the Sunday service at Ravenswood.

- a. In 500 words or less, comment on the similarities and differences of Ravenswood's worship space compared to that of the community you described in Part I. How does the configuration of the worship space influence the way these two communities worship?
- b. In 500 words or less, compare the styles of worship leadership utilized by persons at Ravenswood and at the Part I congregation. What might you conclude about effective worship leadership and why?
- c. In 250 words or less, compare the musical customs of Ravenswood and the Part I community. What roles does music (instrumental, choral, congregational) play in these two communities?
- d. In 750 words or less, compare the order and practices of Sunday morning worship at Ravenswood with the services of the Part I congregation. What are the differences? The similarities? What do you believe are the "essential" worship practices of each congregation? How might each congregation define the worship of God? What theological perspectives are being conveyed through these two worshipping communities?

**An assignment to be given on June 22 and completed on campus will draw from the readings, the study of the two congregations, and information given in lectures/presentations. The paper will be due on the last day of class.**

### **Grading of the Course**

Triduum/Identity paper (20% of grade)  
Study of two congregations (40%)  
Leadership of the brief liturgy (10%)  
Participation (10%)  
Final assignment (20%)

### **Tentative Organization of Class Sessions**

June 22 Christian Worship: Foundations  
June 23 Corporate Worship: Structures and Contents  
June 24 Music and Liturgical Arts  
June 25 Sacraments/Ordinances  
June 26 Pastoral Offices (occasional rites)