

**MNST 7316
BTS 3690
ADVANCED PREACHING, WORSHIP, AND LITURGICAL MUSIC
Spring semester 2010
3 semester hours – Thursday 3:15 – 6:15 p.m.
Dr. Carol M. Noren, instructor**

This course is an opportunity for students to consider the challenges of preaching and planning worship in postmodern, multicultural settings, learn to develop liturgies, select music, and prepare sermons using a variety of methods that will enhance their effectiveness in the local church. Students will also consider their biblical, historical, theological, cultural and denominational assumptions about leadership of Christian worship. Course learning will be brought to bear on services for particular liturgical occasions such as weddings, funerals, sacraments, and other services. The lab component of this course will offer opportunities for students to preach and ‘walk through’ these services, thus equipping them for internship and ministry after finishing seminary.

Learning Objectives

1. Equip the student for responsible theological reflection on the relationship between proclamation and liturgy (including music) in various Christian worship contexts. This is in service to *living and working under Scripture’s authority by knowing the Bible in English [or in its original languages] and engaging responsibly in the interpretation and application of its teaching.*
2. Help the student to discern, plan, and lead orthodox and ‘indigenous’ worship, with particular attention to the breadth of traditions in the Evangelical Covenant Church. This is in service to *understanding cultures in order to live and present the Gospel effectively, and understanding the Christian tradition and one’s own place in it.*
3. Enable the student to gain greater competence in the pulpit, through laboratory experience and constructive evaluation/coaching by faculty and peers. This is in service to *communicating effectively through spoken and written media.*
4. Provide the student with competence and skills in planning and leading crisis-related services, including funerals. This is in service to *developing a clear pastoral identity.*

North Park Theological Seminary provides services for students with documented disabilities to ensure equal access to programs, services, facilities and activities. Students with a disability who believe they may need accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact Seminary Academic Services as soon as possible. If desired or necessary, discussion pertaining to documentation and accommodation can take place at another suitable location or by telephone. For information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act Services is found in the Student Academic Handbook.

Course Requirements and Criteria for Evaluation

1. Regular and constructive participation in class sessions.
2. For M. Div. students: The preparation of three sermons for assigned liturgical occasions. At least two of these will be preached to the class. You must use one of the case studies provided for two of the three sermons. Your presentations will be recorded, and you must supply the VHS cassette or other medium for recording.
For BTS 3690 students: The preparation of three complete services for assigned liturgical occasions, including recordings of all music used in these services, and a 1000 – 1500 word essay on the theological principles, liturgical considerations, and cultural factors that came into play in the development of these services. You must use one of the case studied provided for two of the three liturgical occasions.
3. three 3-4 page (double-space typed) reports on worship services you attend that are outside your own liturgical tradition and/or racial/ethnic background. Even if you are currently in a field education assignment, there are plenty of midweek and evening services at Chicago-area churches. Include a bulletin from the service, if bulletins are used, or take sufficient notes that you can re-construct the sequence/order of worship along with your report. The first report will be due on February 25, the second on March 25, and the third on April 29.

Texts for this course:

Kathy Black, *Worship Across Cultures: A Handbook* (Abingdon Press, 1998, ISBN 0687 05652 7)

The Covenant Book of Worship or, if you are not part of the E.C.C., the primary worship Resource/handbook for your church/denomination. (Chicago: Covenant Publications, 2003. ISBN 910452-92-X)

Charlotte Kroeker, editor, *Music in Christian Worship: At the Service of the Liturgy* (Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2005, ISBN 13: 978-0-8146-3021-1)

Carol Norén, *In Times of Crisis and Sorrow* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2001. ISBN 0-7879-5420-9)

Recommended:

Marva J. Dawn, *A Royal "Waste" of Time: The Splendor of Worshiping God and Being Church for the World* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1999. ISBN 0-8028-4586-X)

Cheslyn Jones, Geoffrey Wainwright, Edward Yarnold SJ and Paul Bradshaw, editors, *The Study of Liturgy* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992, ISBN 0-19-520922-2).

Paul S. Jones, *Singing and Making Music: Issues in Church Music Today* (Philipsburg, New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 2006, ISBN 13: 978-0-87552-617-1).

Robert E. Webber, *The Younger Evangelicals: Facing the Challenges of the New World* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2002, ISBN 0-8010-9152-7).

Other readings, also on Reserve in the Library

- Justo Gonzalez, editor, *Alabadle! Hispanic Christian Worship* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996. ISBN 0-687-01032-2)
- Stanley J. Grenz, *A Primer on Postmodernism* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1996. ISBN 0-8028-0864-6)
- Joseph R. Jeter, Jr. *Crisis Preaching: Personal and Public*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998. ISBN 0-687-07392-8)
- Carol Noren, *What Happens Sunday Morning: A Layperson's Guide to Worship*. (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1992. ISBN 0-664-25227-3)
- J.G. Davies, editor, *The New Westminster Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*. (Philadelphia: SCM Press, 1986. ISBN 0-664-21270-0)
- William Willimon, *Worship as Pastoral Care* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1979. ISBN 0-687-46388-2)

General Notes About This Course

If you are preparing for ministry in a tradition other than the Evangelical Covenant Church, please read the corresponding sections for various assignments in your own denomination's worship resource book. If your tradition has no such print resource, consult the professor for suggestions as to equivalent readings. You are encouraged to identify the distinctive theology and practices of your worship tradition in class discussions. In the same way, if your cultural/language context is not represented adequately in the assigned readings and discussion, your insights will enrich our learning together.

The sermons you preach/services you develop for this course must be 'first-run' materials, not something you have already preached elsewhere. You are welcome to coordinate the work with this course with another course in which you are enrolled, however; for example, you may choose to prepare a sermon on a text you are studying for a course in the biblical field. This is an advanced course, so you will not be preaching from a manuscript, but from an outline or notes. If it looks or sounds as though you are reading your sermon, your grade will be lowered.

M.Div. students: On the day you preach, you are to submit the notes you use for preaching as well as a *detailed* order of service and a 300 word theological reflection on the your choices of liturgical material. How much detail should be included? List the titles of all vocal and instrumental worship and, if appropriate, what instruments are being played (as opposed to listing "Praise and Worship" time with no additional information). If a prayer will be extemporaneous, identify whether it is a prayer of confession, intercession, dedication, etc.; otherwise type the prayer out or note the page number if taken from *The Covenant Book of Worship*. Identify the Scripture readings. If others are to have a speaking role in the service, give their names and relationship to the church; for example, Sadie Glutz may be 'head of deacon board' or Phineas Quarles may be 'visiting evangelist.' It will also be helpful if you include rubrics for the service, such as *The Covenant Book of Worship* does when it says things like, "here the pastor may

invite others to join in the laying on of hands...” Keep in mind that what you are producing is not the bulletin that the congregation would receive, but more of a ‘game plan’ so that we can tell who is doing what, and why.

BTS students: on the day you present, you will make photocopies of the service you have developed for distribution to other class members. You will then walk the class through the service and play (either live or recorded) some of the music you have selected/composed for the service. Your presentation should last 15-20 minutes. There is the possibility that one of the services you develop may be incorporated into a seminary chapel service; details are still being worked out. If this is the case, you would certainly not be bound to one of the case studies in the syllabus, but would work with the pastoral context of seminary chapel.

Depending on the number enrolled in the course, you may have to submit one of the preaching and worship assignments in written form only, rather than presenting it to the class. If this is the case, the third assignment will be due on April 29, 2009.

Case Studies for Preaching and Worship

Baptism

1. Hakim is a teenage boy who began attending your church’s youth group a year ago. At a recent retreat, he came to faith in Christ, and now wants to be baptized. Hakim has an aunt and uncle who are Christians (but members of another church), but the rest of his family members are Muslim.
2. Jenny and Jason are the proud parents of Madison, a two month old girl. Jenny grew up in your church, but Jason, who was baptized in the United Methodist Church, has not joined.
3. Veronica is back from a non-denominational conference and reports she had a powerful religious experience. She claims it has made her a whole new person, and would like to be baptized. You know that a few years before you came, she had a similar experience, and your predecessor baptized her – even though he knew that Veronica had been baptized as an infant at this church. The congregation is somewhat divided on the issue, but they agree that they want a sermon from you, explaining what baptism really means.

Holy Communion

1. You are serving a culturally diverse congregation. While some of them come from cultures/denominations where the celebrant serves him/herself first, the Japanese-American members believe it is polite to serve others first and oneself last. The adult Sunday School class has discussed this, but there has been no resolution, and feelings are running high.
2. Grape juice or wine? Wafers or loaf? Common cup or individual cups? Inquiring minds want to know – and know why.

3. You would like to have Holy Communion as part of worship more often, but leaders in your congregation say that having it infrequently makes it more special and holy. Besides, they say, it makes the service too long. Address these concerns in a sermon.

Wedding

1. Katlin and Charles, an African-American couple in your church, have asked you to officiate at their wedding. They want ‘pouring the libation’ and ‘jumping the broomstick’ as part of the ceremony. You haven’t had this in a wedding before, and many of the guests who will be present haven’t seen this, either.
2. Some of your members saw a TV news story about a church that had a ‘renewal of vows’ service for couples who had been married 50 years. They want to know whether you, too, will conduct marriage renewal services, and why.
3. Joanne and Tim want to get married the weekend after they both graduate from North Park University. Joanne is a music major, and wants to sing a solo at her own wedding. The bride and her family are long time members of your church.

Funeral

1. Ten year old Alice died after being battered by her mother’s boyfriend. She was a shy child who attended Sunday School at your church. The Sunday School teacher is particularly distressed, wondering if she missed signs of abuse.
2. John was part of the Hmong congregation that meets in your church on Sunday afternoon. He was 75 years old and died yesterday of an apparent heart attack. Unfortunately, the Hmong pastor is out of the country and won’t be back for four weeks, so you are asked to take the funeral. (Note: Professors Timothy Johnson and Paul DeNeui can give you useful insights for this case study.)
3. Chuck’s cousin Robert lived in the next town. He worked for a car dealership, was divorced, and had no church affiliation. Chuck would like you to take the funeral.

Other Pastoral/Liturgical Occasions

1. You serve a congregation with diverse religious backgrounds. There are former Episcopalians who opted out of the ‘war’ in that denomination, third-generation Covenanters who are sorry the church no longer has a Julotta service, six former Quakers whose church closed a few years ago, and some young adults who are accustomed to Starbucks coffee being consumed during the high-tech service. Help them understand what is essential and what is negotiable in Christian worship.
2. You appreciated the healing services you experienced in seminary chapel, and believe your congregation would benefit from such a service. The board of deacons has approved this, but with some misgivings. They’ve seen faith healers on television, and want to avoid anything flamboyant or sensational.
3. There are many military families in your congregation, some with family members deployed in Iraq or Afghanistan. There were several bombings by insurgents this last week, and the military families are in crisis.

Class Schedule -- to be updated for spring semester

- February 4 Introduction to course materials. Sign up for preaching dates.
 Discussion of relationship of preaching and worship.
 Read: Geoffrey Wainwright, “Theology of Worship” in Davies *New Westminster Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*; Marva Dawn, “For the World: Culture (Part I) in *A Royal Waste of Time*
Learning to ‘read’ a church
 Read: chapter 3, “The Worship Setting” in Norén, *What Happens Sunday Morning*; pages 3-29 in *The Covenant Book of Worship*
 Read: pages 125-153, 187-204 in Webber, *The Younger Evangelicals*, pages 61-66, 542-560 in Jones et. al., *The Study of Liturgy*
- February 11 Covenant Identity and Diversity in Worship
 Panel discussion led by
 Read: chapters 1 and 6 in Justo Gonzalez, editor, *Alabadle!*;
 Pages 119-128 “Hmong-American Worship Practices” and 167-175 “Liberian-American Worship Practices” in Black, *Worship Across Cultures*
Making Decisions about Music
 Read: Paul S. Jones, *Singing and Making Music*, pp.
- February 18 Panel discussion on Baptism led by
 Read: section on “Baptism” in *New Westminster Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*; Seong Wan Cho, “Korean-American Worship Practices” in Black, *Worship Across Cultures*, chapter VII, “Liturgy and Identity: Baptism” in Willimon, *Worship as Pastoral Care*; pages 123-155 in *The Covenant Book of Worship*
- February 25 Field trip to learn baptism by immersion
 Worship lab on different modes of baptism
- March 4 preaching and worship lab
- March 11 spring break – no class
- March 18 preaching and worship lab
- March 25 Preaching and Holy Communion
 Read: chapter VIII, “Liturgy and Community: The Lord’s Supper” in Willimon, *Worship as Pastoral Care*; “Service of the Table”(pages 159-181) in *The Covenant Book of Worship*
Discussion of Case studies on Communion

- April 1 Worship lab: practice officiating at the table
Preaching and worship lab
- April 8 Preaching and healing services
Guest speaker:
Read: Dawn, “In Praise of the Harder Way” (chapter 23) in *A Royal Waste of Time*; J.D. Crichton, “Unction,” in *New Westminster Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*; and “Service Of Healing” (pages 323-336) in *The Covenant Book of Worship*
Preaching and worship lab
- April 15 Weddings: the service and pastoral care issues
Read: “Marriage” in *New Westminster Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*; “Christian Marriage”(pages 185-219) in *The Covenant Book of Worship*; chapter V, “Liturgy and Learning: The Wedding” in Willimon, *Worship as Pastoral Care*
Walk through wedding service, discuss case studies
- April 22 Funerals and Crisis Services
Read: Introduction and chapters 1-5 in Norén, *In Times of Crisis and Sorrow*; “Witness to the Resurrection” (pages 223-250) in *The Covenant Book of Worship*; Chapters 4 and 5 in Jeter, *Crisis Preaching: Personal and Public*
- April 29 preaching and worship lab