

Summer 2023

MN709, Leadership of Reformed Worship

Instructor: Timothy M. Slemmons

3 credits; Letter grade or P/F (with instructor permission)

Prerequisites: None

This 8-week course is highly recommended for Presbyterian students.

This course will introduce students to the particular scriptural, historical, and theological principles of worship in the Reformed tradition, with special emphasis on the current worship resources and practices of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Course Objectives

By participating fully in this class, students will:

- Develop a working understanding of the history, theology, and practices of Reformed worship, including the sacraments
- Gain proficiency in the use of the “Directory for Worship” and other denominational resources of the PC(USA).
- Grow in the ability to plan and implement worship services that nurture Christian faith and character and evince the essential dynamics, elements, and ordering of Reformed worship;
- Nurture the capacity to think theologically and critically about how Reformed worship services are ordered.
- Prepare for the PC (USA) ordination examination on Worship and Sacraments.

Required Texts

- McKim, Donald K. *Introducing the Reformed Faith*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.
- Old, Hughes Oliphant. *Worship Reformed According to Scripture*, revised and expanded edition. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.
- P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Book of Common Worship*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press [current edition, 2018].
- P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, Part I, *The Book of Confessions* [current edition with index].
- P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, Part II, *The Book of Order* [current edition].
- *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.

Recommended/Supplemental Texts (Not required, but helpful and will provide added insight to our conversation)

- Gibson, Jonathan, and Mark Earney. *Reformation Worship: Liturgies from the Past for the Present*. (Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2018).
- McKim, Donald K., ed. *The Westminster Handbook to Reformed Theology*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.
- Slemmons, Timothy Matthew. *Return to God: Historical and Modern Confessional Sources for the Renewal and Regathering of the Church*. Independently published, 2020. ISBN-13: 979-8690681982
- *The Worship Sourcebook*. Grand Rapids: Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 2004.