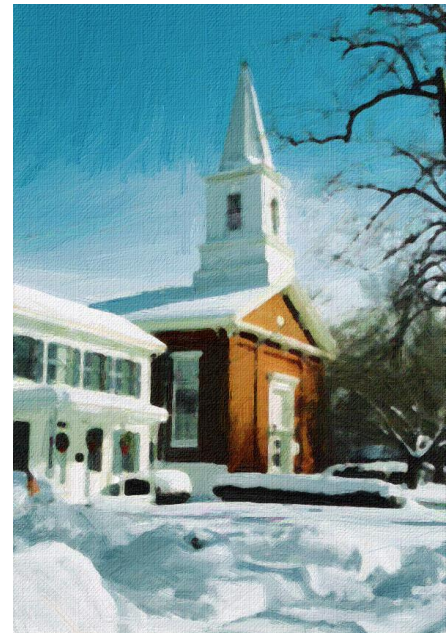


MN 501 — Leading Worship University of Dubuque Theological Seminary— Spring 2025

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Slemmons
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3 credits; Letter Grade Only; Prerequisites: None

Course Description

This course serves as an introductory study of the history, theology, and practice of Christian worship. Attention will be given to biblical, theological, historical, and practical foundations of worship. Within these larger categories of worship, the course will also introduce topics of space, language, and time.



Course Objectives

- Demonstrate a critical and integrative understanding of the history, theology, structure, and contemporary practice of Christian worship, including an introduction to the relationship between Word and act in the leading of public worship.
- Demonstrate a critical appreciation of one's own tradition along with attention to the larger church and contemporary trends in worship and theology.
- Demonstrate practical and analytical tools for providing informed worship leadership in today's congregations.
- Examine issues of ethics and leadership that grow out of the ministry of Word and sacrament.

Required Texts:

Cherry, Constance M. *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010. ISBN-13: 978-0801038747.

Miller, Barbara Day. *The New Pastor's Guide to Leading Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0687497201

Slemmons, Timothy Matthew. *Our Father Knows: The Prayer that Jesus Taught*. Independently published, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-1530033652

Stookey, Laurence Hull. *Baptism: Christ's Act in the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1982. ISBN-13: 978-0687023646.

Stookey, Laurence Hull. *Eucharist: Christ's Feast with the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993. ISBN-13: 978-0687120178

Stookey, Laurence Hull. *Let the Whole Church Say Amen!: A Guide for Those Who Pray in Public*

(Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001. ISBN-13: 978-0687090778.
White, James F. *A Brief History of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993. ISBN-13: 978-0687034147.

[NB: Students are **required** to choose **one** of the following texts]:

Costen, Melva Wilson. *African American Christian Worship*, Second Edition. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993. ISBN-13: 978-0687646227.

Eastman, Dick. *Intercessory Worship: Combining Worship & Prayer to Touch the Heart of God*. Ventura, CA: Regal, 2011. ISBN-13: 978-0830760572.

Gonzalez, Justo L., ed. *Alabadle: Hispanic Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996. ISBN-13: 978-0687010325.

Yee, Russell. *Worship on the Way: Exploring Asian North American Christian Experience*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0817017071.

Denominational Reading

All students are encouraged to identify and secure resources (hymnals and service books) that have been authorized for use in worship by their particular denominational body.

United Methodist students interested in a look at the sacraments from a Wesleyan point of view should consider:

This Holy Mystery, available online at:

<http://www.gbod.org/worship/thisholymystery/default.html>

By Water and The Spirit, available online at:

http://www.gbod.org/worship/articles/water_spirit/

They should also have access to *The United Methodist Book of Worship* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*.

Presbyterian students should have:

The Book of Common Worship (either 1993 or 2018 edition is acceptable).

Denominational hymnals: *Glory to God* or *The Presbyterian Hymnal*.

The latest edition of the "Directory for Worship" (in the current *Book of Order*, online at:

<http://www.pcusa.org/oga/constitution.htm> (look under *Book of Order*).