

BI 271W Preaching Matthew

Instructors: Samantha Gilmore and Troy Troftgruben

Elective: Open to all, synchronous and asynchronous (using class recordings)

1 credit hour: Credit/no credit (or audit) only

This class is an instructional forum for considering how to preach texts from the Gospel of Matthew, especially during Year A of the Revised Common Lectionary. The class will consist of presentations on both Matthew's Gospel and practical aspects of preaching.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To spend time studying Matthew's Gospel, its distinctive themes, and its appearances in Year A of the Revised Common Lectionary in intentional fashion. (*Practice of Biblical and Theological Wisdom*)
2. To consider and discuss how careful exegesis informs and influences sermon preparation. (*Practice of Missio Dei in Word and Sacrament*)
3. To prepare and preach a sermon that reflects awareness of both textual and contextual realities and bears the good news faithfully. (*Practice of Evangelical Listening and Speaking the Faith to Others*)
4. To engage others constructively and collegially in learning communities as resources for both constructive feedback and support. (*Practice of Collegiality*)

PROCEDURE: The course meets weekly for presentations, discussions, and preaching in small groups. Reading and resource selections will be shared to inform deeper engagement with Matthew's Gospel and reflection on the work of faithful preaching. In the latter half of the semester, learners will prepare and deliver an exegetically-informed sermon in small groups for constructive feedback.

EXPECTATIONS AND EVALUATION:

Each participant taking the course for credit is expected to accomplish the following:

1. To attend class sessions and to participate as constructive dialogue partners with peers especially in small group sessions.
2. To read the assigned readings and to ponder larger themes related to Matthew's Gospel and to the craft of faithful preaching.
3. To choose a specific text from Matthew, to prepare an exegetical study of it, and to prepare and deliver a sermon based on that exegetical work.

Recommended Resources:

- Brown, Jeannine K. *Matthew*. Teach the Text Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015.
- Brown, Michael Joseph. "The Gospel of Matthew." Pages 85-120 in *True to Our Native Land: An African American Commentary of the New Testament*. Ed. Brian Blount et al. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2007.
- Case-Winters, Anne. *Matthew*. Belief: A Theological Commentary on the Bible. Westminster John Knox, 2019.
- Culpepper, R. Alan. *Matthew*. New Testament Library Series. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2022.
- Davies, John A. *Lift Up Your Heads: Nonverbal Communication and Related Body Imagery in the Bible*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2018.
- Florence, Anna Carter. *Rehearsing Scripture: Discovering God's Word in Community*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2018.
- Jarvis, Cynthia A., and E. Elizabeth Johnson, eds. *Feasting on the Gospels: Matthew*. 2 vols. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.
- Levine, Amy-Jill. "Gospel of Matthew." Pages 465-77 in *Women's Bible Commentary*. 3d ed. Ed. Carol A. Newsom, Sharon H. Ringe, and Jacqueline E. Lapsley. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2012.
- Long, Thomas. *Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1989.
- Luz, Ulrich. *Matthew: A Commentary*. 3 volumes. Hermeneia. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 2007.
- Reid, Barbara E. *The Gospel according to Matthew*. New Collegeville Bible Commentary 1. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 2005.
- Senior, Donald. *Matthew*. Abingdon New Testament Commentary. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.
- Smith, Mitzi J. "Gospel of Matthew." Pages 105-38 in *Toward Decentering the New Testament: A Reinroduction*. Ed. Mitzi J. Smith and Yung Suk Kim. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2018.