

# Course Description

(1-Page)

**Course Number:** MN 106W

**Course Title:** Foundations of Lutheran Worship

**Name of Instructor:** Jan Schnell

**Semester and Year:** Fall 2024

Requirement fulfilled, who may register, indicate if limited: MN-1 (Yr 1 worship course), all may register  
Number of hours, grading option: 3, Cr/NCr

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will disrupt notions that there is *one* “right way” to worship. We will, instead, sharpen growing abilities to ask insightful **questions** about what is happening within worship, and we will explore the roles of assembly, text, and presence in relation to worship leadership--with attention to biblical, theological, historical, and ritual **foundations**. Therefore, in this course, we will focus on behaviors, being, and processing rather than memorization of facts. We are going to **engage** in worship as a way to learn about it. We will unpack the readings, expand on our diverse foundations, and form ourselves toward embodied worship leaders. In “workshops” students enact worship leadership and give **constructive, critical** feedback. This course seeks to form students to think innovatively and critically about worship in Christian assemblies, especially as pertains to **word and sacrament** and the celebration of the church year.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Appreciate the local nature of a worshipping community (diaconal-pastoral practice of pastoral concern,).
2. Appreciate the unity of the Church in worship (practice of biblical and theological wisdom).
3. Acknowledge diverse origins of Christian worship sources (practice of *missio Dei* in word and sacrament).
4. Celebrate ongoing diversity of Christian worship practices (practice of engagement with cross-cultural and global dimensions and practice of ecclesial partnership).
5. Encourage restoration of lay leadership within worship services (practice of *missio Dei* in word and sacrament).
6. Explore some biblical, historical, and theological foundations of worship (practice of being rooted in the Gospel).
7. Develop a better understanding of your voice/role as worship leader/presider (practice of personal faith and integrity).
8. Practice reflecting critically and theologically on liturgical decisions (toward parish life) (practice of biblical and theological wisdom and practice of complex analysis).
9. Work on the ability to analyze one’s own worship leadership accurately (practice of personal faith and integrity).

## PROCEDURE:

Class sessions include lectures, practical demonstrations, and discussion. Practicums provide opportunity to practice the skills of good worship leadership.

## EVALUATION:

Students, who are preparing for Christian ministry in congregations and religious leadership in other contexts, study liturgy in order to lead and accompany people of faith in the important work of formation—both *in* Christian faith and *for* the life of the world. To do this kind of preparation, we will seek to create a community of learning in which we all are accountable to one another.

Thus, your presence, preparation, and participation in class are indispensable. Like in political, social, and liturgical spheres, in the classroom we all suffer when all voices are not heard. For this reason, attendance and full participation are mandatory.

General Grading Rubric:

This course is cr/ncr

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Required

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Leaders' Desk Edition* (2006)

Brugh, Lorraine S. and Gordon Lathrop. *The Sunday Assembly*. (Using *Evangelical Worship*, book 1)  
Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2008.

Garrigan, Siobhan. "Queer Worship" in *Theology and Sexuality* 15, no. 2 (2009): 211–30.  
<https://doi.org/10.1558/tse.v15i2.211>.

Johnson, Maxwell. "[What is Normative in Contemporary Lutheran Worship? Word and Sacrament as Non-negotiable](#)" in *Currents in Theology and Mission* 38, no. 4 (2011): 245-255.  
<http://www.currentsjournal.org/index.php/currents/issue/view/28>

Lathrop, Gordon. "The Reformation and Liturgical Reform: An Ecumenical Perspective." Gritsch Memorial Lecture (2017). [http://ericwgritsch.org/archives/2017\\_symposium\\_gordon\\_laythrop\\_presentation](http://ericwgritsch.org/archives/2017_symposium_gordon_laythrop_presentation)

Rippentrop Schnell, Jan. "Ready for Communion: Living in Holy Space" in *The Christian Century* 132, no. 17 (2015): 30–33.  
<https://dtl.idm.oclc.org/login?url=https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A434513784/AONE?u=upl1179&sid=AONE&xid=86596565>

Saliers, Don. "Sense, Spirit, and Body in Presiding: A Synaesthetic Environment" in *Liturgy* 22, no. 2 (2007), 35-40.  
Fair Use

Schattauer, Thomas. “[From Sacrifice to Supper](#)” in *A Companion to the Eucharist in the Reformation*, edited Lee Palmer Wandel. p. 205-230. Boston: Brill, 2014.

Van Opstal, Sandra Maria. “[Tensions at the Table: Challenges and Opportunities in Diverse Worship](#)” in *The Next Worship: Glorifying God in a Diverse World*. Grove, Ill.: IVP Books, an imprint of InterVarsity Press, 2015.

Winner, Lauren F. “Prayer that Echoes God: Why There is so much Scripture in Liturgy” in *The Christian Century* 34, no.18 (2017), 26-29. <https://www.christiancentury.org/article/gods-words-liturgys-echo>

“Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry” (World Council of Churches, 1982); available online at: <http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-commissions/faith-and-order-commission/unity-the-church-and-its-mission/baptism-eucharist-and-ministry-faith-and-order-paper-no-111-the-lima-text.html>

“Use of the Means of Grace: A Statement on the Practice of Word and Sacrament” (1997); reprinted in Brugh and Lathrop, *Sunday Assembly*, 283-322. <http://padrepoint.wordpress.com/2011/10/22/text-the-use-of-the-means-of-grace/>

### Suggested

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Pew Edition* (2006)

NB: Ecumenical students consult with instructor to substitute worship books from your tradition, e.g.:

Episcopalian: *Book of Common Prayer* and *Book of Occasional Services*

Methodist: *UMC Book of Worship and Hymnal*

Presbyterian: *Book of Common Worship* (Pastoral Edition), *Directory for Worship*, and *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

United Church of Christ: *Book of Worship: United Church of Christ and the New Century Hymnal*

Bieler, Andrea and Luise Schottroff. *The Eucharist: Bodies, Bread, & Resurrection*

ASIN: B001933RN4

[The Eucharist at Amazon](#)

Quivik, Melinda A., editor. *In Sure and Certain Hope: A Funeral Sourcebook*

9781506431451

[In Sure and Certain Hope at Augsburg](#)

*Torture and Eucharist: Theology, Politics, and the Body of Christ.*

Cavanaugh, William T.

[Torture and Eucharist at Amazon](#)

*Love and Faithfulness: A Marriage Planning Handbook*

Paul E. Walters

[Love and Faithfulness at Augsburg](#)

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Pastoral Care: Occasional Services, Readings and Prayers.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2008.

Maynard-Reid, Pedrito U. *Diverse Worship: African-American, Caribbean & Hispanic Perspectives.* Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2000.

- Nieman, James. "Attending Locally: Theologies in Congregations." *International Journal of Practical Theology* 6 (2) 2002.
- Paulsell, Stephanie. "Bathing the Body" in *Honoring the Body*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003.
- Renewing Worship, Vol. 2 Principles for Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2002.
- Saliers, Don E. "Sense, Spirit, and Body in Presiding: A Synaesthetic Environment" in *Liturgy*, 22 (2): 35-40, 2007.
- Schmit, Clayton. "Art for Faith's Sake" in *Theology, News, and Notes*, Fall 2001.
- Schmit, Clayton. "Scripture Reading in Worship"
- Searle, Mark. "Ritual" in *Foundations in Ritual Studies*, ed. Paul Bradshaw. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.
- Sharen, Christian. "Ideology, Ritual, and Christian Subjectivity" in *Worship* September 1996.
- Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days*, Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2009.