

COS 223 – Worship and Sacraments

Winter 2023, February 17-18 and March 17-18

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COS 223 - Worship and Sacraments Description, Outcomes, and Textbooks

set by General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church

This course examines worship within The United Methodist Church including liturgy, sacraments, and special services. Attention will be given to the pastor's role as leader in worship.

Students will be able to:

- Articulate a theology of worship consistent with the Wesleyan tradition, including reflection on the theology and rhythm of the Christian year.
- Articulate a Wesleyan theology of the sacraments and be competent in their administration.
- Interpret theologically the rites of Christian marriage, and of Death and Resurrection, and be able to lead such services well.
- Construct a worship service, and reflect theologically on the use of hymns, media, contemporary music, and lay leadership.

Texts

Worship for the Whole People of God, **second edition**. Ruth C. Duck. Westminster John Knox, 2021. ISBN: 9780664264765. **Start reading this book as soon as you have it. See #1 and 2 under Assignments.**

The Christian Year: A Guide for Worship and Preaching. Robin Knowles Wallace. Abingdon, 2011.

John Wesley's Sermon "The Duty of Constant Communion" available on Populi (syllabus page)

"A Simple and Affordable Streaming Setup." Jeremy Scott (Johnstown, CO, UMC pastor). 2022.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pfCa53tRcM>

Reference (you may already have these books from a previous class or Licensing School):

United Methodist Hymnal

United Methodist Book of Worship

Worshipping with United Methodists: A Guide for Pastors and Church Leaders, Hoyt Hickman.

"By Water and the Spirit," You MUST use the *Book of Resolutions* or online ONLY; do NOT use

Felton* <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/by-water-and-the-spirit-a-united-methodist-understanding-of-baptism>

"This Holy Mystery," You MUST use the *Book of Resolutions* or online ONLY; do NOT use Felton*

http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_Properties/what-we-believe/documents/this-holy-mystery-communion.PDF

*My reason for this requirement is that the Felton versions contain commentary and it is easy to confuse the original document approved by the UM General Conference (the whole church) and Felton's commentary (one person). The issue is akin to quoting a biblical commentary rather than the Bible itself.

Calendar of Events and Due Dates

February 1, 2023 – Full Populi course page opens
By February 3, 5:30 p.m.—complete student info and post it on Populi under Assignments
By February 8, 5:30 p.m.—complete Theology of Worship assignment (see Assignment #1 below)
By February 16, 5:30 p.m.—complete readings from *Worship for the Whole People of God* (see Assignment #2) and watch “A Simple and Affordable Streaming Setup.” Briefly post insight or question on the discussion board for each chapter, appendix, and the YouTube video
February 17, 2-4 p.m.—Zoom meeting (scripture reading; collects)
February 18, 9-11 a.m.—Zoom meeting (theology; music; space and art; children)
February 18, 11:15 a.m.—COS Zoom Worship
February 18, 1-3 p.m.—Zoom meeting (lectionary; liturgical year; planning time)
By March 9, 5:30 p.m.—complete Baptismal pre-work (post on discussion board)
By March 16, 5:30 p.m.—complete Communion pre-work (post on discussion board)
March 17, 2-4:30 p.m.—Zoom meeting (present team worship)
March 18, 9-11 a.m.—Zoom meeting (Baptism; services of Death and Resurrection; marriage)
March 18, 11:15 a.m.—COS Zoom Worship
March 18, 1-2:30 p.m.—Zoom meeting (Communion)
By March 23, 5:30 p.m.—complete Baptism paper and post on Populi
By March 30, 5:30 p.m.—complete Communion paper and post on Populi
March 31, 2023—Populi Lessons close; no more discussion or assignment posting available

Assignments and Grading

Note: You are encouraged (but not required) to respond to others on the class discussion boards. Please keep each discussion focused on its topic.

1. Due February 8, 5:30 p.m. Theology of worship. Read Chapter 1 in *Worship for the Whole People of God*. Pick 1) one of the five theological emphases she discusses and 2) interpret it as though you were describing your current church/es, and 3) tell how that perspective fits with your own theology. Write around 300 words (250-350, minimum to maximum). Include your last name as the first word in the file name; post under Assignments, Theology of Worship. No resources, other than Duck, needed but if you quote a source, you must cite it properly. Due February 8, 5:30 p.m., worth 15 points. [Note: For comparison, this paragraph is 104 words.]
2. Due February 16, 5:30 p.m. Read chapters 2-3, 5-7, 14, and Appendix 1 and 2, in *Worship for the Whole People of God* and listen to “A Simple and Affordable Streaming Setup.” In one to four sentences, post a question or an insight on the discussion board for each chapter, appendix, and the YouTube video. Worth 15 points.
3. Due March 17, in class. Team-planned and -led worship through the Christian year. To prepare, read chapter 1 in *The Christian Year*. You will be invited as you send in your student info sheet to sign-up for a holy day during the Christian year—Advent 3, Epiphany, Holy Thursday/Good Friday combined, Easter, or Pentecost. Once you have your assignment, read the appropriate section/s in *The Christian Year*. During the first Zoom weekend there will be time to meet your group and begin planning. Each 15–17-minute service will be presented, in liturgical year order, on March 17, with time for questions and feedback following. No sermon, but scripture, at least

one original collect in the service, prayer, music, participatory elements, done using the tech (and non-tech) skills of the team members. Try something new, learn from each other, help the class worship together. Worth 20 points.

4. Baptism

- a. By March 13 at 5:30 p.m.: Read *By Water and the Spirit* (the original UMC document, not Felton), chapters 9 and 10 of *Worship for the Whole People of God*, and *Book of Worship*, 81-94. Post on Baptism Discussion Board, in one to four sentences, an insight you gained or a question you still have about baptism.
- b. Due March 23, 5:30 p.m. Baptism paper: Write 900-1200 words on your understanding of *sacrament* (opening paragraph) and *baptism* in the light of the readings (cite readings when quoting). Write as though you were writing for your Board of Ministry, using *The Book of Discipline* question “What is the meaning and significance of baptism?” Include a final brief paragraph about what it means to you personally to preside at baptism. Make sure to cite sources correctly; include a bibliography (see examples below in this syllabus). **Do not complete this paper before our Zoom meeting on March 17 as things may be clearer after that.** Submit under Baptism Assignment and use your last name as the first word in the file name. Paper is worth 25 points.

5. Communion

- a. By March 15, 5:30 p.m.: Read *This Holy Mystery* (the original UMC document, not Felton); John Wesley’s Sermon “The Duty of Constant Communion”; chapters 11 and 12 in *Worship for the Whole People of God*, and *Book of Worship*, 16-32. Post in one to four sentences an insight you gained or a question you still have about communion on the Communion Discussion Board.
- b. Due March 30, 5:30 p.m. Communion Paper: Write 900-1200 words on your understanding of *sacrament* (opening paragraph, can use the one from your baptism paper, making any suggested corrections after you receive it back) and *communion* in the light of the readings (cite them when quoting). Write as though you were writing for your Board of Ministry, using *The Book of Discipline* question “What is the meaning and significance of communion?” Include a final brief paragraph about what it means to you personally to preside at communion. Make sure to cite sources correctly; include a bibliography in this paper (see examples below). **Do not complete this paper before our Zoom meeting on March 18 as things may be clearer after that.** Submit under Communion Assignment and use your last name as the first word in the file name. Paper is worth 25 points.

Citation Examples (as might appear in body of paper as footnotes or endnotes)

Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, year), use Para. or ¶, except for the opening historic section on “Articles of Religion,” etc. which uses page numbers. (Use BoD, page. for abbreviation in subsequent notes.)

Ruth C. Duck, *Worship for the Whole People of God*, 2nd ed. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2021), page #. (Use Duck, page. for abbreviation in subsequent notes.)

The United Methodist Hymnal (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 1989), hymn #s. (Abbreviate TUMH)

- The United Methodist Book of Worship* (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 1992), use element or page number. (Abbreviate UMBOW)
- The United Methodist Church. “By Water and the Spirit.” *United Methodist Book of Resolutions* (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, year), page #s. (Abbreviate BWS)
- The United Methodist Church. “This Holy Mystery,” http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_Properties/what-we-believe/documents/this-holy-mystery-communion.PDF page # if given, access date (in the case of this syllabus, Dec. 7, 2021). (Abbreviate THM)
- Robin Knowles Wallace, *The Christian Year: A Guide for Worship and Preaching* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2011), page #. (Use Wallace, page. for abbreviation in subsequent notes.)
- John Wesley. Sermon: “The Duty of Constant Communion.” outline #s, for example, I.3.

Bibliography Examples (alphabetical list of sources)

- Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*. Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, year.
- Duck, Ruth C. *Worship for the Whole People of God*. 2nd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2021.
- The United Methodist Book of Worship*. Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 1992.
- The United Methodist Church. “By Water and the Spirit.” *United Methodist Book of Resolutions*. Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, year.
- The United Methodist Church. “This Holy Mystery.” http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_Properties/what-we-believe/documents/this-holy-mystery-communion.PDF, (date accessed).
- The United Methodist Hymnal*. Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 1989.
- Wallace, Robin Knowles. *The Christian Year: A Guide for Worship and Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2011.
- Wesley, John. Sermon: “The Duty of Constant Communion.” Source

Grading Criteria

Inclusive language for people expected; inclusive/expansive language for God appreciated.

A's: Work is excellent, clear, engaging, original and focused; ideas and content are richly developed with details and examples. Organization and form enhance the central idea and theme; ideas are presented coherently to move the reader through the text. The voice of the writer is compelling and conveys the learner's meaning through effective grammar. The learner integrates theoretical concepts, experience, and critical analysis. Outstanding work.

B's: Work is solid, reasonably clear, focused, and supported; ideas are adequately developed with details and examples. Organization and form are appropriate, and ideas are generally presented in a coherent manner. The voice of the writer contributes to the writer's meaning through appropriate grammar. The form of presentation does not interfere with understanding or distract from meaning. Integration of theory, experience and critical analysis is underdeveloped. Good work, above average.

C's: Work has some focus and support; ideas and content are developed with limited details and examples. The work may be somewhat disorganized. The voice of the learner is generally absent; basic sentence structure and limited vocabulary convey a simple message. Presentation errors may reduce understanding and interfere with meaning. The content of theoretical information is limited and large generalizations are made. Critical analysis is absent from the paper. Work meets minimum requirements.

D's: Work has little focus and development; ideas and content are supported by few details or examples. The work lacks direction and purpose. The tone of the work is flat. Awkward grammar and vocabulary interfere with understanding. The form of presentation makes the work difficult to understand. Demonstrated critical analysis is absent, and often large portions of the work are given to rambling of experiences without theoretical context. Work does not meet minimum requirements of the assignment.

COSSO ATTENDANCE POLICY

National policy from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) states that a student is expected to attend every class session. Unexcused absences may be cause for loss of credit or dismissal from the school. A student missing 20% or more of the classroom work shall not receive credit for the class. In the event of extenuating circumstances which require the student to miss up to 20% of the synchronous course time (whether in-person or on Zoom), the student should contact both the instructor and the Director prior to the start of the class to get approval and discuss make-up work. (Extenuating circumstances include emergency situations, illness, and dire circumstances, for example. Students are to provide back-up coverage at the local church while attending COS classes.)

CANCELLATION AND WITHDRAWAL: Student must notify the COSSO office if they will be unable to attend class for which they are registered. Although there is no penalty when withdrawing more than two weeks in advance of the beginning of a term, registration fees are nontransferable and nonrefundable. A \$50.00 late withdrawal fee is charged for all withdrawals within two weeks of the start of a class. All tuition and housing payments are applied to a future term.

Students withdrawing after the start of a term will be assigned a grade of AW (Administrative Withdrawal) and will be responsible for the full \$300.00 tuition amount. Any annual conference scholarship applied to the student billing record becomes the student's responsibility and is due by the end of the term. Housing payment is non-refundable.

NO SHOWS: Except in cases of immediate and dire emergencies, if a student misses any class without notifying the COSSO office, tuition and housing fees are due immediately, a \$50.00 no show fee is charged, and the student will receive an "F" in the class.

COSSO ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling his or her academic requirements be the original work of the student.

Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating dishonesty or lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations in this category include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly passing off work of another as one's own.

Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting as one's own work the work of another whether published or unpublished (including the work of another student). A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism.

A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor code, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following sanctions: (1) warning; (2) failing grade for the assignment and/or course; (3) probation; (4) suspension; (5) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio. In severe or repeat cases (regardless of the sanctions) a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry representative.