

## Worship & Sacraments

### Course Description:

Courses offered in the area of worship and sacraments should explore the theology and practice of Christian worship and sacraments from a Reformed perspective. In addition, courses should explore the relationships between worship, sacraments, and education in a congregational context. Courses should aim to enhance the participants' participation in, leadership of, preparation for, and teaching about worship and the sacraments.

### Suggested Course Objectives:

Courses offered in the area of worship and sacraments should enable participants to:

1. Explore the various dimensions of worship including time, actions, objects, environment, space, speech, and song.
2. Become familiar with the characteristics, elements, structure, and order of Reformed worship, and explain their meanings and relationships.
3. Observe and reflect on the breadth of worship practices within the Presbyterian Church and relate those practices to the worship practices of other traditions.
4. Become familiar with the Directory for Worship and articulate the teachings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on topics such as worship, sacraments, baptism, Eucharist, worship and ministry, worship and mission.
5. Relate the practice of worship to contemporary learning theories.
6. Identify the relationships that exist between worship and education in the congregation.
7. Design a learning event related to and including worship.

### Foundational Resources:

The Directory for Worship from the current PC(USA) *Book of Order*  
*Book of Common Worship*

Invitation to Christ: Font and Table: A Guide to Sacramental Practices (online)

### Recommended Resources:

(Textbooks should be limited to 2-3 at the most for a 30 hour course, although portions of additional works may be used.)

Benedict, Daniel, *Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us* (2007)

Boling, Ruth L., *A Children's Guide to Worship* (2007)

Bower, Peter C., *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (2003)

Brown, Caroline C., *You Can Preach to the Kids, Too!* (1997)

Burgess, John P., *After Baptism: Shaping the Christian Life* (2005)

Byars, Ronald P., *Christian Worship: Glorifying and Enjoying God* (2000)

Caldwell, Elizabeth Caldwell, *Come Unto Me: Rethinking the Sacraments for Children* (1996)

Dyrness, William A., *A Primer on Christian Worship: Where We've Been, Where We Are, Where We Can Go* (2009)

Juengst, Sara Covin, *Sharing Faith with Children: Rethinking the Children's Sermon* (1994)

Long, Kimberly Bracken, *The Worshiping Body* (2009)

Long, Thomas G., *Beyond the Worship Wars: Building Vital and Faithful Worship* (2001)

Murphy, Debra Dean, *Teaching that Transforms: Worship as the Heart of Christian Education* (2006)

Ramshaw, Gail, *A Three-Year Banquet: The Lectionary for the Assembly* (2004)

Rice, Howard L. & Huffstutler, James C., *Reformed Worship* (2001)

Stewart, Sonja M. & Berryman, Jerome W. *Young Children and Worship* (1989)

Stookey, Laurence Hull, *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church* (1996)

Vann, Jane Rogers, *Worship Matters: A Study for Congregations* (2011)

White, James F., *Introduction to Christian Worship, third ed.* (2001)

### **Certification Exam Readiness:**

By the end of the certification process, in order to successfully complete the examination, student will need to be able to apply what was learned from this knowledge and skill area to situations that often arise in a congregational context.

*Approved by the PC(USA) Educator Certification Committee, April 28, 2016*

*The Educator Certification Committee of the PCUSA provides approval for each course and course instructor on an individual basis. This document is meant to provide only an overview of this particular topic and does not provide a blanket approval for all courses.*