**COS 223 Worship and Sacraments 2024**

**APPALACHIAN LOCAL PASTORS SCHOOL**

**DR. KEN A. RAMSEY, INSTRUCTOR**

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**DESCRIPTION:** This course will examine worship within The United Methodist context including preaching, liturgy, and the sacraments. Strategies for leadership and change will be included.

**TEXTS:**

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

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

William H. Willimon, Sunday Dinner

This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion

Gayle Carlton Felton By Water and The Spirit: Making Connections for Identity and Ministry

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS: (Pre-Work)**

1. Read the book by Hickman and compose a 4-6 page paper addressing and reflecting on the following questions:
2. What are the four elements of transformed worship?
3. How would you evaluate Hickman’s five basic principles of Christian worship? Are there others you would include?
4. What are the origins of the basic pattern of worship we have today? How did it develop, especially in the first four centuries of the church?
5. What are the “ages” of the basic pattern of worship as it developed in Methodism?
6. Of the four parts of the basic pattern of worship, which is most emphasized in your church? Which one is less emphasized and why?
7. Read the book by Wallace and write a 3-4 page paper addressing and reflecting on the following:
8. What is the definition of “Missio Dei” and how should this concept influence Christian worship today?
9. Identify the different “cycles” of the Christian year and highlight the cycle that you find to be more prominently celebrated in your congregation. Give reasons why you think this may be the case and give examples of effective ways this cycle is celebrated in your worship.
10. Read Sunday Dinner and write a 2 page paper answering the following questions:
11. According to Willimon how often should a church celebrate communion? How do you think your church would respond?
12. What does the word “mass” actually mean ?
13. What is the original meaning of the word “deacon”?
14. What is wrong with the practice of closed communion?
15. What is the intinction method of communion? Have you used this method and what method do you use most often?
16. Why does the author feel that both preaching and communion should be included in services of worship?
17. Read By Water and the Spirit and write a 3-4 page paper on the meaning of baptism. Be sure to cover the Biblical roots of baptism, what we believe is happening in baptism, our understanding of infant baptism, and an outline of what you say to those seeking baptism, including parents presenting their children.,
18. Be prepared to discuss the document, “This Holy Mystery.”

**POLICY AND PROCEDURES:**

* For Hybrid courses, all class sessions are required. Your instructor will email you a welcome letter about 10 days prior to the first class. Email your instructor if you do not receive your welcome letter by email by 7 days prior to the first class weekend session. You will receive videos with links after the first in person weekend to watch the lectures that may not be covered in person and to prepare you for zoom class discussion or directions for partner discussions. The class syllabus may only list major written assignments. Other assignments may be given such as videos to watch prior to or in between zoom weekend classes. All courses include required prework, in person and zoom class sessions on weekends, and written assignments. Some courses include videos to watch and/or partner discussions, and handouts. **ZOOM sessions REQUIRE video being ON in order to satisfy participation requirements. If you cannot or do not have video ability, find someone you know who does and ask to utilize their technology.**
* Prework is required for all COS courses. **Prework must be MAILED to the instructor and postmarked 10 days prior to the first Friday class weekend session--unless an earlier date for Prework is specified in the syllabus.** MAIL your prework to the instructor sooner than 10 days ahead if it is finished. The 10 days allows for slow mail and grading prior to your first weekend class. Priority mail provides you with a tracking number. **Do not send it “signature required”.**
* Normal church duties do not constitute a reason for a **Pre-work Extension**. Extensions for late prework for health emergencies, etc. may only be granted BY Dr. Nye by email [bnye34@gmail.com](mailto:bnye34@gmail.com) . Withdrawals or changes must be addressed to Dr Nye.
* **Order textbooks** as soon as you register at least 45 days prior to class (if possible 3-6 months prior to class), so you have adequate time to process your registration and do your prework on time.

These policy and procedures including writing expectations, assignment deadlines, and other general course information can be found on the ALPS website.