

# Worship

## Syllabus

### The Goal of this class

The goal of this class is to explore the meaning of worship in the life of a Christian. It will explore the historic Eucharistic and Office liturgies of the Church and the Biblical principles pertaining to them. It will look at the relationship between the Church on Earth and the Church in Heaven and how worship unites them here and now. It will explore liturgical vestments, art and construction to see their importance in the history of God's people. The student will learn the importance of the principle of *lex orandi lex credendi*. The student will practice skills in being a lector and leader in liturgy.

### Instructor

The instructor for this course is The Rev. John G. Fleischmann, STS, Pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, East Moriches, NY. Email: [ResQRev@mac.com](mailto:ResQRev@mac.com). Telephone: 631-874-3725; Cell Phone 631-252-0613.

### Classes

With the exception of the first class held on Thursday, March 5, all classes will take place on **Tuesday Evenings** at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Dix Hills, NY. Class time is 7:30pm to 10:00pm.

### Class Schedule

#### **I. Thursday, March 5: Introduction**

- + Introduction to Worship
- + Worship as an "Echo"
- + Introduction to *Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down*
- + Introduction to *Gathered Guests*
- + The God-Centeredness of Worship
- + The Dimensions of Worship

#### **II. Tuesday, March 10: The Lutheran Liturgy**

- + The Liturgy of the Word
- + Being a Lector: A Plea for Literacy
- + Liturgy of the Sacrament
- + The Importance of Liturgy: The link between history and Parousia.
- + Practicing Reading

#### **III. Tuesday, March 17: Worship, Music and the Arts**

- + What makes a good hymn?
- + What are the criteria for selecting music? Substance and Style
- + Art in Worship
- + Vestments in the Lord's Service
- + Architecture in the Lord's Service

#### **IV. Tuesday, March 24: Festival and Occasional Worship Services**

- + Seasonal Worship Services
- + Occasional Worship Services
- + Services of the Word
- + Morning, Evening and Daily Services.

#### **V. Tuesday, March 31: Prayer in Worship**

- + Liturgical Prayer
- + Liturgical Minstires
- + Practice Leading A Service as an Assisting Minister

#### **Tuesday, April 7 – No Class/ Holy Week**

#### **VI. Tuesday, April 14: Variety in Worship**

- + *Lex Orandi Lex Credendi* principle
- + Why are some practices good and others not?
- + Leading Small Group Worship/ Prayer
- + Project Due.
- + Discussion of Projects

#### **Project**

Some ideas to get you started.

1. Write a 5-8 verse hymn on a topic of your choice. You may use an existing tune. The hymn should reflect proper theology, have good poetry and carry the theme of the hymn through all verses.
2. Write a brief paper on “How to solve the ‘Worship Wars’”. Present specific ideas that can assist congregations struggling with this issue.
3. Create a 4 week Bible Study on worship that you can use in your congregation. It can be a topical study from the Bible or a textual study.
4. Create a YouTube Video on some aspect of worship. Be creative.
5. ??? Come up with your own idea for a project. Please share it with the Instructor prior to initiating it.

The project is due on April 14. The preferred method of submission is via email or electronic media. It can be in Word, pdf, rich text format, PowerPoint, or KeyNote formats. Videos can be uploaded to YouTube and the Instructor provided with a link; or they can be on DVD. For those not so technologically savvy, you may submit your report in written form to the Instructor at the Last class.

#### **Texts**

Two text books will be used for this class. The main text is *Gathered Guests: A Guide to Worship in the Lutheran Church* by Timothy H. Maschke. This text is the basis for the classes. The second book is *Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down: A Theology of Worship for this Urgent Time* by Marva J. Dawn. The total cost for each student (for both books) is \$40. You may make your check out to John G. Fleischmann. The books will be provided to you.