

Competency Exercise

Leading the Church in Worship and Interpreting the Scriptures for the Church

For the competency exercise joining *Leading the Church in Worship and Interpreting the Scriptures for the Church*, the student will prepare and lead a worship service in her or his congregational setting on a liturgical date negotiated with the faculty.

Before the service, the student will turn in to the faculty a portfolio of the following materials:

- a critically written credo (2000 words) concerning the relation of Scripture and worship, which includes
 - a reasoned hermeneutic;
 - an expression of Scripture as a theological authority for the church, including the role of Scripture in preaching;
 - an expression of the purpose of worship within the community of faith;
 - an expression of the purpose of preaching within the community of faith;
- a critical interpretation of the primary scriptural text for the service (3000 words) that demonstrates facility with exegetical methods, includes conversation with critical interpreters, and synthesizes the results of their study in terms of the theological value/sense of the text for the church;
- an annotated script of the worship service (1,500 words for these annotations; the word count for the annotations does not include hymn titles, texts of prayers, etc.) that provides 1) an explanation of why this service is appropriate for the particular cultural and congregational setting; and 2) the liturgical, theological, ecclesiological, aesthetic and/or pastoral rationale for each liturgical action;
- a sermon manuscript that includes a statement of the sermonic claim and a description and rationale for the rhetorical form used. (The manuscript length should fit with the expectations of the congregation concerning the typical length of a sermon in their worship. Further, the student is not expected to stick to the manuscript word-for-word during the delivery of the sermon.)

After the service, the student will upload to an internet dropbox (different than the dropbox in LTS Online) a video recording of the service following instructions provided by Ben Wyatt. The URL for the video must be supplied to the faculty.

As part of their evaluation and grading of the exercise, the two faculty (one from *Leading the Church in Worship* and one from *Interpreting the Scripture for the Church*) will take into consideration

- an evaluation form filled out by a lay committee in the congregation; and
- an evaluation form filled out by the student's onsite mentor.

Students will receive two grades for the exercise—one for each area covered. As part of the feedback provided to the student, the attached rubric will be used to signal to the student her or his strengths and weakness in the two areas.