**Growing in Faith - Foundation Year**

**Worship Matters**

Course Description

Why do we worship Sunday after Sunday? Is worship intended for an ‘in group’ to comfort and console? Is worship intended to equip for mission and service? Is worship for God or for us? As we explore these questions, we will discover tensions in worship: a God focus or a communal focus, a head focus or a heart focus, a structured worship or a free worship, a universal church focus or a focus on the local assembly and its needs.

How we worship as a community will be informed by our roots in the Western Church’s liturgical tradition as well as by social and cultural experiences in a particular time and place. Through our conversations we will challenge and equip one another for the ongoing renewal of the worship life of the church.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

* understand the origins of Christian Worship.
* have a deeper understanding and experience of the Central Liturgy of the Eucharist contrasting it with non-liturgical traditions.
* be equipped to use the various worship resources in the ELW (including how to use the ELW for one’s personal devotional life).
* recognize how the arts and architecture shape our worship.
* experience and champion ongoing worship renewal in the local congregation.

Course Content

Instructors are encouraged to use With the Whole Church PDF Syllabus as the outline of the course and add and insert additional texts and resources. Power-point presentations are available for download and editing by the instructor.

Expectations

* attend each session reading assignments in advance.
* participate in discussions.
* complete assignments and/or final paper assigned by Instructor.
* enjoy the community which is being formed.

**Instructors are encouraged to consider using one or a combination of the following texts and resources for students:**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

**Here is the Syllabus for Students and Instructor**: (click for PDF)With the Whole Church – Free - PDF Download by clicking: [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Formation With\_the\_Whole\_Church.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Formation%20With_the_Whole_Church.pdf)

Bible: New Revised Standard Version

Central Things: Worship in Word and Sacrament  [Gordon W. Lathrop](https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/search?ss=Gordon+W.+Lathrop)

Love to Live the Story A Guide to Understanding & Celebrating the Christian Church Year Authors: Arden Mead and King Schoenfeld

Order from Creative Communications –

Order #CYH Click to order:

<https://www.creativecommunications.com/Products/CYH/i-love-to-live-the-story.aspx>

Worship Matters: An Introduction – Participant Book

Order only from Augsburg/Fortress -- #**9781451436051**

Introduction to Christian Liturgy by Frank Senn Order on Amazon or Augsburg: <https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/9780800698850/Introduction-to-Christian-Liturgy>

The Worshiping Life: Meditations on the Order of Worship

by Lisa Nichols Hickman ISBN #0-664-22759-7 – Amazon

**Resources for the Instructor:**

Worship Matters: An Introduction Leader’s Guide Order from Augsburg/Fortress <https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/17507/Worship-Matters-An-Introduction-to-Worship-Leader-Guide>

New Creation: A Liturgical Worldview - Frank C. Senn ISBN#0-8006-3235-4

A Royal Waste of Time: The Splendor of Worshipping God and Being Church for the World - Marva J. Dawn ISBN #0-8028-4586-X.

Sacred Drama: A Spirituality of Christian Liturgy by Patricia Wilson-Kastner ISBN #08006-2604-4 Fortress Press

Check out ELCA Worship resources from Churchwide click this link:

<https://search.elca.org/Pages/results.aspx#k=Worship%20PDF>