Instructor

The Rev. Dr. Jon D. Payne is the organizing pastor of Christ Church Presbyterian (PCA) in Charleston, South Carolina. Before moving to Charleston he served for ten years as senior pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Douglasville, Georgia (2003-2013). Rev. Payne is a graduate of Clemson University (B.A. ’93), Reformed Theological Seminary (M.A.T.S ’98 / D.Min ’04), and the University of Edinburgh (Scotland), New College (M.Th. ’02). Dr. Payne is the Convener of the Gospel Reformation Network and a Council Member for the Twin Lakes Fellowship. He is a visiting lecturer in practical theology at Reformed Theological Seminary (Atlanta/Charlotte), series editor of and contributor to the Lectio Continua Expository Commentary on the New Testament (Tolle Lege, 2012—), and author/editor of several books including John Owen on the Lord’s Supper (Banner of Truth, 2004), In the Splendor of Holiness: Rediscovering the Beauty of Reformed Worship for the 21st Century (Tolle Lege, 2008; translated into Spanish, Burmese, Chinese, and Portuguese), and A Faith Worth Teaching: The Heidelberg Catechism's Enduring Heritage (Reformation Heritage Books, 2013). Rev. Payne also frequently contributes to Table Talk, Modern Reformation, and other magazines and journals.

Contact Dr. Payne at jdpchristchurch@icloud.com

Course Overview

The three-hour course will explore the biblical, redemptive-historical, confessional, cultural, liturgical, covenantal, and practical dimensions of Christian worship.

Course Objectives

1. Cultivate a biblical understanding of the nature, form, and practice of Christian worship.
2. Gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the theology and history of Christian worship.
3. To teach future / current ministers how to best to prepare for and lead Lord’s Day worship services that are Reformed according to Scripture.

Course Dates

August 28th-29th
October 16th-17th
December 4th-5th
Course Requirements

I. Course Reading

a. Worship in the Early Church by Ralph P. Martin
b. Liturgies of the Western Church by Bard Thompson
c. The Necessity of Reforming the Church by John Calvin
b. A Better Way by Mike Horton
c. In the Splendor of Holiness by Jon D. Payne
d. Holy Communion in the Piety of the Reformed Church by Hughes Oliphant Old (*select chapters— p. 3-79; 239-471)
f. Give Praise to God by (eds) Ryken, Thomas, & Duncan (*select chapters— p. 1-101; 140-169; 222-286)

II. Assignments / Grades

a. Essay (10-12 pages) on approved topic or one listed below.
b. Class seminars / discussions: 20% of grade (*instructions to follow)
c. Written liturgies and prayers: 10% of grade.
d. Required reading: 20%

Essay Topics

a. The Nature and Practice of Prayer in Worship
b. “Reverence and Awe” in Worship
c. Worship & the Means of Grace
d. A Biblical Theology of Worship
e. Worship and the Christian Sabbath
f. Music and Singing in Worship
g. Worship and the early church
h. Calvin on Worship

Extension Policy

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class. Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed. Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension
Request Form from the Student Services Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14) Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)
## MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.

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<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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### Articulation (oral & written)
- Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.
- **Strong**
  - Course will explore, in depth, the theological, historical, and biblical foundations of Christian Worship.

### Scripture
- Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)
- **Strong**
  - Course will explore biblical words, phrases, and concepts related to biblical worship and interact with contemporary issues.

### Reformed Theology
- Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.
- **Strong**
  - Course will interact with Reformed Confessions and specifically with the WCF.

### Sanctification
- Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.
- **Strong**
  - Course will present the activity of worship as grounded in the saving love of God for His people and a response of gratitude and love by His people.

### Desire for Worldview
- Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.
- **Strong**
  - Course will explain the regulative principle of worship and its importance for today’s church.

### Winsomely Reformed
- Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)
- **Moderate**
  - Course will teach students to discern between biblical and unbiblical worship, but to do so with Christian charity.
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<tr>
<th>Preach</th>
<th>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Course will explore the centrality of expository preaching for both head and heart.</th>
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<td>Worship</td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Course will teach students to understand and construct a Christian worship service.</td>
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<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Course will teach that biblical worship part and parcel to true biblical shepherding.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church/World</td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Course will explore worship in denominational and modern context.</td>
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