

# RTS ATLANTA

## Worship {4PT526}

### Spring 2017

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#### Instructor

The Rev. Dr. Jon D. Payne is the founding pastor of Christ Church Presbyterian (PCA) in Charleston, South Carolina. From 2003-2013 Dr. Payne served as the pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Douglasville, Georgia. He is the Convener of the *Gospel Reformation Network*, and a council member of the *Twin Lakes Fellowship*. He 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 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* (Reformation Heritage Books, 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, Portuguese, and Italian), and *A Faith Worth Teaching: The Heidelberg Catechism's Enduring Heritage* (Reformation Heritage Books, 2013). He edited and introduced Hughes Oliphant Old's magisterial *Holy Communion in the Piety of the Reformed Church* (Tolle Lege, 2014). Dr. Payne contributes to *Modern Reformation*, *Table Talk*, etc., and frequently speaks at Reformed conferences around the world. Dr. Payne is currently working on a commentary on First Peter (RHB), a family worship book on the Psalms (Christian Focus), and a chapter in a forthcoming book on the Christian Sabbath edited by Dr. Chad VanDixhoorn. He and his wife, Marla, have been married for 18 years and have two children, Mary Hannah (13) and Hans (11).

Contact Dr. Payne at [jdpchristchurch@icloud.com](mailto:jdpchristchurch@icloud.com)

#### Course Dates / Locations

RTS Atlanta: February 3-4; 24-25; March 3-4; 17-18.

#### 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 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: Rediscovering the Beauty of Reformed Worship for the 21st Century* 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: 50% of grade.
- b. Class seminars / discussions: 20% of grade (\*instructions to follow)
- c. Written liturgies and prayers: 10% of grade.
- d. Required reading: 20%

**\*ALL READING REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE ON APRIL 21ST.**

### **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)

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: Worship / 4PT526

Professor: Dr. Jon D. Payne

Campus: RTS Atlanta

Dates: Feb. 3-4; 24-25; Mar. 3-4; 17-18.

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<p>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.</p> <p>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Strong</li> <li>&gt; Moderate</li> <li>&gt; Minimal</li> <li>&gt; None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	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.
<b>Scripture</b>	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.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	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
<b>Sanctification</b>	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.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	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.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	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.

<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Course will explore the centrality of expository preaching for both head and heart.
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Strong	Course will teach students to understand and construct a Christian worship service.
<b>Shepherd</b>	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.	Minimal	Course will teach that biblical worship part and parcel to true biblical shepherding.
<b>Church/ World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Course will explore worship in denominational and modern context.