

**American Baptist Churches of New York State  
Lay Study Program**

**WORSHIP**

**STUDENT'S GUIDE**

Curriculum Committee  
of the  
ABC/NYS Lay Study Team

April 2003

## **Course Description**

There are four major elements of focus in this course. The first deals with the history and development of worship in the Christian churches from the first century A.D. to our current times. The second is a close look at the meaning and significance of the various elements that comprise a Christian worship service. The third area of our focus is on the diverse worship practices in our churches today and the factors that are contributing to this diversity. Our last major focus looks to the future and asks, "What will be the shape and substance in the manner in which we worship in the future?"

## **General Texts**

The Curriculum Committee allows the instructor to choose any one text from the following list or a combination of several texts or other sources whether they are from the list or not. The instructor also may elect to not use any text but to rely on collateral reading and/or handouts. Instructors should keep in mind the cost to the students of these materials and their availability.

It is not possible for the Curriculum Committee to personally purchase and read every available potential text for each course. We do as much as we can, but often we must base our findings on the editorial and customer reviews and descriptions that are available on the amazon.com web site or others. We also read text excerpts and indexes. We would advise each instructor to personally check this material on the various websites for further aid in your selecting your text(s). The Curriculum Committee group that constructed this syllabus has suggested that you consider the following texts:

### **Word, Water, Wine and Bread: How Worship Has Changed Over the Years**

by William H. Willimon

This book is available from amazon.com for \$10.40 plus shipping. It was published in May of 1980 and is a 128-page paperback. It is a very usable secondary text for this course. It was used in the previous "Worship" course.

### **Introduction to Christian Worship** by James F. White

This book is available from amazon.com for \$21 plus shipping. It was recently revised and carries a January 2001 publication date. It is a 326-page paperback. The Amazon reviewers rated it at 4 stars (out of five). Unfortunately, there were very few reviewers represented in the survey. The reviews would indicate that this is a very excellent book for our purpose. The only negative seems to be that while it is very large in scope and quite comprehensive in the number of topics presented, it does not go into sufficient detail on each topic. It was also used as a co-text for the previous worship course.

### **Worship Evangelism** by Sally Morgenthaler

This book is available from amazon.com for \$11.80 plus shipping. It carries a January 1999 publication date and is a 320-page paperback. It received a review of 4 or five stars from Amazon. The basic theme is that regular worship at our regular services does a better job of bringing souls to Christ than does the "seeker services." The range of opinions expressed by the reviewers indicates that this book is quite controversial. Some reviewers loved it; others really panned it. It seems to not be a particularly smooth "read."

**Authentic Worship in a Changing Culture** – no author given

This short book is available from amazon.com for \$4.95 plus shipping. This is an expanded study version of a 1997 synodical report on worship. This book was not reviewed by Amazon. It seems to deal mostly with changes in contemporary worship within the tradition of the Reformed Church. It includes discussion of the contemporary forces that are shaping worship as well as the theology and the dynamics of worship.

**The New Worship: Straight Talk on Music and the Church** by Barry Wayne Liesch

This book is available from amazon.com for \$11.98 plus shipping. This book is dated May 2001 (expanded edition) and is a 269-page paperback. The Amazon reviewers gave this book their highest rating of five stars. It is currently used in many colleges and seminaries. While I have not read this text, I think I would examine it thoroughly if I were to be called on to teach this course. This is a text that I personally would choose. The book's Table of Contents is quite comprehensive.

**Planning Blended Worship: The Creative Mixture of the Old and New**

by Robert E. Webber

This book is available from amazon.com for \$11.90 plus shipping. It is a 160-page paperback with an October 1998 publication date. The Amazon reviewers gave this book four of five stars. This book seems to do just what its title would indicate. It might be good to also look at a companion book by the same author **Blended Worship**. This author has also written **Worship is a Verb, Worship Old and New** and **Renew Your Worship**.

**Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down: A Theology of Worship for the Turn of the Century Culture** by Marva J. Dawn and Martin E. Marty

This book is available on amazon.com for \$12.60 plus shipping. This 327-page paperback stems from September 1965. It received a four or five star rating from the Amazon reviewers. The book deals a lot with the cultural aspects of worship and the tensions between those who which a more contemporary service and those who prefer the more traditional. These "worship wars" are decried as to the danger they are presenting to the church today.

**Exploring Worship: A Practical Guide to Praise and Worship** by Bob Sorge

This book is available from amazon.com for \$10.50 plus shipping. This is a 297-page paperback. It dates from April 1987. The Amazon reviewers held this book in high esteem and awarded it their highest rating of five stars. This book details the difference between praise and worship and covers numerous topics germane to this course. It is widely used as a college text. If I were heading towards very "charismatic worship" I would find this book very valuable.

**WWW. Worshipinfo.com**

This is a web site that exists to equip, educate, and provide original resources for pastors, worship leaders, performing musicians and technical staff. Resource books, worship CDs, tutorials and other worship aids are available at this site.

**Scriptures**

The use of any standard Bible is recommended. Among such recommended scriptures are: The King James Version (KJV), The New International Version (NIV), Revised Standard Version (RSV), New King James Version (NKJV), New American Standard Bible (NASB),

New Living Translation (NLT), 21<sup>st</sup> Century King James, NIV formatted, or the Amplified (AMP).

### **Study Tools**

These web sites are available on the Internet.

Bible Gateway: <http://bible.gospelcom.net/bible>

Bible Study Tools: <http://crosswalk.com>

Blue Letter Bible: <http://www.blueletterbible.org>

Multiple search engines such as: <http://www.dogpile.com>

The prices listed and availability were as of February 2003. We would further suggest that you check these and other sources for current availability and price so that you will be able to purchase the book(s) at the most reasonable price.

The original "Worship" Lay Study course was created by the Rev. Dana Martin. Dr. Joseph Perry of the Curriculum Committee of the ABC/NYS Lay Study Team wrote this syllabus in order to bring the previous course in alignment with the current standards of construction for Lay Study courses. Much of the original course was retained, but there have been some additions and some other changes within a few of the areas of consideration. Major new emphasis is placed on some of the more contemporary/evangelical methods of worship and the role of music in the worship service. The Bibliography was also considerably modified.

## ***LESSON SCHEDULE, OBJECTIVES, ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES***

### **General Course Objectives**

By the conclusion of this class the student should have knowledge and understanding of:

1. The historical development of worship
2. The Biblical foundation for worship
3. The meaning and use of the various components of a worship service
4. The various types of worship activities throughout history
5. The worship service as it is found in today's churches
6. The "Baptist" service
7. The components of worship that are best suited to pastoral care
8. A sense of the manner in which worship is changing in our contemporary society
9. What the worship of the future might be like
10. Their own individual worship needs and program

### **Student Requirements and Assessment**

The students are expected to read the material as assigned. Each student will complete as scheduled three projects/presentations from the list of projects included in the session-by-session schedule.

The instructor's assessment of the student's work in the class will consist of his/her evaluation of the student's oral presentations, in class-activities, any written papers and the quality and degree of the student's participation in the class discussions. An instructor may also choose to use "take home" quizzes. The final grade will be either pass or not pass.

## ***Session One***

### **Premise**

Our concept of Christian worship today has been influenced by numerous factors. One of the most significant factors is the historical development of worship through the ages. The first session raises several questions about our current worship practices and traces the development from Old Testament times to the end of the first century A.D.

### **Specific Goals for the First Session**

The student will gain knowledge, understanding and insight in the various practices of worship throughout its development through history.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. Introduction to the course, the texts required, the required assignments and readings, and the overall goals of the presentations and discussions in the various areas of study
2. The heritage of worship from the Jewish Tradition in the Old Testament
3. The Lord's Supper and baptism in New Testament times
4. Service of the Word (synaxis)

### **Discussion Questions and Activities**

1. The students could discuss their views of what the term "Worship" means to them.
2. The students could relate worship services that were particularly meaningful to them.
  - A. Was there a "common" ground among these worship experiences?
  - B. How is a worship service different from other type services one might attend? (e.g. Memorial Day Service)
3. What are some of the elements of the traditional Jewish worship services that have been incorporated into Christian worship? How are these incorporated?
4. What are the Biblical bases for some of the elements of worship that are included in today's worship or were included in worship services throughout our Christian Heritage?

## ***Session Two***

### **Premise**

Our concept of Christian worship today has been influenced by numerous factors. One of the most significant factors is the historical development of worship through the ages. The

second session will trace the development of worship from the second to the eighth centuries. This session will also deal with the theological basis for worship.

### **Specific Goals for the Second Session**

The student will gain knowledge, understanding and insight into the development of worship from the second to the eighth century A.D. The student will also gain knowledge, understanding and insight in the theological basis for worship and how this has been developed throughout history.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. "Proskunein" & "Shachah"
2. Theological foundations of worship
3. Differences in the Jewish worship and early Christian worship
4. Differences between early Christian worship and the current worship of today
5. Gallic and Roman rites
6. The early church views on the Lord's Supper and baptism
7. The theology indicated by the various stress on or placement of the Lord's Supper and baptism in the service or church view
8. Theological disputes during this era
  - A. Arianism
  - B. Martyria
  - C. Pagan Gifts
  - D. Pelagian
  - E. Nestorian
  - F. Donatist
9. Church architecture
10. Church music
11. Vertical, Horizontal and Inward Worship

### **Discussion Questions**

1. How does the frequency of communion in our worship plans indicate what beliefs we have toward this ordinance?
2. How does the Roman rite compare with our current Baptist worship methods? The Gallic rite?
3. How do our current views on baptism (as Baptists) differ from the views held and practiced in the early Christian church?
4. Is the resolution of Arianism (Council of Nicaea) in agreement with our views today?
5. How do the resolutions to the Pelagian and Donatist controversies affect our view on baptism today?
6. In what ways did the architecture of the churches in that day influence the manner in which worship was conducted in the churches?
7. What was the music like in the churches at this time? Who performed the music? Did the architecture of the churches influence the music and in what manner?

## **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

A student could do a brief presentation to the class on: (select one)

1. Early Christian music of this era (Gregorian Chant)
2. The Romanesque style of church architecture
3. A study of the theology behind the Nicæan, Apostle's and other creeds of this era
4. The Roman Rite
5. The Gallic Rite

## **Session Three**

### **Premise**

Various elements have emerged as integral parts of our worship service. Our third session studies the various components to our worship service and also continues the development of worship through the Middle Ages.

### **Specific Goals for the Third Session**

The student will learn of the various components in our contemporary worship and also continue to gain knowledge, understanding and insight into the development of worship as it occurred during the Middle Ages.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. Components of worship, their purpose and how our worship could be enhanced by a broader use of these elements
  - A. Introit
  - B. Call to Worship
  - C. Invocation
  - D. Hymns
  - E. Confession
  - F. Assurance of Pardon
  - G. Kyrie Eleison
  - H. Gloria Patri
  - I. Offering
  - J. Testimony
  - K. Anthem/Special Music
  - L. Pastoral Prayer
  - M. Lord's Prayer
  - N. Scripture Readings
  - O. Sermon
  - P. Benediction
2. The participation of the Laity in the worship service
3. The Church Year
4. Development of the role of the clergy in the worship service
5. Monastic Influence (Divine Office)
6. Gothic architecture
7. Early polyphonic music

8. "Low" and "High" Masses
9. Changes in the "Roman Catholic" views of the Eucharist and Baptism
  - A. Transubstantiation
  - B. Confirmation

### **Discussion Questions**

1. It seems as though the early churches had an ongoing conflict between the "Service of the Word" and the "Eucharistic Service." Is it possible to give proper balance to each type of service within the confines of our usual Sunday worship service or not?

Please give your reasoning for your views on this issue.

2. Do you find that some of the elements of a worship that we studied earlier are less necessary in our normal Sunday services than others? Which ones and what is your reasoning for your views?

3. Which of the elements do you feel should be in EVERY Sunday worship service? Please give us your reasons for your opinion.

4. Are there elements that we did not include in our list that you think should be added?

- A. Passing the Peace (Greeting)
- B. Children's Sermon
- C. Shared prayer concerns
- D. General church announcements
- E. Etc.

5. How did Gothic architecture affect the worship during the Middle Ages?

### **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

The students could do a brief class presentation on one of the following topics:

- A. Early polyphonic church music (Motet, Mass)
- B. The Ordinary and Proper of the Catholic Mass
- C. Gothic architecture
- D. The Service of the Word in the Middle Age churches
- E. The Eucharistic Service in the Middle Age churches
- F. The rise of Monasticism during the Middle Ages.

## **Session Four**

### **Premise**

Part of the importance that has been placed on the worship service throughout history is in its relationship to giving "pastoral care." In this session we will explore the elements of the service and how they relate to this pastoral care. We will also become involved with the various forces that led to what has been known as the Protestant Reformation.

### **Specific Goals for the Fourth Session**

The student will know, understand and have insight as to how the various elements of the worship service individually and collectively can be used by the pastor in the care that he/she gives to his/her congregation. The student will continue to gain knowledge, understanding and insight into the historical development of worship through the period known as the Reformation.



## **Instructor Presentation**

1. What is meant by pastoral care?
2. (Go to Discussion Questions 1,2 and 3)
3. The harmony between pastoral care and theological interpretation
4. Elements in a worship service that are especially useful in pastoral care
  - A. Prayer of Confession
  - B. Assurance of Pardon
  - C. Sermon
  - D. Prayers
  - E. Communion and baptism
5. Reforms of Martin Luther
6. Reforms of Huldreich Zwingli
7. Reforms of John Calvin
8. Reforms of European Free Churches (Anabaptists, Independents, Separatists and Puritans)
9. Roman Catholic Reaction

## **Discussion Questions**

1. Why do people attend church each week? What do they hope to gain by being there?
2. What are the needs and concerns that the people bring with them to worship?
3. Have you ever seen people react in anger when some part of the worship service was changed? Why do you think they were angry?
4. What is the place of children in the worship service?
  - a. Should the children be kept for the entire service or send to another location in a particular place in the service?
  - b. Should a Children's sermon or a Children's Bible story be a part of the regular service?
  - c. Should children below a certain age be excluded from the service entirely?
  - d. At what age should children be included in the Lord's Supper?
5. In your opinion what parts of a service are best suited to pastoral care and why do you feel as you do? Would these parts vary as the needs of individual congregation members would also vary from time to time?
6. On which points were the reforms of Luther in conflict with those of Zwingli?
7. On which points did Luther and Calvin differ?
8. In what ways were the collective views of the Free Churches different from Luther, Zwingli and Calvin?
9. In your opinion do you find that the views expressed in the Council of Trent really entrenched the theological conflict between the Catholic and various Protestant churches?

## **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

A student could do a brief oral presentation on one of the following topics:

1. The types of pastoral care that could best be accomplished via a sermon
2. The types of Pastoral Care that could best be accomplished through prayer

3. The reforms of Martin Luther
4. The reforms of Huldreich Zwingli
5. The reforms of John Calvin
6. The views of Menno Simmons and the Anabaptists
7. The Council of Trent (1545-1563)

## **Session Five**

### **Premise**

Session five will deal with the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper and discuss their place in current worship services. Our historical study will continue with the English Reformation, Prayer Books and the Puritans.

### **Specific Goals for the Fifth Session**

The students will have knowledge and understanding of baptism and the Lord's Supper, the theology behind these ordinances and their place in our worship services today. The students will also explore the Protestant Reformation as it occurred in England.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. Baptism, its theology, meaning and place in our worship
2. The Lord's Supper, its theology, meaning and place in our worship
3. Sacraments or Remembrances
4. Examination of scriptures relating to baptism and The Lord's Supper
5. Sacraments or Ordinances
6. Solemnization, Memorialization and Perdurance (Optional)
7. Formation of the Church of England (Anglican)
8. 1549, 1552 and 1562 English Prayer Books
9. Puritans and High Churchmen

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What are your basic beliefs about baptism? Are you content with its being an ordinance as opposed to a sacrament?
2. What are your basic beliefs about communion? Are you content with its being an ordinance rather than a sacrament in your congregation?
3. Do you feel that proper emphasis is placed on the act of baptism in your faith?
4. Do you feel that proper emphasis is placed on communion in your faith?
5. The pre-Reformation churches viewed baptism and communion as means of divine grace. The post-Reformation Protestant churches viewed the "Word of God" as the primary method by which one would be led to grace. Which of these views are you most in line with and why?
6. The various prayer books are similar in nature to our modern hymnbooks. But contained complete "templates" for the worship service. Would our churches of today benefit from such documents?

7. Why did John Smyth think that the Church of England was a corrupt church?
8. What were some of the sources for the basic theology of the early Puritans?

### **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

The students could do brief oral presentation on one of the following topics:

1. John Knox
2. John Smyth
3. William Laud
4. Thomas Cranmer
5. The Westminster Dictionary
6. The Society of Friends (Quakers)

## **Session Six**

### **Premise**

The rite of Holy Matrimony is more than just a social event. It can be a memorable form of worship. Session six will explore how the wedding ceremony can be a worship experience for all involved. In session six we will continue our historical study with post reformation groups that emerged during the 1600 and 1700s.

### **Specific Goals for the Sixth Session**

The students will gain knowledge, understanding and insight as to how worship should be at the core of each wedding ceremony. The student will also learn of the Pietists, Rationalists and Revivalists and other groups that emerged during our early colonial days and also during the beginnings of our new nation.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. (Discussion Question #1)
2. (Discussion Question #2)
3. Differences between weddings and marriage
4. Biblical verses that are appropriate for wedding services:  
Gen. 2: 18-25, Ruth 1: 16-17, Eccel. 4: 9-12, Song of Solomon 2: 8-15, 8: 6-7a  
Matthew 19: 4-6, I Cor. 13: especially 4-8a, Ephesians 5: 21-33
5. What was developing in the European Free Churches
6. Rationalism
7. Pietism
8. Revivalists
9. Deists
10. Methodists and Anglican Evangelicals
11. The Great Awakening in America

## **Discussion Questions or Class Activities**

1. Should wedding ceremonies be performed in church?
2. Is a wedding an aesthetic event or a theological event? Why do you feel as you do?
3. Can a wedding be both an aesthetic event and a theological event? Why do you feel as you do?
4. How would a pastor order the program for the wedding service so that the couples' wishes are respected but God's position is prominent?
5. How would the fact that many in the congregation will not be believers influence the pastor's ordering of the service?
6. As a class, construct a proper wedding service.
7. As a class, construct a few examples of proper marriage vows.
8. Was the Reformation more of an attempt to do "new things" in church and in man's/ woman's beliefs from what was currently done OR more of an attempt to revert back to the former church practices as done during the Middle Ages? Please give reasons and examples to support your views.

## **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

The students could do brief oral presentation on one of the following topics:

1. Early post-Reformation church music
2. John Wesley
3. Moravians
4. Jonathan Edwards
5. George Whitefield

## **Session Seven**

### **Premise**

Like weddings, funerals can be viewed as a form of Christian worship. In session seven we will explore the role of the funeral service as both a method of offering consolation to the bereaved and also commending the deceased to God. We will also continue our historical study of worship by exploring the Romanticists and Reformers of the 1800s and the movement that became known as the Liturgical Movement.

### **Specific Goals for the Seventh Session**

The student will gain knowledge, understanding and insight into the worship aspects of the funeral and burial rites. The student will also explore the historical developments in worship during the 1800s and gain knowledge and understanding about the Romanticists, Reformers and of the Liturgical Movement.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. The various purposes for the funeral/ burial services
2. Differences in the dynamics of a funeral when conducted in church or at a funeral home

3. Differences in the dynamics of a funeral for a believer and one for a non-believer.
4. Differences between what is done in the funeral home (or church) and the graveside service
5. Appropriate Bible Verses: Psalm 23, Isaiah 43: 1-7, John 11: 1-44 (excerpts), John 14: 1-7, Romans 6: 3-11, Romans 8: 31-39, 1 Corinthians 15 (excerpts) and 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18
6. Romanticism
7. The Liturgical Movement within the Roman Catholic Church
8. The Liturgical Movement with the Protestant Churches

### **Discussion Questions and In-Class Activities**

1. Should any changes be made in the funeral services when the congregation is not primarily made up of believers? Why do you feel the way you do?
2. Do you regard the funeral service to be one more of offering consolation to the bereaved or commending the deceased to God? If both are important, what should be the approximate importance of each aspect of the service? Why do you feel this way?
3. As a class, design a proper order of a funeral service.
4. As a class, design a proper order for a burial (graveside) service.
5. In some areas of the country, winter burial services cannot be done because of the weather and another form of memorial service is done. Should this be different from a graveside service and if so in what ways?
6. What is your view on the fact that the laity is frequently called upon to perform funeral and graveside services? As a lay person what do you feel you need to be able to perform this function?
7. How did some of the reforms that came out of the Liturgical Movement impact our current worship today? Can you cite specific items or practices that were changed?
8. How did the era of Romanticism impact the type of music that is used in our worship services today?

### **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

The students could do a brief oral presentation on one of the following topics:

1. From Victorian to Gothic Revival Architecture
2. Romanticism in Church Music
3. The Liturgical Movement in the Roman Catholic Church
4. Liturgical Churches and the Evangelists

## ***Session Eight***

### **Premise**

In session eight we will look at the various types of worship that are currently used in our regular church services. We will consider the more traditional Sunday morning service, the service which has become known as the Contemporary, or Contemporary Music Service. We will also consider a service that blends elements of both of the above services. In addition to looking at these "communal" worship events. We will also explore individual worship through prayer and studying God's Holy word. Session eight deals mostly with

theory and background information, in session nine these theories and background will be put into action.

### **Specific Goals for the Eighth Session**

The students will gain knowledge, understanding and insight into the various types of worship services in our Christian services today including the "Traditional," "Contemporary" and "Blended." The students will also explore their own individual and personal worship via prayer and Bible study.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. How theology and doctrine influence the worship service
2. How the targeted congregation influences the worship service
3. The various elements and their use in the construction of a traditional service
4. The various elements and their use in the contemporary service
5. Kerygma, Koinonia and Leitourgia services
6. Hymns or Choruses - Differences and application
7. How to construct a blended service
8. Pastoral Prayer - What is it and how should it be used?
9. What the Bible teaches us about prayer
10. What the Bible teaches us about studying God's Holy Word
11. Other individual worship through daily devotionals

### **Discussion Questions and In-Class Activities**

1. How would one deal with specific and timely concerns without modifying the usually set structure of worship within a church?
2. How much change from week to week is desirable?
3. In your opinion, is it necessary for small churches to attempt to appeal to a larger age range by means of the "Blended" service? Please give your reasons.
4. Why is the problem of constructing a more or less set service model more difficult within a small church?
5. Do you feel that the Pastoral Prayer is an important element in a worship service? Please give your reasons.
6. How do you personally offer your individual prayers to God? Since our study of individual prayer do you feel any need to modify the manner in which you pray?
7. How much time do you usually devote to studying God's Holy Word each day? How do you actually study the Bible? Read through it? Use a commentary? Read it chronologically? Read it topically? Actually ponder and pray over verses that you have difficulty with?
8. Have any of the suggestions that were made during either the instructor's presentation or from fellow class member's responses cause you to feel a need for a change in your Bible study methods?

### **Suggested Action Learning Projects**

The students should be encouraged to give considerable thought to the presentations and discussion from session eight. In session nine they will be asked to actually construct some of these items.

## ***Session Nine***

### **Premise**

In session nine the presentations and discussions of session eight will come to life. The class will construct (as a group project) a traditional worship service, a contemporary worship service and a blended worship service.

### **Specific Goals for the Ninth Session**

The students will gain knowledge, understanding and practical experience constructing three types of worship service under varying conditions as to size and age spread of the congregations.

### **Instructor Presentation, Discussion and In-Class Activity**

In this session the students will form committees of deacons or "worship" committees. The number of such committees will vary because of the size of the class. Probably at least three but not more than five students should be in each committee. The instructor will define on a "Criteria Card" the time of the church year that is being planned for, the size of the congregation, the approximate numbers of members in various age categories, the number and ages of the usual visitor and non-member populations, and the general type of congregation it is in regard to education, ethnicity, economic level etc. There should be at least three different scenarios outlined. Give one of these "Criteria Cards" to each committee. Each committee will first construct a complete traditional service that will meet these needs. (The instructor will give a different Criteria Card to each group.)

After this is accomplished all of the groups will evaluate a results of each committee. The criteria cards will then be passed to another committee of deacons and each committee will construct a complete contemporary service. The same procedures will be followed as for the first exercise. The last construction will be for the committees, again with a different criteria card, to construct a blended worship service.

After the entire exercise is finished, interesting discussions could be entertained about:

1. The dynamics of the various personnel and which role each member took on during the deliberation
2. The disagreements within each committee and how the final product was arrived at
3. The actual results of each committee and the strengths and weaknesses (if any) of the constructed services

## ***Session Ten***

### **Premise**

In this concluding session we will exam two dichotomies. The first is that our doctrine or beliefs have changed very little since the first century A.D. and conversely that our doctrine and beliefs has changed quite a bit since the early Christian period. The second is that the worship that derives from our beliefs has changed little from the early Christian period and conversely that our worship has become very dynamic in the changes that have

occurred. We will delve into many of the directions that current worship is taking. In that study we will look at the changes that are taking place in the manner in which some of the traditional elements of worship are being addressed, and we will "prophesy" as to what form worship might take in the future.

### **Specific Goals for the Tenth Session**

The student will gain knowledge and understanding as to how the changes or lack of changes in our beliefs are reflected in our worship practices. The student will also gain knowledge and understanding of the difference between "Praise" and "Worship." The student will also gain knowledge and understanding of some of the forces that are demanding new elements in our worship or modifications of the more traditional elements.

### **Instructor Presentation**

1. The emergence of "Praise" from the Evangelical and Ecumenical Movements in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century
2. The Difference between Praise and Worship
3. Christian Initiation
4. The Service of the Word
5. The Service of the Table
6. Changes in the traditional elements of worship:
  - A. Changes in Sermons
    - i. Interactive Sermons
    - ii. Discussion Sermons
    - iii. Graphic Devices within a Sermon Context. (DVDs, Slides, Pictures, Films, Video Tapes etc.)
  - B. Praying in the Spirit (Tongues)
  - C. Prophesying
    - i. Individual
    - ii. Group
    - iii. In Tongues (in the Spirit)
  - D. Changes in church music
    - i. Traditional Hymns
    - ii. Praise Songs and Choruses
    - iii. Use of Organ
    - iv. Use of other instruments including electron instruments
  - E. Use of dance in the worship service
  - F. Use of drama in the worship service
  - G. Use of "Shouting" during a worship service
  - H. The roles of a "Worship Leader," "Song Leader" or "Minister of Music."
  - I. The relationship between the worship leader and the pastor

### **Discussion Questions**

(Suggestion: Look to what the scriptures say)

1. Is the raising of arms necessary or even desirable during singing of a "Praise Song?" Please give reasons for you opinion.



2. For people without physical problems is standing necessary or even desirable during singing of a praise song? Please give reasons for your opinions.
3. Must prayers or praise be presented to God "out loud" or audibly? Please give reasons for your opinions
4. Why should we praise the Lord?
5. When is the right time to praise God? Why?
6. Where is the right place to praise God? Why?
7. How should we praise the Lord?
8. Is one born with the ability to worship or is that learned? Why do you feel as you do?
9. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in worship?
10. What does it mean to "Worship in Spirit and in Truth?"
11. What type of worship service do you personally prefer and why?
12. For what possible reasons is the study of "worship" often omitted from the Seminary training that professional clergy receives?

