Please submit all precourse assignments via email to the COS office by May 5, 2014.

Course Description
This course examines the sacraments, rites, and liturgy of The United Methodist Church and the pastor’s role as worship leader.

Course Objectives
- Examination of the church year and its historical and theological grounding
- Examination of the theology and practice of the sacraments
- Review of the rites of Christian marriage, death and resurrection, and other occasional services, including appropriate counseling methods
- Reflection on worship practices, including use of nontraditional liturgies, media, music, and lay leadership
- Development, for reflection and evaluation, of a sample service of worship

Required Text Books
- This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion (available at gbod.org/worship)
- By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism (available at gbod.org/worship)
- The United Methodist Hymnal. ISBN 9780687431328
- The United Methodist Book of Worship. ISBN 9780687035724

Precourse Assignments: (Due to the COS office by May 5)
All papers should be double spaced. For each assignment, demonstrate that you have read and understood the book covered in that assignment.

1. Read James White’s Introduction to Christian Worship. Based on your reading, write a 4 – 6 page paper in which you describe what is essential to Christian worship. Be sure you talk about what worship is, the importance of space and time in worship, and the essential elements that have remained consistent throughout time.
2. Read Hoyt Hickman’s *Worshiping with United Methodists*, Based on your reading of this book, write a 3 – 5 page paper in which you:
   - Describe and explain the “5 Basic Principles of Worship” that Hickman talks about on p. 17.
   - Evaluate your church’s current worship based on each principle. Does your church do well with these or could your church use some help in any areas? (You are being graded on your evaluation of the current worship, not on whether your congregation has mastered these principles.)

3. Read *This Holy Mystery*. Imagine someone in your church comes to you saying he/she does not like it when your church does communion and that he/she wants you to do it less often. Based on what you have learned in *This Holy Mystery*, write a 2 – 3 page paper describing what you might teach this person about communion that would help him or her understand communion and appreciate its benefits.

4. Read *By Water and the Spirit*. Based on what you learn from your reading, write a 2 – 3 page paper explaining Baptism as a sacrament and how our sacramental theology becomes the basis of our practice of baptizing infants.

**Final Project: Due May 30**

Please note that there will be a final project to be completed after the weekend course. Details on this project will be explained during the course weekend. The final project will be due on May 30.

**Guidelines for Written Assignments**

- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the precourse work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.
- All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.
- You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.
- All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.
- Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.
- All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language— for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.

**Inclusive Language Covenant**

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.
We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.

**Directions to Email Precourse Assignments**

Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1) Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu do not email instructors precourse assignments.
2) Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of May 5th.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after May 5th at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      - Precourse work received between May 6th – May 12th is 1 letter grade deduction.
      - Precourse work received between May 13th – May 15th is 2 letter grade deductions.
      - You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received by 11:59pm on May 15th and you will not be refunded registration fees.
3) The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work 113
   a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4) Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted.
   b. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments.
5) Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example
6) Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined
   The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature (which is a requirement). If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.
   **Plagiarism Policy** - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.
   **Plagiarism Defined**: “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. The Craft of Research, Second Edition. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
7) If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!