The Rev. Dr. Jon D. Payne is the organizing pastor of Christ Church Presbyterian (PCA), Charleston, South Carolina. Until recently, Rev. Payne served for ten years as the 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). He is a visiting lecturer in practical theology at Reformed Theological Seminary (Atlanta), series editor of and contributor to the new Lectio Continua Expository Commentary on the New Testament (Tolle Lege, 2012—), and author/editor of several books including John Owen and 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, and Chinese), and A Faith Worth Teaching: The Heidelberg Catechism's Enduring Heritage (Reformation Heritage Books, 2013). Rev. Payne also frequently contributes to Modern Reformation magazine. Contact Dr. Payne at jdpchristchurch@icloud.com.

Course Overview

This 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 public 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 / Locations

October 17-20: Attendance at the Fourth Annual Reformation Worship Conference at the Historic Midway Presbyterian Church (PCA). Conference schedule may be accessed on the conference website: reformationworship.org
[Note: Attendance at Lord’s Day morning and evening worship services on October 20th at Midway PCA is strongly encouraged but not required. Some students will already have Lord’s Day responsibilities in their own congregation.]

[Note: If you are unable to attend the Reformation Worship Conference you may instead add the following required reading (in addition to the course reading below) along with a five page review/response paper for two of the following].

a. *Give Praise to God* by (eds) Ryken, Thomas, & Duncan
b. *Worship: Reformed According to Scripture* by Hughes Oliphant Old
c. *A Neglected Grace: Family Worship in the Christian Home* by Jason Helopoulos
d. *A Brief Instruction in the Worship of God* by John Owen (1667) ~ [http://www.ccel.org/ccel/owen/worship.html](http://www.ccel.org/ccel/owen/worship.html)
e. *Eutaxia or The Presbyterian Liturgies* by Charles Baird [Google Books]

**November 1-2:** Required attendance at class lectures. The class will meet at RTS Atlanta Campus on Friday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

**Course Requirements**

I. **Course Reading**

a. *Worship in the Early Church* by Ralph P. Martin [may access online / Google Books] **Read only pages 1-27.**
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
e. *Leading in Prayer* by Hughes Oliphant Old
f. *Give Praise to God* by (eds) Ryken, Thomas, & Duncan (**selected chapters will be assigned)**
g. *Why Johnny Can’t Sing Hymns* by T. David Gordon

II. **Assignments / Grades**

a. Twelve page essay on one aspect of worship listed below or considered at the conference or in the class lectures. (All topics must be approved by the instructor). 50% of grade.
b. Class seminars / discussions (assigned during conference weekend): 20% of grade.
c. Written liturgies and prayers: 10% of grade.
d. Required reading: 20%

**Essay Topics**

a. The Nature and Practice of Public Prayer
b. Visible Words of Love: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper in Christian Worship
c. “Reverence and Awe” in Public Worship
d. Worship & the Means of Grace
e. Worship and Culture
f. Worship and the Christian Sabbath
g. Worship, Music and Singing
h. Calvin, Luther and Protestant Worship
i. Worship and the English Puritans
j. Extensive Review of Gospel Worship by Jeremiah Burroughs

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 in completes 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

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<tr>
<th>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong> Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The class will clearly set forth key biblical texts, historical background, and practical teaching on the doctrine of Christian worship.</td>
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<td><strong>Scripture</strong> 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.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The class will seek to set forth a biblical theology of worship.</td>
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<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong> Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This class will be taught from a distinctively Reformed and confessional perspective.</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong> Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The course will underscore the centrality of worship for the minister’s and congregations sanctification through the means of grace.</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong> Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>This class will mainly focus on Lord’s Day public worship, and also it’s impact of all life.</td>
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<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong> 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.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The course will highlight the importance of love and humility in the context of Biblical worship.</td>
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<td><strong>Preach</strong> Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Preaching will be one element of public worship that will be discussed.</td>
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<td><strong>Worship</strong> Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian–worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>We will seek to understand the nature and practical construction of a Biblical liturgy.</td>
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<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>Moderate</td>
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<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
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