Worship in Multicultural Contexts

**Requirement #3: Participation in Worship Leadership**

© Eunjoo M. Kim

Guidelines:

1. Choose one of the following worship workshops for you to participate in:

* World Communion Sunday Worship (Ecumenical)
* Sunday Worship Based on the Lectionary (2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B)
* Eco-justice Worship (Interfaith)

1. Go to Canvas and self-sign up on the workshop group you chose (first come, first served).
2. Read Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, (and 11, particularly for the World Communion Sunday worship group) of Duck’s book, and prepare for the worship workshop following instructions included in the description of the workshop you chose. Bring what you have prepared into Gathering Days class.
3. If necessary, your group may have online communications before we meet fact-to-face on Gathering Days
4. On Gathering Days, you will work with your workshop group members to present a worship service to class based on what you and other group members have prepared.

World Communion Sunday Worship (Ecumenical)

“World Communion Sunday, held annually on the first Sunday of October, is a celebration of the unity of the worldwide church through Christ. Christians in congregations around the world participate in the Lord's Supper” (<https://www.rca.org/resources/worldcommunionsunday>). For more information about World Communion Sunday worship, click the following link. In addition, you are encouraged to search more resources:

<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3201/world-communion-sunday-why-we-do-it-and-how>

**The basic liturgical pattern of the service (Presbyterian)**:

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Passing the Peace

Hymn

Scripture lessons

Sermon

Hymn

Offering

Communion

Hymn

Benediction

**Instructions for preparation**:

1. World Communion Sunday worship is to celebrate the Eucharist with Christians all around the world ecumenically. It is theologically crucial and liturgically meaningful to share not only suffering and pain of but also hope for the people in the world, near and far, by praying, singing, and partaking the body of Chris, in unity. In relation to this basic theological understanding of World Communion Sunday, articulate your particular liturgical theme of the worship service in 1-2 sentences.
2. Based on your knowledge gained from Duck’s chapters, brainstorm how to prepare the worship service to be multicultural in relation to your liturgical theme, and write down your creative and innovative ideas in order to share them with your group members in Gathering Days class.
3. According to the basic liturgical pattern, there are five major categories of liturgical components—prayers, music, words, Sacrament (Communion), and offering. You are required to prepare, from the multicultural perspective, at least three liturgical components (e.g., prayer of confession, a scripture lesson, and an idea of what to prepare for and how to administer Communion). In addition, think about the use of liturgical symbols and visual arts for the service from the multicultural perspective. Bring what you have prepared into Gathering Days class to share and discuss with your group members.
4. In Gathering Days class, you will work with your workgroup members to present World Communion Sunday worship to class. Your group needs to decide what kind of liturgical model will be used for the service (cf., Chapter 6 of my book introduces five liturgical models). Your group may modify or recreate the order of service, rather than using the basic liturgical pattern of the service. The “Criteria for Worship Evaluation” will be referred to when your group prepares for the service.

Sunday Worship Based on the Lectionary (2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B)

Many mainstream local churches use the Revised Common Lectionary as the major worship planning tool. The RCL provides four Scripture lessons for each Sunday worship, based on the Christian liturgical calendar—one from the Old Testament/Hebrew Scripture, one from Psalms as a responsive reading to the OT text, one from the Pastoral Letters, and one from the Gospels. The lectionary texts for 2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B, are Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2; 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; and Mark 1:1-8. These texts are intended to be heard in the service through reading, singing, preaching, etc. Numerous worship resources are available for worship planning based on the RCL. One of the online resources is found on <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship/lectionary-calendar/second-sunday-of-advent-year-b>

**The Basic Liturgical Pattern of the Service (United Methodist)**:

Gathering

Greeting and Hymn

Opening Prayers and Praise

Proclamation and Response

First Reading (usually from the Old Testament)  
Psalm  
Second Reading (from the New Testament, but not from the Gospels)  
Hymn, Song, or Alleluia  
Gospel (a reading from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John)

Sermon

Response to the Word

Concerns and Prayers

Confession, Pardon, and Peace

Offering

Sending Forth

Hymn

Blessing

Postlude

**Instructions for preparation**:

1. The central theme of Advent is the thanksgiving of the gift of Christ to us in past time and the anticipation of his Second Coming. The four texts given to 2nd Sunday of Advent illumine more detailed theological meaning in relation to this central theme. Study and meditate the four texts deeply, develop a theological theme coherent to the four texts, and articulate it in 1-2 sentences.
2. Based on your knowledge gained from Duck’s chapters, brainstorm how to prepare the worship service to be multicultural in relation to your liturgical theme, and write down your creative and innovative ideas in order to share them with your group members in Gathering Days class.
3. According to the basic liturgical pattern, there are four major categories of liturgical components—prayers, music, words, and offering. You are required to prepare, from the multicultural perspective, at least three liturgical components (e.g., opening prayer, closing hymn, and an idea about how to use the four texts in the liturgy). In addition, think about the use of liturgical symbols and visual arts for the service from the multicultural perspective. Bring what you have prepared into Gathering Days class to share and discuss with your group members.
4. In Gathering Days class, you will work with your workgroup members to present 2nd Sunday of Advent worship to class. Your group needs to decide what kind of liturgical model will be used for the service (cf., Chapter 6 of my book introduces five liturgical models). Your group may modify or recreate the order of service, rather than using the basic liturgical pattern of the service. The “Criteria for Worship Evaluation” will be referred to when your group prepares for the service.

Eco-justice Worship (Interfaith)

“We have traditionally celebrated worship by focusing on our human relationship with God and our human relationships with each other. Now we need to fill our worship also with elements of God's relationship in, with, and under all of creation and with our human relationships with the rest of creation. This integration of our love for neighbor and our love for creation leads us to care for the poor and marginalized who are most vulnerable to the injustices of ecological degradation. We need to hear the cries of the poor and the cries of the Earth in distress if we are to have authentic worship acceptable to God” (http://www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org/eco-justice-care-for-creation-worship-resources-and-practices).  For more information about eco-justice interfaith worship, click the following link. In addition, you are encouraged to search more resources:

<http://www.greenfaith.org/resource-center/spirit/eco-themed-worship-services/guidelines-for-eco-services>

**The Basic Liturgical Pattern of the Service (Unitarian Universalist)**:

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Words (Chalice Lighting)

Opening Hymn

Prayer/Intercessions/Guided Meditation

Readings

Sermon/Reflection

Offering

Closing Hymn

Chalice Extinguishing

Closing Words

Blessing

**Instructions for preparation**:

1. Eco-justice worship connotes a broad spectrum of caring for creation. For your particular service, develop a concrete theological statement as the theme of your worship and articulate it in 1-2 sentences.
2. Based on your knowledge gained from Duck’s chapters, brainstorm how to prepare for the worship service to be multicultural in relation to your liturgical theme, and write down your creative and innovative ideas in order to share them with your group members in Gathering Days class.
3. In order to learn how to prepare for interfaith worship, you may refer to

[Multi-Faith Worship - The Church of England](https://www.churchofengland.org/media/59493/CLMGMulti-faith%20acts%20of%20worship.doc)

<https://www.churchofengland.org/.../CLMGMulti-faith%20acts%20of%20worship.do>...

1. According to the basic liturgical pattern, there are five major categories of liturgical components—prayers, music, words, offering, and chalice lighting/extinguishing. You are required to prepare at least three liturgical components (e.g., guided meditation, the selection of a sacred text(s), and a method of offering), from the multicultural perspective. In addition, think about the use of liturgical symbols and visual arts for the service from the multicultural perspective. Bring what you have prepared into Gathering Days class to share and discuss them with your group members.
2. In Gathering Days class, you will work with your workgroup members to present eco-justice worship to class. Your group needs to decide what kind of liturgical model will be used for the service (cf., Chapter 6 of my book introduces five liturgical models). Your group may modify or recreate the order of service, rather than using the basic liturgical pattern of the service. The “Criteria for Worship Evaluation” will be referred to when your group prepares for the service.