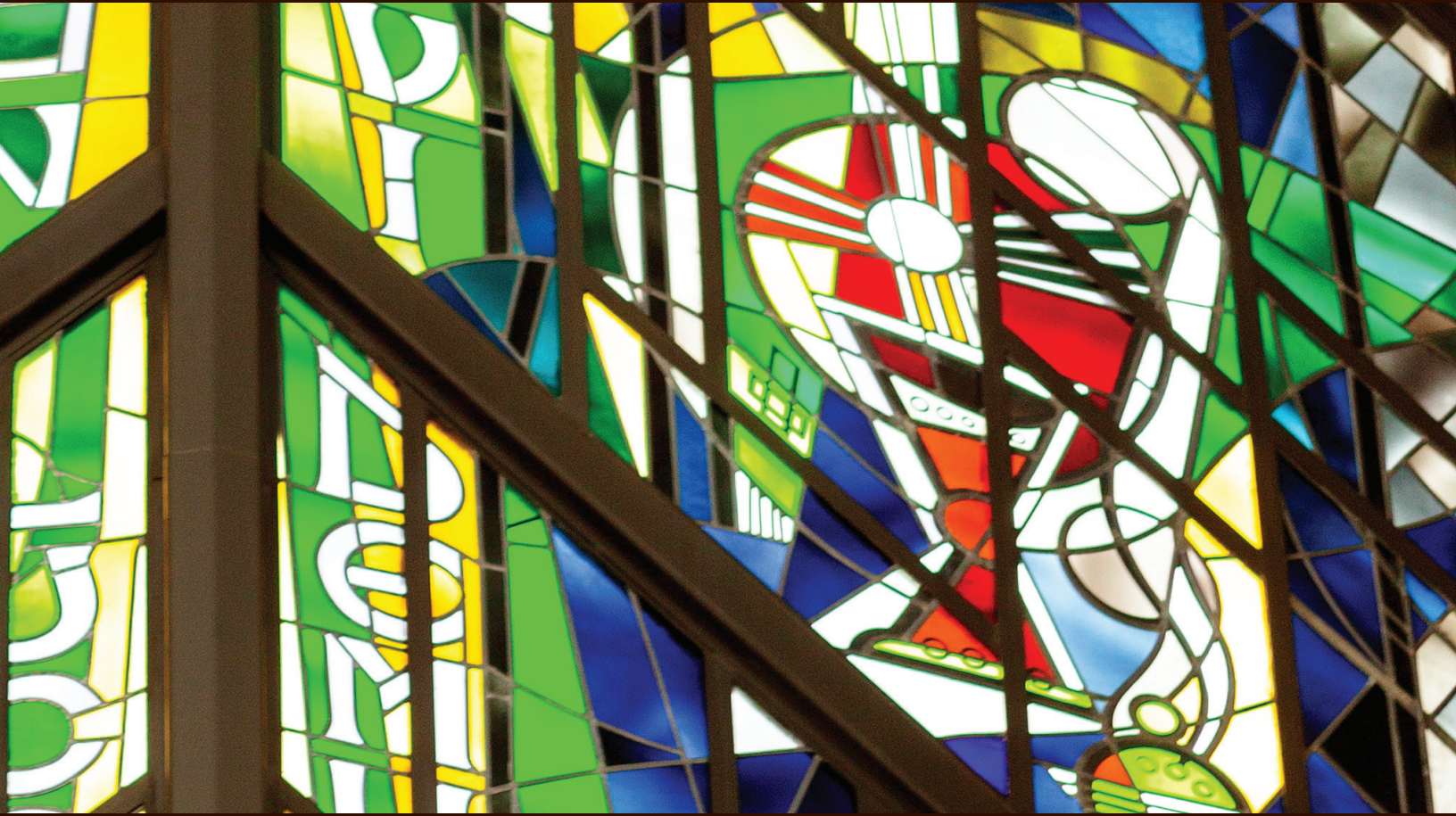




2024 INSTITUTE OF LITURGICAL STUDIES

Theology, Music, Practice



CREATION, NOT COMMODITY:

THE CHURCH'S LITURGY IN A CONSUMER CULTURE

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VALPARAISO  UNIVERSITY



2024 INSTITUTE OF LITURGICAL STUDIES

Theology, Music, Practice

CREATION, NOT COMMODITY:

THE CHURCH'S LITURGY IN A CONSUMER CULTURE

APRIL 9-11, 2024

Consumer or market culture's role in our lives is so ubiquitous that we frequently fail to recognize its presence and influence over us. Even committed church folk will talk about "church shopping" when they move to a new location.

We live in a consumer culture in which our collective and personal economic well-being depends on our shared habits of material consumption. Those in ministry know that the market economy driving this consumption – with its emphasis on personal choice – impacts how the local congregation positions itself within its ministry context or fails to do so.

In its 75th year, the Institute of Liturgical Studies will turn its attention to this phenomenon.

We will seek to better understand the ways in which consumer culture impacts liturgical life. How might that impact be countered through careful curating of the church's liturgical theology? We will also be seeking practical guidance for what we, as church practitioners, might learn positively from those who work to drive consumer desires in the marketplace.

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Welcome to this year's gathering of the Institute of Liturgical Studies on the campus of Valparaiso University. Since its founding in 1949, the Institute has dedicated itself to liturgical renewal and scholarly reflection for the church's worship.

The Chapel of the Resurrection – where we gather for word, meal, and prayer – is always the center of our time together. A short walk north from the Chapel, the **Harre Union** houses the Institute's registration, plenary presentations, exhibits, and most seminars and workshops. Other venues for ILS24 are:

- **The Helge Center**, attached to the south side of the Chapel
- **The Brauer Museum of Art**, located in the Center for the Arts, just east of the Union, and marked by a large silver-colored sculpture
- **The Christopher Center Library**, located on the other side of the Campanile (bell tower) from the Chapel

Valparaiso University is built on the traditional homelands of several indigenous peoples, most notably the Potawatomi (Bodéwadmik) Nation. The land was ceded by Potawatomi leaders to the United States federal authorities on October 26, 1832, as part of the Treaty of Tippecanoe. We meet in this place indebted to this forced generosity.

Some of the indigenous population successfully resisted removal. Members of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi (Pokégnek Bodéwadmik) established a sovereign government in Dowagiac, Michigan, and continue to live, work, and worship as our neighbors.

On behalf of our dedicated staff and advisory council colleagues listed below, thank you for joining us for these days of worship, conversation, engagement, and renewal.

Rev. James Wetzstein, M.Div.

Executive Director and University Pastor, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind.

Sally Messner '02, MSM

Director of Music, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind.

Director of Worship and Music, Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, Minneapolis

Rachel Webb

Executive Assistant, Division of Calling and Spiritual Life

Betsy Searle

Events and Communication Coordinator, Division of Calling and Spiritual Life

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Rev. Liv Larson Andrews, M.Div.

Director of Evangelical Mission, Northwest Intermountain Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Spokane, Wash.

Rev. Annemarie Hartner Cook '03, M.Div.

Interim Pastor, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Marlton, N.J.

Rev. Joshua Hollmann '99, M.Div., Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, Concordia University, St. Paul, Minn.

Rev. James "Jim" Marriott, M.Div., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Theology and Music, Chair of the Theology Department, Director of Choral Activities, Concordia University Texas, Austin, Texas

Rev. Craig Mueller, M.Div., D.Min.

Lead Pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Adjunct Faculty, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago

Omaldo Perez

Director of Worship and Music Arts, Christ Presbyterian Church, Madison, Wis.

Rhoda Schuler, M.A., Th.D.

Professor Emerita, Concordia University, St. Paul, Minn.

Emily Smith '19

Assistant Head Sacristan, Trinity Church Wall Street, New York, New York

LITURGIES

Worship at the Institute begins and ends with the celebration of the Eucharist, and ancient patterns of the daily office mark morning, midday, and evening prayer services. A full description of this year's liturgies and a comprehensive list of sources, acknowledgments, and permissions is available through the "2024 Institute" tab at valpo.edu/ils.

EUCCHARIST TABLE FELLOWSHIP

The celebrations of the Eucharist at the Institute are public worship services. All the baptized are welcome to commune. Trusting in the forgiveness God gives us in baptism, we come to the Eucharistic table where the crucified and risen Christ is truly present in bread and wine, giving us his body and blood as food and drink.

If your church tradition or personal conviction prevents you from receiving the bread and wine, you may come forward for words of blessing or remain in your chair and join in the singing in the spirit of the Kyrie: "for the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all."

OFFERINGS

The offerings collected at the Institute support the annual World Relief Campaign of the Social Action Leadership Team (SALT), the social justice ministry of the Chapel of the Resurrection at Valparaiso University. The campaign, "Sheltering Strength, Preserving Dignity: Empowering Women to Lead Successful Lives," is working to raise money for a local women's homeless shelter, Gabriel's Horn. Gabriel's Horn offers support and services to women facing homelessness in the Porter County area. Their mission focuses on providing a safe and supportive environment where individuals can access temporary housing, meals, and essential supportive services such as counseling, case management, and transportation. Gabriel's Horn helps to get women back on their feet by helping them find housing, employment, healthcare, and childcare.

To give electronically, scan the code provided here or visit worldreliefcampaign.org. Baskets will be placed in the Chapel of the Resurrection to collect offerings made with cash or by checks payable to "The Porter County Community Foundation (PCCF)" with "SALT WRC" in the memo line.

THE DAVID G. TRUEMPER MEMORIAL CONCERT

The annual David G. Truemper Memorial Concert honors the life and work of **Rev. David G. Truemper, Ph.D.** (1939–2004), professor of theology at Valparaiso University who served for 20 years as director (1984–2004) of the Institute. Now a centerpiece of the Institute's conference, each concert – through performances of choral and chamber music, assembly song, spoken reflections, art, and combinations thereof – engages in dialogue with the year's theme. On Wednesday evening, join us for a jazz vespers service led by Deanna Witkowski, pianist, vocalist, and composer. A doctoral student in jazz studies at the University of Pittsburgh, Witkowski will lead us in sparkling trio reimaginings of hymns woven together with her own setting of the evening prayer liturgy. Dedicated to bringing communities together through jazz, Witkowski has served as a guest music leader in a number of settings and offers a YouTube series, "Off the Page: Sacred Jazz," with practical resources equipping church musicians to lead jazz liturgies in their own contexts.

AWARDS

The Christus Rex award is presented each year to someone who has significantly contributed to worship renewal and liturgical scholarship.

This year's recipient is the **Rev. Susan Briehl, M.Div.** Susan has been a frequent preacher, presider, and presenter at the Institute, preaching and presenting with creativity and deep insight and presiding with grace. A Lutheran pastor rostered in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), she has served in parish, campus, retreat center, and seminary settings. Her writings include "Turn My Heart," "Holden Prayer Around the Cross," and chapters in "Way to Live" and "On Our Way," books written while she worked with the Valparaiso Project on faith formation. She composes liturgical and hymn texts for the sake of the church's prayer. Her contributions in this area include "Holy God, Holy and Glorious," "Lift Up Your Heads," and "To God We Give our Melodies."



COMMISSIONS

Since 2013, the Institute has commissioned a hymn that relates to the theme of its annual gathering. Funded by generous donations, these hymns enhance the church's rich treasury of congregational song by providing work to supplement days, seasons, and occasions for which the number of existing hymn choices is limited.

The 2024 hymn honors the historic tradition of Lutheran hymn writing with ties to the collection in the "Achtliederbuch," printed 500 years ago. The text, composed by Sally Messner, ILS director of music, in consultation with the advisory council, evokes the doctrinal spirit of Luther's hymns, while lifting up contemporary images of economic justice. The hymn tune comes from Johann Walter's 1524 "Ein geistlich Gesang Büchlein," where it was paired with Luther's paraphrase of Psalm 14, a text that first appeared in the "Achtliederbuch." The four-part chorale setting sung this week is by J. S. Bach.

The hymn is available for download on the ILS website. Permission is granted for local use through May 1, 2025.

RESOURCES

More than 100 plenary presentations from past Institutes are available in a digital archive at ValpoScholar, which annually sees around 10,000 individual downloads of past Institute materials. More at scholar.valpo.edu/ils.

SHARE YOUR ILS STORY

How has the Institute of Liturgical Studies (ILS) blessed you? Who do you look forward to seeing again at ILS, and why?

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Institute of Liturgical Studies, we invite you to share your stories and observations by sitting for a recorded interview with a member of our team of story collectors.

Valparaiso University students **Carolina Bowen '24**, **Micah D'Archangelo '25**, **Kelly Alice Krazl '25**, and **Anna Speckhard '24** would like to hear from you. They will have a table nearby during our scheduled breaks and other times. Please take a moment and share your experiences.

EXHIBITORS

Valparaiso University warmly welcomes the following exhibitors to this year's Institute of Liturgical Studies:

- Lutheran Diaconal Association
- Concordia Publishing House
- Association of Lutheran Church Musicians
- Bilingual Ministry Resource Center
- Tree of Life Imports
- Association of Consultants for Liturgical Space
- The Center for Church Music
- Deanna Witkowski
- Lutheran Summer Music
- Augsburg Fortress

Exhibits are located in Ballroom A on the second floor of the Harre Union. Please note that exhibits are usually closed during plenary sessions in adjoining ballroom spaces. Not all exhibitors may be present at all times.

2024 EXHIBITOR HOURS

Tuesday, April 9 | 2–6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 10 | 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 11 | 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

CAMPUS INFORMATION

WIFI

The following network and password information can be used in campus buildings by Institute participants:

Network: valpo-guest

Password: foreveralpo

SEVERE WEATHER

In severe weather, follow posted signs for shelter locations in campus buildings. The Chicago forecast office of the National Weather Service serves the city of Valparaiso.

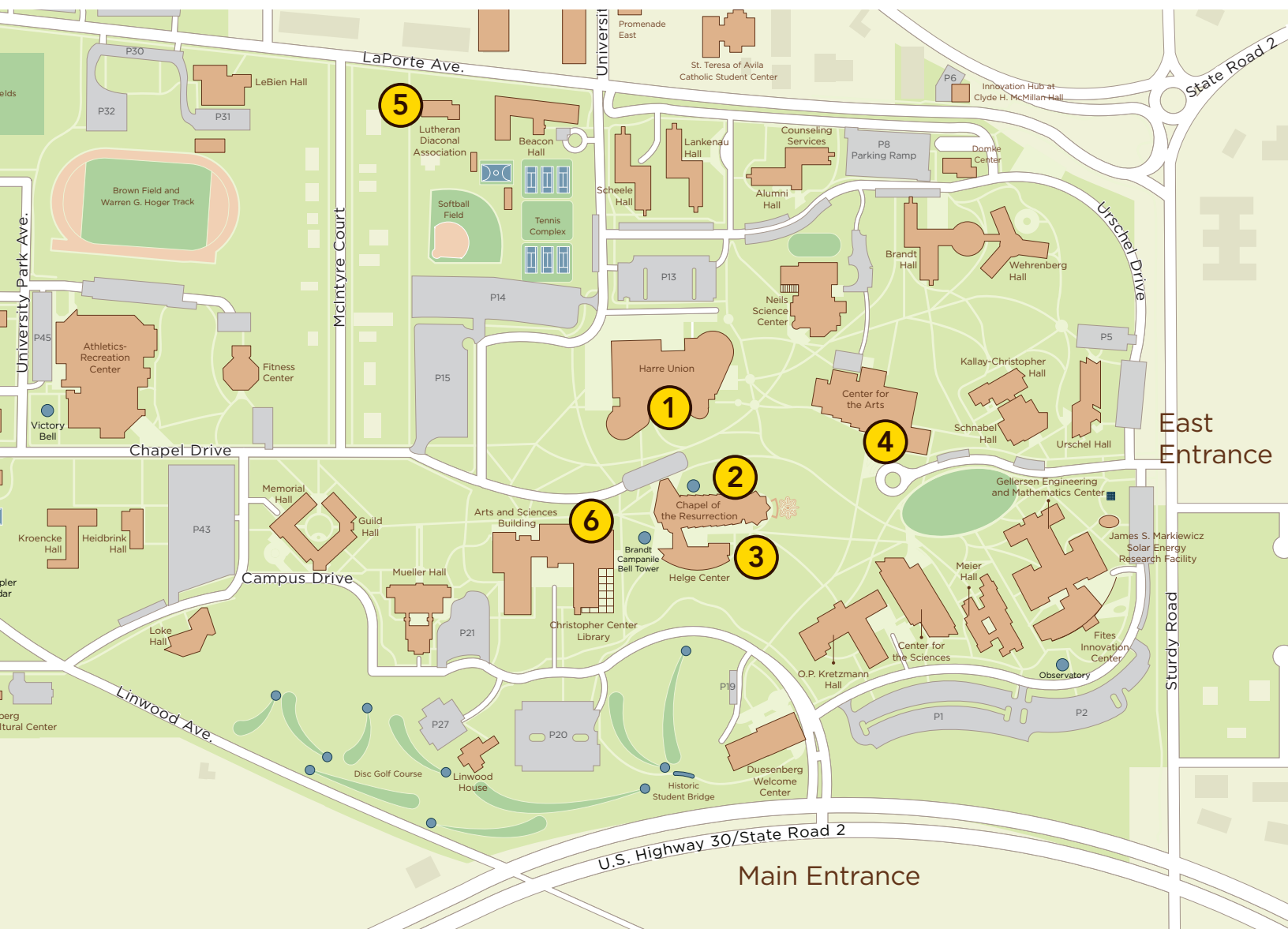
POLICE

The Valparaiso University Police Department is a professional, full-service department providing law enforcement services and protection on campus at all hours. For non-emergency situations, call 219.464.5430. For emergencies, dial 911.

CAMPUS MAP

Seminars, plenaries, workshops, receptions, and worship are located in the highlighted buildings.

1. Harre Union
2. Chapel of the Resurrection
3. Helge Center
4. Center for the Arts
5. Lutheran Diaconal Association
6. Christopher Center Library



SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

11:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Registration

Harre Union, 2nd floor

1–4 p.m.

Pre-Meeting Seminars

Various locations. Please see individual seminar descriptions for locations.

2 p.m.

Exhibitor Tables Open

Harre Union, Ballroom A

5:30 p.m.

Gathering Reception

Harre Union, Ballroom A

6 p.m.

Opening and Welcome

Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

7 p.m.

Gathering Eucharist

Chapel of the Resurrection

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

8:30 a.m.

Welcome

Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

9 a.m.

Plenary – **Benjamin J. Dueholm, M.Div.**

“From Commodity to Content:
Accessing Community and Grace in a
Disembodied World”

Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

10:10 a.m.

Matins Morning Prayer

Gloria Christi Chapel

10:45 a.m.

Workshop Session I

Various locations. Please see individual seminar descriptions for locations.

Noon

Lunch Break

1 p.m.

Midday Prayer

Chapel of the Resurrection

2:30 p.m.

Plenary – **Sarah Kathleen Johnson, Ph.D.**

“The Roles of Christian Ritual in Increasingly
Nonreligious and Religiously Diverse Social
Contexts: The Case of Anglican Baptisms
and Funerals in Toronto”

Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

3:30 p.m.

Break

3:45 p.m.

Workshop Session II

Various locations. Please see individual seminar descriptions for locations.

5:30 p.m.

Cocktail Reception

(co-sponsored by LDA/ALCM)

Lutheran Diaconal Association –
1304 LaPorte Ave.

6 p.m.

Dinner Break

6 p.m.

Brauer Gallery Reception

Center for the Arts, Brauer Museum of Art

7:30 p.m.

Truemper Concert Vespers

Chapel of the Resurrection

8:30 p.m.

Karaoke

Harre Union, Bell & Beacon Café

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

9 a.m.

Morning Prayer

Chapel of the Resurrection

9:45 a.m.

Plenary – **Fr. Mark Roosien, Ph.D.**

“‘Let Us Be Attentive!’ Liturgical Time and
Market Time in an Age of Catastrophe”

Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

10:45 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m.

Workshop Session III

Various locations. Please see individual seminar descriptions for locations.

12:30 p.m.

Lunch Break

1:30 p.m.

“Architecture of Prayer” Gallery Talk by

Amanda Iglesias, AIA

Brauer Museum of Art, Center for the Arts

Festival Choir Rehearsal

Chapel of the Resurrection

2:45 p.m.

Workshop Session IV

Various locations. Please see individual seminar descriptions for locations.

4:30 p.m.

Sending Eucharist

Chapel of the Resurrection

6 p.m.

Banquet

Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

PLENARY SESSIONS



SACRED SIGNPOSTS: WORDS, WATER, AND OTHER ACTS OF RESISTANCE

Benjamin J. Dueholm, M.Div.

Wednesday, April 10, 9 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the migration of social, economic, and political life in the United States into virtual and social media environments. Even where they resisted this trend, churches have not been immune to it, and it shows no signs of reversing. Has the nature of communal worship been transformed, and if so, how? Will worship flourish, wither, or both if transformed into disembodied "content"?

Speaker Bio: Rev. Benjamin Dueholm serves as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in University Park, Texas. His writing on faith, culture, and politics has appeared in the *Christian Century*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Dallas Morning News*, *Newsweek*, *Aeon*, and many other publications, as well as in his personal newsletter, benjamindueholm.substack.com. He is the author of "Sacred Signposts: Words, Water, and Other Acts of Resistance."



OCCASIONAL RELIGIOUS PRACTICE IN A CONSUMER CULTURE

Sarah Kathleen Johnson, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 10, 2:30 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

Many people are occasionally religious: they attend religious services occasionally rather than routinely and usually do so in connection with specific types of occasions, such as holidays, life transitions, and times of crisis. In this keynote, Johnson draws on three years of qualitative research in the Anglican Diocese of Toronto to introduce her concept of occasional religious practice and explore its implications in the context of consumer culture. Who are occasional practitioners? Why do they attend on these occasions? What can routine practitioners learn from occasional practitioners about Christian worship?

Speaker Bio: Sarah Kathleen Johnson is an assistant professor of liturgy and pastoral theology at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, Canada. She is a practical theologian who studies Christian worship in a changing North American religious landscape. Her research at the intersection of liturgical studies and the sociology of religion employs qualitative methods that value everyday religious experience. Commitments to interrogating the relationship between liturgy and ethics and engaging ecumenically across Christian traditions ground her research, teaching, and church leadership. Johnson is ordained for ministry in Mennonite Church Canada. She currently serves as the president of the Canadian Theological Society.



'LET US BE ATTENTIVE!' LITURGICAL TIME AND MARKET TIME IN AN AGE OF CATASTROPHE

Fr. Mark Roosien, Ph.D.

Thursday, April 11, 9:45 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

The catastrophic upheavals of recent years have coincided with a global rise in the use of smart technologies that shape our sense of time, separating each moment into bite-sized units used by market forces to exploit and monetize our attention. How might the liturgy alternatively shape worshippers' attention to authentically engage a suffering world? This lecture explores the thick rhythms of liturgical time in Eastern Orthodox Christianity as embodied in Orthodox Action, a group formed by Eastern European émigrés that sought to combine social action with robust liturgical life on the eve of another global upheaval: World War II.

Speaker Bio: Fr. Mark Roosien is a priest in the Orthodox Church in America and a scholar of Eastern Christian liturgy and theology. He received his Ph.D. in theology from the University of Notre Dame and is currently a lecturer in liturgical studies at Yale Divinity School and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. His monograph, "Ritual and Earthquakes in Constantinople: Liturgy, Ecology, and Empire," is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. In addition to his interests in liturgy, ecology, and early Christianity, Roosien translates and writes on modern Russian-language theology, especially the works of 20th-century Orthodox theologian Sergius Bulgakov.

PRE-MEETING SEMINARS



HOW TO INTEGRATE JAZZ IN WORSHIP (EVEN IF YOU AREN'T A JAZZ MUSICIAN)

Deanna Witkowski

Tuesday, April 9, 1 p.m.

Location: Helge Center, Room 122

Whether or not you are a jazz player, you will walk away from this seminar with resources that you can immediately use in worship services. In the first half, we will sing as Deanna shares lead sheets and fully notated piano scores from her catalog of jazz hymn arrangements, prayer responses, psalms, and Mass settings. In the second half, Deanna will demonstrate basic improvisation exercises and how to reharmonize a simple melody with just two unexpected chords. To read testimonials from musicians who have participated in Deanna's workshops, visit deannawitkowski.com/sacred-jazz.

Speaker Bio: Known for her adventurous, engaging music that heals the soul, pianist, composer, and vocalist Deanna Witkowski moves with remarkable ease between Brazilian, jazz, classical, and sacred music. Dedicated to bringing communities together through jazz, Witkowski has worked as a guest music leader in more than 100 churches. Her YouTube series, "Off the Page: Sacred Jazz," shares practical resources for church musicians, and her jazz hymn arrangements, as found on her recording, "Makes the Heart to Sing: Jazz Hymns," have been purchased by over 500 churches. Her first book, "Mary Lou Williams: Music For The Soul," won the 2022 Jazz Journalists Association Award for Biography of the Year.



BETTER CHURCH BRANDS THROUGH BETTER DESIGN

Daniel Kantor

Tuesday, April 9, 1 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Heritage Room

Graphic design, the art form behind most branding, is a powerful medium that will have an increasingly important role to play in religion, faith, spirituality, and worship, yet many religious organizations produce media that is poorly designed. While consumers have come to expect the corporate world to leverage good design, expectations of faith-based design have never been lower. Daniel Kantor, author of "Graphic Design and Religion," will discuss the need for a heightened awareness of better, more beautiful communications design within religion and will demonstrate how good design must be seen as an essential component of authentic religious hospitality. In a world where corporate branding gets ever more sophisticated, the need for religion to rise above the noise has never been more urgent. Religions must begin to see graphic design and branding as not an expensive luxury but a strategic tool and a steward of goodwill.

Speaker Bio: Daniel Kantor is the founder, principal, and creative director of Kantor Group, an award-winning strategic brand communications consultancy serving a broad range of national corporate clients, including GIA Publications and Augsburg Fortress. Kantor Group was the principal design consultant for the pew edition of "Evangelical Lutheran Worship," the core resource used by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the principal designer for GIA's most recent hymnal, "Gather III." Kantor is also a published liturgical music composer whose works include the best-selling Christmas classic "Night of Silence," used worldwide. Kantor also currently serves on the board of Vocal Essence, a Minneapolis-based choral arts organization.

Kantor's corporate clients have included Apple, 3M, Target, and a number of healthcare technology companies such as Medtronic, BlueCross Blue Shield, Wright Medical, and MetLife.

Kantor is also a crossword puzzle constructor with over a dozen puzzles published in the New York Times. He lives with his wife, Sara, and two cats in Bloomington, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis.



ANTICIPATING GOD'S VOICE AMID THE NOISE

John Nunes, Ph.D. and Travis Scholl '96, Ph.D.,

Tuesday, April 9, 1 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Alumni Room

Karl Barth famously exhorted preachers to proclaim with the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other. But how does this work in a world of smartphones, incessantly revolving news cycles, and a biblically post-literate culture? John and Travis will guide participants, as a cohort of practitioners, to explore creative ways that preaching opens opportunities for the preacher and the hearer to be formed by the ways the Spirit is speaking in our time amid the cacophony of consumer culture.

Speaker Bio: Rev. John Nunes, Ph.D., is the pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, California. In 2022, he was appointed senior fellow for the Center for Religion, Culture, and Democracy. For 25 years, Nunes has served as a dean and lecturer at Camp Arcadia in Michigan. John speaks widely and writes regularly on identity, diversity, spiritual formation, human anthropology, social theology, and vocational effectiveness. Previously, he was the president of Concordia College, New York, and



the president and CEO of Lutheran World Relief. Born in Montego, Jamaica, and raised in Canada, John has lived in the United States since 1981. His more than 40 years of service in the Lutheran church also includes serving as an endowed professor at Valparaiso University, youth ministry director, parish musician, and leading inner-city ministries in Dallas, Texas, and Detroit. John is a graduate of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Concordia Seminary, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, and the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. He also has been awarded three honorary doctorates.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Travis Scholl is the director of mission integration at Lutheran Senior Services in St. Louis. Previously, he served Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, as managing editor of theological publications, where he continues as a guest instructor in practical theology. He holds a Ph.D. in English and creative writing from the University of Missouri, Columbia, and is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and Valparaiso University. The author of "Walking the Labyrinth," his most recent essays and poems have appeared in "Essay Daily," "After the Art," "Fourth Genre," and "Saint Katherine Review."



ADULT FAITH FORMATION: A PROPHETIC CHALLENGE TO RELIGIOUS CONSUMERISM

Rhoda Schuler, Ph.D. and Kent Burreson, Ph.D.

Tuesday, April 9, 1 p.m.

Location: Helge Center, Room 122

A consumer culture challenges the church on two fronts. From within, an attractional pattern for outreach has commodified the church and its message. From without, the marketplace is recognizing the spiritual void in our secular culture and is pitching its wares with promises to provide "a sense of identity, purpose, meaning, and community" (Hirsch, *The Forgotten Ways*, 131, 107).

We are convinced that robust adult faith formation practices and rich rituals are a prophetic challenge to these internal and external issues. This seminar will offer background material on adult faith formation, facilitate small group studies and discussions, and lead participants through experiential learning on ritual.

Speaker Bio: Rhoda Schuler is a professor emerita at Concordia University, St. Paul, having served as full-time faculty in the department of theology. She is a deaconess in the LCMS, holds a Th.D. from Luther Seminary, and an M.A. in liturgical studies from St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota. Her love of liturgy dates to her undergraduate days at Valpo.

She and Kent Burreson have been researching the adult catechumenate in Lutheran congregations since 2018. Both are members of the North American Academy of Liturgy. "Journal to Jesus" is the working title of their forthcoming book.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Kent Burreson is a Louis A. Fincke and Anna B. Shine professor of systematic theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, teaching courses in systematic theology and worship. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame doctoral program in liturgical studies, he has a strong interest in the development and theological meaning of liturgical practice throughout church history, especially that of Christian Initiation. A North American Academy of Liturgy (NAAL) and Societas Liturgica member, he served on the ILS Advisory Council from 2010-2017. He and his wife, Cindy, reside in St. Peters, Missouri, and have two adult daughters and one son-in-law.



GALLERY TALK AND INSTALLATION



THE ARCHITECTURE OF PRAYER

Amanda Iglesias, AIA

Gallery talk: Thursday, April 11, 1:30 p.m.

Installation: Available for viewing during Brauer Museum open hours (listed below)

Location: Center for the Arts, Brauer Museum of Art

We are pleased and honored to host architect and curator Amanda Iglesias at ILS24. Iglesias is the curator of "The Architecture of Prayer," an international survey of the contemporary church and its architecture. It was on display at Wheaton College through March 2024 and previously on display at Calvin University at the Calvin Institute on Worship.

Lutheran churches and examples of creative reuse – church buildings created by modifying existing buildings – will be featured in her presentation for the Institute in keeping with this year's theme. The show will be presented in the Brauer Museum and run concurrently with the Institute.

Iglesias is a New York-based architect whose research via @iglesiasproject on Instagram seeks to understand how the church's architecture renders visible the hopes, dreams, and deepest longings of our contemporary milieu. Her writing on churches has been published in Christianity Today, the New York Review of Architecture, and Architecture Today.

Amanda Iglesias holds a bachelor of arts in studio art from Wheaton College, a master of architecture from Yale University, and a master of philosophy in architecture and urban studies from the University of Cambridge.

THE BRAUER MUSEUM OF ART

Located in the Center for the Arts, the Brauer Museum of Art is home to a nationally recognized collection of American art from the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. To learn more about the collections, visit valpo.edu/brauer-museum-of-art.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Wednesday | 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Thursday through Saturday | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WORKSHOP SESSION I

April 10, Wednesday, 10:45 a.m.

- 1.A: **Benjamin Dueholm** - Plenary Follow-up
- 1.B: **Timothy Brown** - "What is Caesar's?: Retaking Stewardship and Empire Language"
- 1.C: **Carol Frenning** - "Creating Worthy Spaces for Faith Communities: The Role of the Liturgical Design Consultant"
- 1.D: **Frederick Niedner** - Preaching Workshop: "Which Jesus Do You Want?"
- 1.E: **Peter Reske** - "Inventing a Genre: Five Hundred Years of Lutheran Hymnody"
- 1.F: **James Abbingdon** - "Common Sources and Differing Expressions"
- 1.G: **Bryan Cones** - "What Are You Doing With Your Hands? The Presider as Model for the Assembly"

WORKSHOP SESSION II

April 10, Wednesday, 3:45 p.m.

- 2.A: **Sarah Kathleen Johnson** - Plenary Follow-up
- 2.B: **Timothy Brown** - "What is Caesar's?: Retaking Stewardship and Empire Language"
- 2.C: **Carol Frenning** - "Creating Worthy Spaces for Faith Communities: The Role of the Liturgical Design Consultant"
- 2.D: **Daniel Kantor** - "Working with a Marketing Firm"
- 2.E: **Paul Westermeyer** - "Commodification of Church Music/Musicians"
- 2.F: **Sally Messner** - "Chanting the Liturgy"
- 2.G: **Hannah Johnsrud** - "Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival: Music. Community. Faith."

WORKSHOP SESSION III

April 11, Thursday, 11:15 a.m.

- 3.A: **Mark Roosien** - Plenary Follow-up
- 3.B: **Jonathan Bull** - "Introducing The Lutheran Digital Portal: Trying to build the first Pan-American Lutheran digital archive"
- 3.C: **Karoline Lewis** - "Preaching the Gospel of John As Liturgical Resistance"
- 3.D: **Paul Westermeyer** - "Commodification of Church Music/Musicians"
- 3.E: **James Abbingdon** - "Common Sources and Differing Expressions"
- 3.F: **Susan Briehl** - "On Our Way: The purpose and practice of processing"

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

April 11, Thursday, 2:45 p.m.

- 4.A: **Sarah Kathleen Johnson** - "Contemporary Worship Music as an Ecumenical Liturgical Movement"
- 4.B: **Karoline Lewis** - "Preaching the Gospel of John As Liturgical Resistance"
- 4.C: **Peter Reske** - "Inventing a Genre: Five Hundred Years of Lutheran Hymnody"



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS



PLENARY FOLLOW-UP

Benjamin J. Dueholm, M.Div.

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

Rev. Benjamin Dueholm will be hosting a plenary follow-up to "Sacred Signposts: Words, Water and Other Acts of Resistance."



WHAT IS CAESAR'S?: RETAKING STEWARDSHIP AND EMPIRE LANGUAGE

Timothy J. Brown '03, '05, M.Ed.

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Alumni Room

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Brown and Gold Room

Being more than just simple semantics, how we talk about the practical economic tools of ministry matters. "Donor," "building," and even "abundance" can easily slide the church into participating in an economy of meritocracy, transaction, and consumerism-gone-sour. With practical ideas and theological depth, we will think through how we can carefully approach the language we use when it comes to our participation in the realm of God, particularly when it comes to our gifts of economic value.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Timothy Brown is a pastor in the ELCA serving parishes in Chicago and Raleigh, North Carolina. He currently serves in the Office of the Presiding Bishop as director for congregational stewardship support, where he creates and curates relationships and resources to help synods and congregations fuel their ministries. He lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, with his wife and two sons, and you can usually find him at a coffee shop or brewery reading or writing something he thinks is interesting.



CREATING WORTHY SPACES FOR FAITH COMMUNITIES: THE ROLE OF THE LITURGICAL DESIGN CONSULTANT

Carol Frenning

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Heritage Room

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Heritage Room

This session explores how liturgical design consultants work with faith communities as they build or renovate their churches. Those who are cross-trained in liturgy, art, and architecture bring a perspective that can help to enrich and deepen the experience of this formative space. The spaces they help create will work for the worship rituals of the community. Liturgical design consultants have ways of encouraging the involvement of the entire community that assures a greater degree of unity in accepting changes made to the worship space. We will explore some of these as well as how they can help save money and unnecessary time and effort in your project.

Speaker Bio: Carol Frenning serves as program director of the graduate certification program in liturgical art and architecture at St. John's University School of Theology. She is a liturgical design consultant who works with congregations throughout the world as they build or renovate their worship spaces. She has worked on a wide variety of sacred spaces from large cathedrals to small private chapels. Trained as an art historian, her academic work is in American religious architecture. She taught sacred architecture at the University of Saint Thomas and lectures at the University of Minnesota College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. A graduate of the first class of the Institute for Liturgical Consultants at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, Carol serves as a founder and president for the professional organization, the Association of Consultants for Liturgical Space. She served as chair of the national advisory board for the American Institute of Architects' Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture (IFRAA-AIA) and on the board of Faith and Form. She was on the national planning board for the Form/Reform conferences. She served as the convener for the Visual Arts and the Liturgy Seminar of the North American Academy of Liturgy, past chair of the Society of Architectural Historians Minnesota, and past chair of the Art and Environment Committee for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.



PREACHING WORKSHOP: WHICH JESUS DO YOU WANT?

Frederick Niedner, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Brown and Gold Room

Pilate offered two Jesus options to the crowds on that long-ago Friday. Today, at the prompting of market forces as well as human nature, we now offer a host of Jesus choices, among them the new and improved Moses, culture warrior, party whip, guru, recovery coach, financial guarantor, wonder worker, cosmic bellhop, and best buddy ever. Which will grow the church and advance our brand? In consultation with Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John, we'll take each of these on a trip to Jerusalem and see what comes of them.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Frederick Niedner is a senior research professor in theology at Valparaiso University. Prior to retirement, he taught primarily biblical studies in Valpo's Department of Theology. He has also preached regularly in Valpo's Chapel and in regional parishes. He writes for several publications that serve the ministry of preaching.



INVENTING A GENRE: FIVE HUNDRED YEARS OF LUTHERAN HYMNODY

Peter C. Reske

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Helge Center, Room 122

Thursday, April 11, 2:45 p.m.

Location: Helge Center, Room 122

The dawn of modern hymnody began in 1524 at the intersection of congregational singing, theology, and commercial printing. What role did singers, hymn writers, and publishers play in the invention of the Lutheran hymn? And how did these hymns and hymnals blaze the path and establish the pattern for all subsequent hymnody? Explore some of the most important and influential Lutheran hymnals of the last five hundred years, with a special examination of the content and publication history of the seminal books of 1524: the "Achtliederbuch," the "Erfurt Enchiridion," and Johann Walter's "Geystliche Gesangk Buchleyn."

Speaker Bio: Peter Reske is senior editor of music and worship at Concordia Publishing House (CPH), where he has served since 2004. He holds degrees in English literature from Marquette University and in musicology from Pennsylvania State University. In addition to his ongoing role overseeing music publications for CPH, he was the editor of "Lutheran Service Book" and its attendant resources, editor of "The Hymns of Martin Luther," and editorial advisor for "One and All Rejoice." With Joseph Herl and Jon D. Vieker, he was co-editor of the "Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns."



COMMON SOURCES AND DIFFERING EXPRESSIONS

James Abbington, DMA

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Center for the Arts, Bauer Hall

Thursday, April 11, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Helge Center, Room 122

"I think we are always looking for things that are different about us. But the purpose of this workshop is to see how, in many cases, we are really very much alike."

In this workshop, Abbington will show us the ways in which American hymnody has been mutually and creatively informative across the so-called cultural divide of "Black Church" and "White Church." Much of the music that has come to be thought of as core to the Black Church experience was created through the adoption, adaptation, and assimilation of the work of Western European and white American hymn writers. Attention to these common threads will help us recognize and appreciate our commonality and the unique creative contribution achieved as African American hymn writers brought these sources in line with the needs of their own communities.

Speaker Bio: Abbington received his musical education at Morehouse College and the University of Michigan. He is currently an associate professor of church music and worship at Candler School of

Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and adjunct professor of church music at Morehouse College in Atlanta. He has been executive editor of the African American Church Music Series published by GIA Publications, the largest publisher of African American sacred music and worship resources in the United States, in Chicago for over 20 years. Abbington is a member of the historic Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta where he is the director of music ministries and church organist. Abbington was Chair of the Core Committee for the historic "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism: An African American Ecumenical Hymnal." In 2015, Abbington was honored by The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada (HSUSC) by being named a fellow of The Hymn Society.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR HANDS? THE PRESIDERS AS MODEL FOR THE ASSEMBLY

Bryan Cones, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.

Location: Chapel of the Resurrection, Gloria Christi Chapel

Most presiders take for granted that their ministry is to lead the assembly's prayer in a corporate work as a member of the assembly themselves. Yet some actions by presiders may separate them from the rest of the assembly, as if the presider is doing something fundamentally different than the rest of the baptized. This workshop will trouble some common patterns of presiding, especially during the Great Thanksgiving, and seek alternatives that emphasize that it is the whole assembly taking up the liturgical work of praise and thanksgiving.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Bryan Cones is a presbyter in the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Chicago, and pastor at Trinity Episcopal Church in Highland Park, Illinois. He holds a Ph.D. in liturgical and practical theology from the University of Divinity in Melbourne, Australia, and is the author of "This Assembly of Believers: The Gifts of Difference in the Church at Prayer."



PLENARY FOLLOW-UP

Sarah Kathleen Johnson, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

Sarah Kathleen Johnson will be hosting a plenary follow-up to "The Roles of Christian Ritual in Increasingly Nonreligious and Religiously Diverse Social Contexts: The Case of Anglican Baptisms and Funerals in Toronto."



WORKING WITH A MARKETING FIRM

Daniel Kantor

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Alumni Room

Kantor will share some of the things he wished his clients knew about brands and branding before meeting with designers, insights meant to make creative engagements more productive, efficient and meaningful.



COMMODIFICATION OF CHURCH MUSIC/MUSICIANS

Paul Westermeyer, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Christopher Center Library, Room 205

Thursday, April 11, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Christopher Center Library, Room 205

A discussion of how the church's liturgy and music are about the grace of God and counter the consumer culture of commodities that are to be bought and sold for profit. Around Word and Table, and at Daily Prayer, the church sings a song of praise, prayer, blessing, and thanksgiving that leads to our vocations in the world for the glory of God and the good of the neighbor.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Paul Westermeyer is a professor emeritus of church music at Luther Seminary where he also was cantor and director of the master of sacred music program with St. Olaf College. He taught at Elmhurst College, Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music, Brite Divinity School, and Union Seminary in North Carolina. His life's work has been the vocation of the church musician with books that include "The Church Musician," Hymnal Companions to "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" and "All Creation Sings," "Let Justice Sing," and "Te Deum: The Church and Music."



CHANTING THE LITURGY

Sally Messner '02, MSM

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Center for the Arts, Duesenberg Recital Hall

Build confidence in your vocal leadership by learning or refreshing techniques that will enhance your chanting, including efficient use of breath, vocal projection, and pacing. We will practice together various parts of the Christian liturgy, from the daily offices to the mass, in a safe and welcoming space. Something like a masterclass, you may choose to practice solo, but it will not be required. Come and sing with us!

Speaker Bio: ILS director of music Sally Messner is director of worship and music at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, where she plans and leads worship, conducts adult and children's choirs, and manages the music series. She is also founding musical director of

the Elm Ensemble, a liturgical project that brings together professional and amateur musicians with great sacred music and creative worship planning to help keep the church in dialogue with diverse voices from Christian history. Sally earned a bachelor of music in voice performance from Valparaiso University and a master of sacred music from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. She has taught workshops and written articles for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and is a contributor to 1517 Media's "Sundays and Seasons."



LUTHERAN SUMMER MUSIC

Hannah Johnsrud

Wednesday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Suite 200

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is a faith-based residential music academy and festival for high school students from across the country. Our students engage with college-level music education while living together on a Lutheran college campus and participating in and leading daily worship. Together, the staff, faculty, and students of LSM create life-changing experiences and relationships on the pillars of music, community, and faith. Come learn more about this transformational ministry – and how LSM's worship life is an integral part of this community!

Speaker Bio: Hannah Johnsrud (she/her) served as the sacristan at the 2023 Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival, working as part of the worship team to create and lead daily services of morning and evening prayer and weekly services of holy communion for the summer community. LSM holds a special place in Hannah's heart, as she herself attended LSM during her high school summers (2010-2013). Hannah is currently in her final academic year in the master of divinity program at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, where she serves on Chapel staff.



PLENARY FOLLOW-UP

Fr. Mark Roosien, Ph.D.

Thursday, April 11, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Ballrooms B and C

Fr. Mark Roosien will be hosting a plenary follow-up to "'Let Us Be Attentive!' Liturgical Time and Market Time in an Age of Catastrophe."



INTRODUCING THE LUTHERAN DIGITAL PORTAL: TRYING TO BUILD THE FIRST PAN-AMERICAN LUTHERAN DIGITAL ARCHIVE

Jonathan Bull '06

Thursday, April 11, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Heritage Room

Lutheran ephemera are scattered everywhere – universities, seminaries, synod/conference offices, parishioners' closets, pastors' studies, and church basements. These ephemera include numerous informal and formal Lutheran publications, including newsletters, publications, and church histories. Yet little has been done to archive these artifacts for future research.

As part of an independent Lutheran institution, the Christopher Center at Valpo has started to build an archive for this. The Lutheran Digital Portal seeks to collect as much of American Lutheran history as it can get and preserve it for future generations. This workshop will demonstrate the pilot version of this archive and will seek initial feedback from conference attendees. The archive is being developed in conjunction with the university's upcoming 100th-anniversary celebration of Valpo becoming a Lutheran institution.

Speaker Bio: Jonathan Bull is an associate professor of library science at Valparaiso University. Until recently, he was the theology librarian at the Christopher Center Library. Beginning in 2024, he shifted to being the new health sciences librarian. Since 2021, he has also supervised the Christopher Center's archives and special collections as well as the university's institutional repository, ValpoScholar. Jon is a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Valparaiso, Indiana, a lifelong Lutheran, and a pastor's kid.



PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF JOHN AS LITURGICAL RESISTANCE

Karoline M. Lewis, Ph.D.

Thursday, April 11, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Harre Union, Brown and Gold Room

Thursday, April 11, 2:45 p.m.

Location: Harre Union, Brown and Gold Room

The Fourth Gospel suggests a countercultural homiletic with its chronological rearrangements and its theological convictions. This workshop will provide foundational tenets for preaching the Gospel of John by exploring its challenges to liturgical conventions and sacramental assumptions. Participants will not only have a better understanding of preaching John in the Revised Common Lectionary but also leave with a sense of how the Fourth Gospel can be a guide for hearing the gospel's promise in a consumer culture world.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Karoline Lewis is the Marbury E. Anderson Chair in biblical preaching at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., where she has taught since 2007. She is the program director for the Festival of Homiletics, a contributing writer for *Working Preacher*, and co-host of the site's weekly podcast, *Sermon*

Brainwave. Lewis leads conferences, retreats, and workshops internationally, and has authored a number of books and articles on the Gospel of John, biblical interpretation, preaching, leadership, and women in ministry. You can connect with Karoline on Facebook, Instagram, and karolinelewis.com.



ON OUR WAY: THE PURPOSE AND PRACTICE OF PROCESSING

Susan Briehl, M.Div.

Thursday, April 11, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Chapel of the Resurrection, Gloria Christi Chapel

From the font to the grave, in our coming in and our going out, whether weeping, bearing the seeds for sowing, or singing, lifting high the harvest, we are a people on the move following Christ Jesus. Together let us explore the why, when, where, and how of liturgical processions, deepening and widening our understanding and use of this embodied prayer.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Susan Briehl, a Lutheran (ELCA) pastor, has served in a parish, on a campus, at a retreat center, and a seminary. Her writings include "Turn My Heart," "Holden Prayer Around the Cross," and chapters in "Way to Live" and "On Our Way," books written while she worked with the Valparaiso Project on faith formation. She composes liturgical and hymn texts for the sake of the church's prayer. Her contributions in this area include "Holy God, Holy and Glorious," "Lift Up Your Heads," and "To God We Give our Melodies."



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP MUSIC AS AN ECUMENICAL LITURGICAL MOVEMENT

Sarah Kathleen Johnson, Ph.D.

Thursday, April 11, 2:45 p.m.

Location: Helge Center, Multipurpose Room

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Christians from across traditions – Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Pentecostal, Mainline Protestant, Anglican, Evangelical, and more – came together in an act of musical solidarity: creating ecumenical virtual choir recordings of "The Blessing," a contemporary worship song. Whether you are a contemporary worship music (CWM) enthusiast, a skeptic, or somewhere in between, this workshop situates CWM in an expansive liturgical and ecumenical context. Rather than approaching CWM as a specific musical style, it invites reflection on CWM as an expression of worship that has been embraced and developed within a broad range of Christian traditions in ways that are integrally connected to the nature, meaning, and purpose of worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS



GATHERING EUCHARIST

Karoline M. Lewis, Ph.D., Preacher

Rev. Karoline M. Lewis is the Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, where she has taught since 2007. She is the program director for the Festival of Homiletics, a contributing writer for *Working Preacher*, and co-host of the site's weekly podcast, *Sermon Brainwave*. Lewis leads conferences, retreats, and workshops internationally, and has authored a number of books and articles, on the Gospel of John, biblical interpretation, preaching, leadership, and women in ministry. You can connect with Karoline on Facebook, Instagram, and on karolinelewis.com.



Bryan Cones, Ph.D., Presider/Leader

Bryan Cones is a presbyter in the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Chicago, and pastor at Trinity Episcopal Church in Highland Park, Illinois. He holds a Ph.D. in liturgical and practical theology from the University of Divinity in Melbourne, Australia, and is the author of "This Assembly of Believers: The Gifts of Difference in the Church at Prayer."



Szu-Ping Chang Wong '93, Primary Musician

Szu-Ping Chang Wong, a native of Taiwan, is the minister of music and organist at Trinity Lutheran Church in Valparaiso, Indiana. She received her master of arts degree in organ performance from Valpo where she studied under Martin Jean. Szu-Ping received her certificate in organ performance at Northwestern University, Illinois, where she studied under Wolfgang Rubsam and served as the organ scholar for three years at the university's Alice Millar Chapel.

Szu-Ping was invited to be the organ repertoire contributor for the 2023 Presbyterian Association of Musicians in America called "Call to Worship." This is a resource book for church musicians for each Sunday and Holy Week throughout the church year. It includes music for hymns, anthems, organ, piano, and handbell.



WEDNESDAY MIDDAY PRAYER

Dien Ashley Taylor, Ph.D., Preacher/Leader

A baptized child of God, Rev. Dien Ashley Taylor serves as the bishop and president of the Atlantic District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) and as the pastor of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Bronx, New York. He also is the LCMS president's voting representative on the LCMS Board for National Mission of which he is vice-chairman. He holds degrees from Concordia College in Bronxville, New York, Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and Fordham University in New York.



Julie Grindle, Primary Musician

Julie Grindle is a lifelong church musician, accompanist, and teacher now serving as associate to the bishop for candidacy, roster care, and administration in the upstate New York synod (ELCA). She is a former president of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and a former member of the advisory board to the Institute of Liturgical Studies (ILS). She has written for CrossAccent, InTempo, Sundays and Seasons, Living Lutheran, and the Prelude Planner blog. She lives in Baldwinsville, New York, with her husband, David.



WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER/JAZZ VESPERS

Craig Mueller, D. Min., Leader

Rev. Craig Mueller has served as pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chicago since 1999. He is also auxiliary professor of spiritual formation and church administration at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Mueller is author of "Any Body There? Being Human in a Digital Age," "Soli Deo Gloria: Choir Devotions for Year A," and liturgical texts and other worship materials for Augsburg Fortress. In addition, he was primary compiler for "Indexes for Evangelical Lutheran Worship and All Creation Sings," which includes a list of hymns for each Sunday and festival in the church year.



Deanna Witkowski, Primary Musician

Known for her adventurous, engaging music that heals the soul, pianist, composer, and vocalist Deanna Witkowski moves with remarkable ease between Brazilian, jazz, classical, and sacred music. Dedicated to bringing communities together through jazz, Witkowski has worked as a guest music leader in more than 100 churches. Her YouTube series, "Off the Page: Sacred Jazz," shares practical resources for church musicians, and her jazz hymn arrangements, as found on her recording, "Makes the Heart to Sing: Jazz Hymns," have been purchased by over 500 churches. Her first book, "Mary Lou Williams: Music For The Soul," won the 2022 Jazz Journalists Association Award for Biography of the Year.



THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER

Sally Messner '02, MSM, Leader

ILS director of music Sally Messner is director of worship and music at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, where she plans and leads worship, conducts adult and children's choirs, and manages the music series. She is also founding musical director of the Elm Ensemble, a liturgical project that brings together professional and amateur musicians with great sacred music and creative worship planning to help keep the church in dialogue with diverse voices from Christian history. Sally earned a bachelor of music in voice performance from Valparaiso University and a master of sacred music from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. She has taught workshops and written articles for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and is a contributor to 1517 Media's "Sundays and Seasons."



Chris Nelson, MSM, Primary Musician

Chris Nelson is the director of music and organist at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport, Iowa, and teaches organ at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. When not making music, he enjoys running, spending time with his partner, Chris, and their two dogs. He is currently training for his first Ironman 70.3.





SENDING EUCHARIST

Yehiel Curry, M.Div., Preacher

Yehiel Curry attended Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois, where he received a bachelor of arts in psychology and a minor in secondary education in 1995. He was part of a team that was helping to organize a new worshipping community in Chicago with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). In 2007, Yehiel Curry began serving as the lay mission developer of Shekinah Chapel. Curry was ordained on April 26, 2009, after two years of study at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) through the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) program. In 2013, Curry received his master of divinity from LSTC. Curry served as a board member for Rescue, Release, and Restore, Inc. NFP (RRR), a mentoring organization with programs in six cities. Curry was blessed to minister God's word in Liberia and Rwanda, Africa; before 35,000 youth at the Youth Gathering; at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly and various synods throughout the U.S. On June 8, 2019, Curry was elected bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod. Bishop Curry is a past contributor to an ELCA worship resource, "Sundays and Seasons" and has authored "Bring Them In, Train Them Up And Ship Them Out," and "Rods and Blessing" for other ELCA publications.



Susan Briehl, M.Div., Presider

Rev. Susan Briehl, a Lutheran (ELCA) pastor, has served in a parish, on a campus, at a retreat center, and a seminary. Her writings include "Turn My Heart," "Holden Prayer Around the Cross," and chapters in "Way to Live" and "On Our Way," books written while she worked with the Valparaiso Project on faith formation. She composes liturgical and hymn texts for the sake of the church's prayer. Her contributions in this area include "Holy God, Holy and Glorious," "Lift Up Your Heads," and "To God We Give our Melodies."



James Abbingtion, DMA, Primary Musician

James Abbingtion received his musical education at Morehouse College and the University of Michigan. He is currently an associate professor of church music and worship at Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and adjunct professor of church music at Morehouse College in Atlanta. He has been executive editor of the African American Church Music Series published by GIA Publications, the largest publisher of African American sacred music and worship resources in the United States, in Chicago for over 20 years. Abbingtion is a member of the historic Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta where he is the director of music ministries and church organist. Abbingtion was Chair of the Core Committee for the historic "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism: An African American Ecumenical Hymnal." In 2015, Abbingtion was honored by The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada (HSUSC) by being named a fellow of The Hymn Society.

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Established in 1995, the Institute's endowment ensures the long-term financial stability of the Institute and enables future growth, the ILS Endowment funds the planning and implementation of the annual meeting of the Institute of Liturgical Studies together with the support of registering participants and the in-kind support of Valparaiso University.

THE PETER J. L. PERELLA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This scholarship fund provides no-cost registration for full-time students regardless of year or degree program. Established in 2014 the scholarship honors the memory of the Rev. Peter J. L. Perella, who contributed to the Institute as a member of its advisory council and served the wider church as director of worship formation and liturgical resources of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

If you would like to make a gift to ILS, please contact the executive director, **James Wetztein**, at james.wetztein@valpo.edu or 219.464.6794 or send your check to:

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