

# **LS/SP505 Teaching Retreat: Anglican Theology and Practice of the Eucharist**

**1 credit**

**Dates: March 16—18, 2018**

**Bethlehem Retreat Centre, Nanaimo**

**Instructor: Grant Rodgers**

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## **Purpose and content:**

This course aims to instruct Anglican MDiv and other ministry-stream students in the meaning and practice of the Eucharist in the Anglican tradition.

Students will reflect upon Anglican understanding of sacraments, the history and theology of the Eucharist, examine their own place in that tradition, and develop their own Eucharistic/liturgical spirituality.

We will examine various criteria relating to liturgical leadership and create opportunities for participants to explore their own liturgical “style.” We will practice and reflect upon the movements, gestures and other aspects of ceremonial related to Eucharistic practice.

Because formation is not simply about the information being offered, participants will experience a live-in retreat, with time for solitude, silence and contemplative reflection, as well as observing a discipline of corporate prayer, study, and community life.

## **Course Competencies**

People who feel called to preside must not only demonstrate knowledge of the subject but also an ability to be aware of and sensitive to context, and capable of communicating the meaning of the Eucharist through meaningful actions as well as words. The retreat will offer opportunity to become more aware of themselves as leaders – their assumptions, motivations, sense of calling and presence.

Participants will understand the basic shape, essential elements, movement and direction of the Eucharistic liturgy. They will have become familiar with the terminology of the Eucharist relating to parts of the liturgy, church, ornaments,

vestments, vessels, linens, etc. They will have acquired a familiarity with the set-up and preparation of the altar and sanctuary.

They will design a teaching or instructional Eucharist, creating a commentary on the various parts of the liturgy.

### **Course Requirements:**

Attendance at and participation in the entire retreat. Students who complete the course will have explored and explained their own understanding of the meaning and purpose of the Eucharist, as expressed at the retreat, and in a 7 page paper (in the standard format) to be handed in and discussed with the instructor prior to the end of classes (April 6). In the paper they will articulate their understanding of the meaning, place and practice of the Eucharist in the life of the Church, reflect about what the sacrament of the Eucharist means to them personally, and put forth an argument about why they feel they should (or should not) become presiders.

**Prerequisites:** Open to Anglican students in the M.Div. program unless by special permission of the Instructor.

### **Texts:**

The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Anglican Tradition; H.R. McAdoo, Kenneth Stevenson

Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry; World Council of Churches: the chapter on Eucharist

### **Other relevant and recommended reading (that may be referenced during the retreat):**

William R. Crockett, Eucharist: Symbol of Transformation

Howard E. Galley, The Ceremonies of the Eucharist: A Guide to Celebration; (Rowman and Littlefield)

Patrick Malloy, Celebrating the Eucharist: A Practical Ceremonial Guide for Clergy and Other Liturgical Ministers

Philip H. Pfatteicher, The School of the Church: Worship and Christian Formation

Timothy Radcliffe Why Go to Church? The Drama of the Eucharist;

Alexander Schmemmann, The Eucharist

Kenneth Stevenson Take, Eat: Reflections on the Eucharist;

Evelyn Underhill, Worship

Louis Weil, Liturgical Sense: The Logic of Rite;

John D. Zizioulas, Being As Communion

**Evaluation:**

Evaluation will include both participation in the course presentations as well as the degree to which, through the written assignment, the student demonstrates the development of a personal eucharistic spirituality, and competence in managing the physical use of the space, their own presence and movement, as well as set up of the altar.

Also to be taken into consideration will be their participation in the Eucharistic life of the College and/or in a parish setting, specifically their involvement in assigned tasks like reading, preaching, serving, etc.

**Anglican Retreat Accommodation Policy/ Retreat Centre Fees:**

When an Anglican denominational course is held in a retreat format at an offsite location (retreat centre) that charges for accommodation (registration/meals), each student taking the course is responsible for paying their share of the accommodation charges stipulated by the retreat centre. Unless grant monies received by the School for support of the Anglican retreats reduce or eliminate the accommodation charge, such charge will in all cases be covered by the student. The charge will be applied to the student's account as a separate charge at the point when the student registers for the course. After the end of the Add/Drop period, there will be no refund of the accommodation charge if a student withdraws from the course. [This is necessary because the retreat centres generally do not refund the deposits VST has to pay to make a reservation.] Under the usual policy on Fee Refunds and Withdrawals, tuition charges for the course will still be eligible for a refund but the accommodation charge will not.

