

EMT 3412: Confessing Our Faith

Emmanuel College, Fall 2015

Wednesday, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

EC Room 108

Michael Bourgeois

EC 111, 416.585.4534

michael.bourgeois@utoronto.ca

Course Description

Through analysis of doctrinal statements of The United Church of Canada, their historical origins, and contemporary theology, students will become acquainted with United Church theology and the processes by which it has been developed, and articulate their own faith in relation to their own experience, the faith of the church, and the practice of ministry in the context of the challenges of today. Students will participate in the process by which “Christians of each new generation are called to state [the faith of the church] afresh in terms of the thought of their own age and with the emphasis their age needs” (Preamble, *A Statement of Faith*, 1940). Doctrinal statements on which the course will focus include the Doctrine section of the *Basis of Union* (1925), *A Statement of Faith* (1940), and *A Song of Faith* (2006); theological statements from other United Church documents will also be considered. **Prerequisites:** at least one introductory course each in Bible, history of Christianity, and theology.

Learning Outcomes and Methods

Course methods include readings, discussion, and papers, and will incorporate students’ reflections on their experience and integration of theory and practice into discussions and papers.

The table on p. 2 indicates the learning outcomes of the Emmanuel College basic degree programs to which this course primarily relates.

Reading

Required reading will be drawn primarily from the following sources.

- Douglas John Hall, *The Cross in Our Context: Jesus and the Suffering World* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Press, 2003), available at Crux Books.
- The United Church of Canada, *Basis of Union, Doctrine* (1925)
<<http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/statements/union>>
- The United Church of Canada, *A Statement of Faith* (1940)
<<http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/statements/1940>>
- The United Church of Canada, *A Song of Faith* (2006)
<<http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/statements/songfaith>>

A handout containing these three United Church faith statements will be distributed in class.

The United Church faith statements and other useful background information are also available in *Our Words of Faith: Cherished, Honoured, and Living*, the resource booklet prepared for the remit on the United Church doctrinal statements authorized by the United Church’s 40th General Council (2009), at <<http://www.united-church.ca/files/beliefs/statements/our-words-of-faith.pdf>>.

Other reading is available at the web site “Awash in Theology,” <<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/>>, or will be distributed in class or available on reserve in the Emmanuel College library.

Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance and participation in class sessions is required, but will not be graded as students’ active involvement in the course will be reflected in the quality of their papers. Students missing more than three class sessions (including the first session) may not receive credit for this course.

Emmanuel College Basic Degree Learning Outcomes and EMT 3412: Confessing Our Faith

MDiv	MPS	MSMus	MTS
Religious Faith and Heritage			
Demonstrate knowledge of the Christian heritage and articulate clearly their own theological positions.	Demonstrate knowledge of the religious heritage and articulate clearly their own theological positions as related to pastoral practices	Demonstrate knowledge of the Christian heritage and articulate clearly their own theological positions as related to musical materials.	Demonstrate knowledge of the religious heritage and articulate clearly their own theological positions.
Identify and respect the diversity of theological viewpoints and practices within the Christian tradition.	Identify and respect the diversity of theological viewpoints and practices within the religious tradition.	Identify and respect the diversity of theological viewpoints and practices within the Christian tradition.	Identify and respect the diversity of theological viewpoints and practices within the religious tradition.
Culture and Context/Musical Arts			
Give evidence of critical self-awareness with regard to their own and other faith perspectives and practices.	Give evidence of critical self-awareness with regard to their own and other faith perspectives and practices of one's specialization.	Give evidence of critical self-awareness with regard to their own and other faith perspectives and practices of music ministry.	Give evidence of critical self-awareness with regard to their own and other faith perspectives and practices.
Spiritual and Vocational Formation			
Demonstrate understanding of the variety of callings and spiritual practices within the Christian tradition, and an ability to reflect critically on their own sense of call to leadership and service.			
Ministerial and Public Leadership	Practices of Area of Specialization	Music Ministry Leadership	Practices of Theological Scholarship
Show ability to integrate theory and practice.	Demonstrate skills for responsible and account-able specialized leadership in congregational and community contexts	Articulate varieties of Christian worship, including elements of praise and prayer, and be capable of authoring musical materials for worship events	Show ability to integrate theory and practice.

Assignments

Assignments include five short papers and one long paper:

a. Five to seven (minimum 5, maximum 7) short papers, 4–5 pages long, each worth 12% of the course grade on five of the topics for the classes from September 23 through December 2 (see Course Schedule below), due in class on the day on which that topic will be covered. At least two papers must be submitted by October 21. Each paper should include a statement of your own beliefs, questions, and struggles (e.g., by either rewriting the relevant sections from United Church statements or writing your own version of a section on that doctrine) as well as your discussion of the issues at stake for you in your statement of faith. Your discussion should also demonstrate your familiarity with and understanding of the readings assigned for the topic or doctrine on which you are writing. If you choose, you may also include in your discussion relevant resources from other courses. In the papers and in class discussions, you should consider your own experience, the faith of the United Church as expressed in its various confessions, the context of ministry today, and questions such as: What is at stake in this doctrine? What might be gained or lost by confessing our faith in ways similar to or different from previous confessions? Why might such gains or losses be important? The questions listed for each class session in the Course Schedule below may also provide a useful starting point, but you are not required to use them.

b. One final integrative paper, 12-15 pages long, worth 40% of the course grade and due on Monday, December 14. Considering your own experience, the faith of the United Church as expressed in previous confessions, and the context of ministry today, write a *complete* “statement of faith.” This paper *may* include elements of your short papers, but *must* include:

- your further reflection on those articles of faith in light of course readings, presentations, and discussions, showing how your thinking about these articles has changed or deepened;
- the articles of faith that you have not written about in your short papers;
- your understanding of how your various articles of faith interrelate and influence each other to form a comprehensive whole; and
- evidence of your familiarity with and understanding of the course readings and, if you choose, other relevant resources.

Your “Statement of Faith” may follow the order of articles of the Doctrine section of the “Basis of Union” or the “Statement of Faith” (1940), or the sequence of “A Song of Faith” (2006), or may organize the doctrines in another order you choose; or it may take the form of a “creed,” which may be 2 to 3 pages long with the rest of the paper comprised of your explanation of or commentary on that creed. The instructor will be available to discuss these or other approaches to the final paper.

All assignments will be evaluated in relation to the program outcomes identified on p. 2, and according to the following specific criteria. (See the sample evaluation report on p. 4 for an example of how these criteria will be used in assignment feedback.)

- ability to express theological views clearly in a statement of faith (25%)
- ability to develop an informed discussion of some key issues related to the theological ideas in one’s statement of faith – in light of reflection on one’s experience and integration of theory and practice, and in conversation with church faith statements and other theological documents (25%)
- ability to incorporate relevant insights from course readings and other sources (20%)
- ability to consider diverse theological views fairly (15%)
- ability to communicate clearly and fairly in writing (15%)

For all assignments, include documentation of all sources as appropriate, clearly indicating author, title, publisher, and date of sources used. Observe Emmanuel College academic regulations and policies in the *Handbook of Information for Basic Degree Students*. For more information about writing papers, see “Writing at the University of Toronto” at <<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca>>

Sample Evaluation Report

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Joanna Calvin-Wesley, Assignment #1

Evaluation Report

Assignment Outcomes	% of Assignment	Grade
ability to express theological views clearly in a statement of faith	25%	83
ability to develop an informed discussion of some key issues related to the theological ideas in one's statement of faith – and in light of reflection on one's experience and integration of theory and practice, and in conversation with church faith statements and theological documents	25%	80
ability to incorporate relevant insights from course reading or other sources	20%	82
ability to consider diverse theological viewpoints fairly	15%	80
ability to communicate clearly and fairly in writing	15%	84
Assignment Grade		81.75
<p>Comments</p> <p>Your article of faith is very clearly expressed, and very well reflects issues you address in your discussion and perspectives on revelation and scripture in the UCC faith statements and related theological reports. Your discussion demonstrates excellent knowledge and understanding of the fundamental questions in a doctrine of revelation, scripture, and knowledge of God, and well engages in conversation with the United Church faith statements. Some attention to issues raised in the report “The Authority and Interpretation of Scripture” would further strengthen your discussion, as would some discussion of when in your experience biblical authority and interpretation may have arisen for you. You also make excellent use of some insights from Hall, and do a good job of considering diverse views. Overall your paper is very well written.</p>		

Emmanuel College/TST Grading Scale						
0-69/FZ Failure	70-72/B- Satisfactory	73-76/B Good	77-79/B+ Very Good	80-84/A- Excellent	85-89/A Outstanding	90-100/A+ Exceptional

Accessibility Services

Students with diverse learning styles and abilities are welcome in this course. If you require accessibility accommodations to facilitate your learning, please contact University of Toronto Accessibility Services as soon as possible. It takes time to put accessibility accommodations in place. The sooner you meet with a counsellor at Accessibility Services, the sooner the counsellor can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course. Please contact Accessibility Services by e-mail or by visiting its office on the University of Toronto St. George Campus:

455 Spadina Avenue, 4th Floor, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M5S 2G8
(just north of College St.)
Voice: (416) 978-8060
Fax: (416) 978-5729
E-Mail: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca

For more information, see the Accessibility Services web site at <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca>

Course Schedule

16 September Orientation to the Course

Introduction of course participants, introduction to the course and its objectives and assignments, review of the syllabus, discussion of students' and instructor's expectations, etc.

23 September Purposes and Limits of Statements of Faith

Does a community of believers need a statement of faith? Why or why not? For what positive purposes might a statement of faith be used? What limits might there be to the usefulness of statements of faith?

Required Reading:

- Comparison of United Church of Canada Faith Statements, 1925-2006, p. 1: Preambles of *Basis of Union* (1925), *Statement of Faith* (1940), and *A Song of Faith* (2006).
- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapter I, "The Spirit of Unity," pp. 57–76.
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+1.pdf>>
- Richard Roberts, "Wheels and Systems: A Plea for Another Theology."

Recommended Reading:

- John Young, "Sacred Cow or White Elephant?: The Doctrine Section of the Basis of Union" *Touchstone* 16/2 (1998): 29–46. <<http://touchstonejournal.ca/tchissues/tch0298.htm#Sacred>>
- Committee on Christian Faith, "Creeds, Ancient and Modern," *Record of Proceedings of the 23rd General Council, 1966*, pp. 311-56.
- Michael Bourgeois, "Awash in Theology: Issues in Theology in The United Church of Canada," in Don Schweitzer, ed., *The United Church of Canada: A History*, pp. 259-77.

30 September God and Trinity

What does it mean to confess God as "almighty"? As "Creator, Upholder, and Sovereign Lord of all things"? Are there things that we have left unsaid about God that should be said now? What is at stake in confessing the Trinity? In baptising in the name of the Trinity?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 2: *Basis of Union* (1925), Article I: "Of God"; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Article I and IV: "God" and "The Holy Trinity"; and *A Song of Faith* (2006).
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapter 4, "The Crucified God," pp. 75–90.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapter II "Article I: Of God," pp. 77–91.
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+2+Of+God.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This Is Our Faith*, Chapters I and IV, "God" and "The Holy Trinity," pp. 1–30, 76–86.
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_1_God.pdf> and
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_4_Trinity.pdf>
- Roman Catholic/United Church Dialogue of Canada, "In Whose Name? The Baptismal Formula in Contemporary Culture," (2000)
<http://www.united-church.ca/files/partners/relations/ecumenical/report_rc_01.pdf>
- HyeRan Kim-Cragg, "A Plural Mystery for a Plural World," in Rob Fennell and Ross Lockhart, eds., *Three Ways of Grace: Drawing Closer to the Trinity*, pp. 134-40.

7 October Creation and Providence

How does God relate to and interact with creation? Why do evil and suffering exist? What should our relationship with creation be? In what ways have we failed in our relationship with God, creation, and each other? From what do we most urgently need repentance and forgiveness today, and what would such repentance look like?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, pp. 3-4: *Basis of Union* (1925), Articles III, IV, and V: “Of the Divine Purpose,” “Of Creation and Providence,” and “Of the Sin of Man”; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Article V: “Man and Man’s Sin”; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 2.
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapter 3, “Engaging the World” and Chapter 5, “The Grandeur and Misery of the Human Being,” pp. 53–72 and 91–109.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapters IV, V, and VI, “Article III: Of the Divine Purpose,” “Article IV: Of Creation and Providence,” and “Article V: Of the Sin of Man,” pp. 99–123
<<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+4+Of+the+Divine+Purpose.pdf>>
<<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+5+Of+Creation+and+Providence.pdf>>
<<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+6+Of+the+Sin+of+Man.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This Is Our Faith*, Chapter V, “Man and Man’s Sin,” pp. 87.
<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_5_ManandSin.pdf>
- The United Church of Canada, 31st General Council, “Apology to First Nations Peoples” (1986, *ROP* pp. 83–85, 94, 230–44, 666), <<http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/policies/1986/a651>>
- David Hallman, Chapter 3, “Religion: From Dominion to Respect” in *A Place in Creation: Ecological Visions in Science, Religion, and Economics*, pp. 61–102.

14 October Holy Spirit

Is it necessary to confess the Holy Spirit as one of the three persons of the Trinity? Why or why not? What roles does the Spirit play in how God relates to the world and to us? What roles does the Spirit play in “the redemptive purpose and working of God”? Why do we spend so little time thinking and talking about the Spirit and the work of the Spirit?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 5: *Basis of Union* (1925), Articles VIII, XII, and XIII: “Of the Holy Spirit,” “Of Sanctification,” and “Of Prayer”; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Articles III: “The Holy Spirit”; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 3.
- Peter Hodgson, *Christian Faith: A Brief Introduction*, Chapter 6, “The Age of the Spirit: An Impossible Dream?,” pp. 135–57.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapters IX, XIII, and XIV, “Article VIII: Of the Holy Spirit,” “Article XII: Of Sanctification,” and “Article XIII: Of Prayer,” pp. 151–61, 175–82.
<<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+9+Of+the+Holy+Spirit.pdf>>
<<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+13+Of+Sanctification.pdf>>
<<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+14+Of+Prayer.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This Is Our Faith*, Chapter III: “The Holy Spirit,” pp. 55–72.
<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_3_HolySpirit.pdf>

21 October Revelation, Scripture, and Knowledge of God

In what ways do we confess that God is made known to us? How does the Bible relate to other means by which we know God? How can we affirm the authority of the Bible while acknowledging the ways in which it has been used against “the redemptive purpose and working of God”?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 6: *Basis of Union* (1925), Articles II and XIV: “Of Revelation” and “Of the Law of God”; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Article IX: “The Holy Scriptures”; *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 4.
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapters 1 and 2, “What Is the Theology of the Cross?” and “Theology of the Cross as Contextual Theology,” pp. 13–52.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapters III and XV, “Article II: Of Revelation” and “Article XIV: Of the Law of God,” pp. 92-98 and 183-84.
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+3+Of+Revelation.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+15+Of+the+Law+of+God.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This is Our Faith*, Chapter IX, “The Holy Scriptures,” pp. 167-81.
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_9_Scripture.pdf>
- The United Church of Canada, Committee on Theology and Faith, “The Authority and Interpretation of Scripture” (34th General Council, 1992; *ROP* pp. 104–109, 215–271, 584–588)
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Authority_Interpretation+of+Scripture.pdf>
- Michael Bourgeois, “Awash in Theology: Issues in Theology in The United Church of Canada,” in Don Schweitzer, ed., *The United Church of Canada: A History*, pp. 259-77.

28 October Reading Week

4 November Jesus Christ and Redemption

What does it mean to confess Jesus Christ as “truly” human and “Eternal Son of God”? Why does it matter if we do? What is the relationship between who Jesus Christ is and what Jesus Christ does?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, pp. 7-8: *Basis of Union* (1925), Articles VI-VII and IX-XII, “Of the Grace of God,” “Of the Lord Jesus Christ,” “Of Regeneration,” “Of Faith and Repentance,” and “Of Justification and Sonship,” and “Of Sanctification”; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Articles II and VI: “Jesus Christ” and “Redemption”; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 5.
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapter 6, “Jesus Christ – and Him Crucified,” pp. 111–33.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapters VII-VIII and X-XIII, “Article VII: Of the Grace of God,” “Article VIII: Of the Lord Jesus Christ,” “Article X: Of Regeneration,” “Article XI: Of Faith and Repentance,” “Article XII: Of Justification and Sonship,” and “Article XIII: Of Sanctification,” pp. 124-50 and 163-79.
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+7+Of+the+Grace+of+God.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+8+Of+the+Lord+Jesus+Christ.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+10+Of+Regeneration.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+11+Of+Faith+and+Repentance.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+12+Of+Justification+and+Sonship.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+13+Of+Sanctification.pdf>>

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- John Dow, *This is Our Faith*, Chapters II & VI, “Jesus Christ” and “Redemption,” pp. 31-53 and 107-31.
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_2_JesusChrist.pdf>
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_6_Redemption.pdf>
- The United Church of Canada, Division of Mission in Canada, Committee on Christian Faith and David Lochhead, “The Lordship of Jesus” (27th General Council, 1977; *ROP* pp. 419–447)
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/The-Lordship-of-Jesus>>
- The United Church of Canada, Committee on Theology and Faith, “Reconciling and Making New: Report of the Committee on Theology and Faith” (37th General Council, 2000; *ROP* pp. 174–175, 188–192, 383–405, 1177–1179).
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Reconciling+and+Making+New.pdf>>
- The United Church of Canada, Interchurch and Interfaith Committee, “Bearing Faithful Witness: United Church–Jewish Relations Today”
<<http://www.united-church.ca/files/sales/publications/400000130.pdf>>
- The United Church of Canada, Interchurch and Interfaith Committee, “That We May Know Each Other: United Church—Muslim Relations Today”
<http://www.united-church.ca/files/sales/publications/400000126_finalstatement.pdf>

11 November Church

What is the purpose of the church? What does it mean to “acknowledge one holy, catholic, apostolic Church, the Body of Christ, the household and family of God”? If the church is one, why are there so many churches? How important is uniformity to church unity? What is the relationship of the church to the rest of the world?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 9: *Basis of Union* (1925), Article XV: “Of the Church”; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Article VII: “The Church”; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 6.
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapter 7, “The Church and the Cross,” pp. 137–55.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapter XVI, “Article XVI: Of the Church,” pp. 185-91.
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+16+Of+the+Church.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This is Our Faith*, Chapters VII, “The Church,” pp. 133-51.
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_7_Church.pdf>
- The United Church of Canada, Inter–church and Inter–faith Committee, “Mending the World: An Ecumenical Vision for Healing and Reconciliation” (36th General Council, 1997; *ROP* pp. 195–227)
<<http://www.united-church.ca/files/sales/publications/400000063.pdf>>
- The United Church of Canada, Permanent Committee on Programs for Mission and Ministry, “Towards 2025: A Justice Seeking/Justice Living Church”
<http://www.gc41.ca/sites/default/files/pcpmm_2025.pdf>
- Loraine Mackenzie Shepherd, “From Colonization to Right Relations: The Evolution of United Church of Canada Missions within Aboriginal Communities.” *International Review of Mission* 103/1 (April 2014): 153-71.

18 November Discipleship and Ministry

What is the relationship between salvation and living a Christian life? Why should we live one—from duty or from love? from obligation or from gratitude? What does a Christian life look like? Is it similar to or different from any “good” life? In light of the purpose of the church and the needs of our time, what is the purpose of the church’s ministry?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 10: *Basis of Union* (1925), Article XVII, XVIII, and XX: “Of the Ministry,” “Of Church Order and Fellowship,” and “Of Christian Service and the Final Triumph”; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Articles VIII and XI: “The Ministry” and “Christian Life and Duty”; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 7.
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapters 8–9, “The Theology of the Cross and the Crisis of Christendom” and “On Being Christian Today,” pp. 157–207.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapters XVIII, XIX, and XXI, “Article XVII: Of the Ministry,” “Article XVIII: Of Church Order and Fellowship,” and “Article XX: Of Christian Service and the Final Triumph,” pp. 200–03 and 209–10.
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+18+Of+Ministry.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+19+Of+Church+Order+and+Fellowship.pdf>>
<<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick+-+Chapter+21+Of+Christian+Service+and+the+Final+Triumph.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This Is Our Faith*, Chapters VIII and XI, “The Ministry” and “Christian Life and Duty,” pp. 153–165, 201–23.
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_8_Ministry.pdf>
<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_11_ChristianLife.pdf>
- The United Church of Canada, Division of World Outreach, “To Seek Justice and Resist Evil: Towards a Global Economy for All God’s People” (37th General Council, 2000; *ROP* pp. 184–185, 197–200, 784–857, 1182–1184) <<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Seek+Justice+Resist+Evil.pdf>>
- The United Church of Canada, Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, “Ministry Together: A Report on Ministry for the 21st Century” (37th General Council, 2000; *ROP* pp. 67, 85, 176–177, 185–187, 208, 573–651) <<http://ucctheology.pbworks.com/f/Ministry+Together+GC37+2000.pdf>>
- “United Church of Canada,” in Max Thurian, ed. *Churches Respond to BEM*, Vol. II, pp. 276–86.
- Charlotte Caron, “A Look at Ministry: Diversity and Ambiguity” in Don Schweitzer, ed., *The United Church of Canada: A History*, pp. 203–20.

25 November Sacraments

What is the place of the sacraments in the church's mission and ministry? Does the church need sacraments at all? If so, why do we confess as sacraments Baptism and the Lord's Supper?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 11: *Basis of Union* (1925), Article XVI, "Of the Sacraments"; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Article X, "The Sacraments"; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 8.
- Task Group on Lay Presidency at the Sacraments, "Lay Presidency at the Sacraments" (2006) <<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Ministry+Together+GC37+2000.pdf>>

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapter XVII, "Article XVI: Of the Sacraments," pp. 192–99. <<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+17+Of+the+Sacraments.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This Is Our Faith*, Chapter X, "The Sacraments," pp. 183–99. <http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_10_Sacrament.pdf>
- "United Church of Canada," in Max Thurian, ed. *Churches Respond to BEM*, Vol. II, pp. 276–86.
- Charlotte Caron, Chapter 4, "Sacraments," *Eager for Worship: Theologies, Practices, and Perspectives on Worship in The United Church of Canada*, pp. 34–68.

2 December Hope and the Reign of God

What does it mean to confess Jesus Christ resurrected? To confess that "the long struggle between sin and grace will have an end, the Kingdom will be revealed in its fullness, and God's eternal purpose accomplished"? What is the relation between the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Reign of God? Between the resurrection of Jesus Christ and our salvation and the salvation of the world?

Required Reading:

- Comparison, p. 12: *Basis of Union* (1925), Articles XIX and XX: "Of the Resurrection, the Last Judgment, and the Future Life" and "Of Christian Service and the Final Triumph"; *Statement of Faith* (1940), Article XII: "The Consummation"; and *A Song of Faith* (2006), part 9.
- Hall, *The Cross in Our Context*, Chapter 10, "God's Reign, Creation's Future," pp. 209–30.

Recommended Reading:

- T. B. Kilpatrick, *Our Common Faith*, Chapters XX and XXI, "Article XIX: Of the Resurrection, the Last Judgment, and the Future Life" and "Article XX: Of Christian Service and the Final Triumph," pp. 204–210. <<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+20+Of+the+Resurrection%2C+the+Last+Judgment+and+the+Future+Life.pdf>> <<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Kilpatrick++Chapter+21+Of+Christian+Service+and+the+Final+Triumph.pdf>>
- John Dow, *This Is Our Faith*, Chapter XII: "The Consummation," pp. 225–45. <http://uctheology.pbworks.com/f/Dow_12_Consummation.pdf>
- The United Church of Canada, Committee on Christian Faith, *Life and Death: A Study of the Christian Hope* (1959) <<http://uctheology.pbworks.com/Life-and-Death%3A-A-Study-of-the-Christian-Hope>>
- Robert Bater, "Storm Over the Kingdom of Peace: Conflicting Interpretations of the Kingdom of God," in Harold Wells and Roger Hutchinson, eds., *A Long and Faithful March*, pp. 92–103.

9 December Last Class: Summary and Conclusions

Discussion of outstanding issues regarding various articles of faith, clarification of expectations for final paper, and student evaluation of course.

Bibliography

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