

V. Basic Preaching

A. Course Description

This course will focus upon the "basics" of preaching, i.e., the purpose of preaching, the theology of preaching, the preparation of a sermon, the delivery of a sermon, and your ongoing growth as a preacher. This course will serve as a meaningful opportunity to sharpen your homiletical skills and to expand your appreciation for this joyful privilege that Christ bestows on the pastor.

B. Course Goals

1. General: Students will

- a. Understand the impact of preaching as the authoritative declarative proclamation of the Word of God delivered from the responsibility of the pastoral office.
- b. Grow in their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- c. Exemplify a life lived under the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins.
- d. Increase their reliance upon the Means of Grace for ministry.
- e. Strengthen their commitment to the Scriptural truth that God desires all to be saved and to come to a knowledge of truth.
- f. Be faithful to the pastoral office and recognized as a man of faith and integrity.
- g. Engage in personal study and application of the Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions and other theological devotional writings in his personal and public life.
- h. Exhibit a teachable spirit.

2. Specific: Students will

- a. Demonstrate effective pastoral leadership based on the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, emphasizing outreach to the lost.
- b. Properly interpret the Scriptures, rightly dividing Law and Gospel.
- c. Lead worship services in ways that are simultaneously Lutheran and sensitive to cultural context.

C. Assignment Suggestions

1. Complete unit readings and reflection/study questions on Law & Gospel.
2. Complete two New Testament text studies.
3. Write two sermons (based on the textual analyses completed above).
4. Preach two sermons (above) and submit videotape of each presentation.
5. Submit a critical review of a key preaching text.

D. Recommended Texts

1. Grime & Nadasdy, editors, Liturgical Preaching, CPH, 2001
2. Walther's Law and Gospel -
 - a. Either the "Bouman" translation (out of print, available thru St. Louis Seminary bookstore), -or-
 - b. God's No and God's Yes (also out of print but could be reprinted).
3. Richard Caemmerer, Preaching For the Church, CPH St. Louis © 1959.
4. Bryan Chapell, Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon, Baker Books, © 2000.
5. Aho- Sermon Theory I Notes, CTS, Ft Wayne Bookstore
6. Aho - The Lively Skeleton: Thematic Approaches and Outlines, CPH 1977