

Winter 2022 Worship and Sacraments Exam

Section I: Reformed Liturgical Heritage

A Brief Statement of Faith reads, in part:

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" (11.4, lines 72-76)

REQUIRED RESPONSES: (*Total responses for this Section not to exceed 1,200 words.*)

1. Citing by number (e.g., 0.000) at least three (3) different documents from *The Book of Confessions* (not including A Brief Statement of Faith), and guided by the provisions of the Directory for Worship, articulate a **Reformed understanding of the relationship between worship and Christian hope**. All references to the Directory for Worship must cite the paragraph number (e.g., W-0.0000)
2. Informed by your answer in Required Response 1, develop an annotated outline for leading a one-hour adult class on the function of Christian hope in Reformed worship. For the purposes of this exam, an annotated outline is an outline with explanatory notes.

Section II: Constructive Theological Reflection on Worship

After worship one Sunday morning at the church you serve as pastor, you are approached by Kristen and Matthew.

Kristen: Pastor, I noticed that we switched from red cloths on the pulpit and lectern last week to white today. As we were leaving, the Worship Committee was changing the cloths to green for next week.

Matthew: Right, you said today is Trinity Sunday and last week was Pentecost. What holiday is next week?

REQUIRED RESPONSES: *(Total responses for this section not to exceed 1,200 words.)*

1. Using the provisions of the Directory for Worship, write an essay articulating a **Reformed understanding of the Christian liturgical year and what role it plays in the worship life of the church.** All references to the Directory for Worship must cite the paragraph number (e.g., W-0.0000).
2. Informed by your answer in Required Response 1, write a newsletter article explaining the significance of liturgical time, giving particular attention to Matthew and Kristen's observations about the transition from Pentecost to Trinity Sunday to Ordinary Time. Do not sign any name to the article.

Section III: Application to Ministry

James, a lifelong member of the congregation you serve as pastor, dies and his family meets with you to plan the funeral.

During the meeting, James's wife Joann says, "James was the most devout man and he always found comfort in the Lord's Supper. We would like to share communion with our family and friends at James's funeral."

Jill, James's daughter, asks, "Can we have communion when we don't know who will receive it? What if people at the funeral are not Presbyterians?"

John, James's son, suggests, "Why don't you just serve the family?"

REQUIRED RESPONSES: (*Total responses for this Section not to exceed 1,200 words.*)

1. Guided by the provisions of the Directory for Worship, articulate a Reformed understanding of the Lord's Supper in the context of a service of witness to the resurrection. All references to the Directory for Worship must cite the paragraph number (e.g., W-0.0000).
2. Informed by your answer in Required Response 1 and demonstrating appropriate pastoral sensitivity, respond directly to Jill and John.