Communion, Lord's Supper, Eucharist:
The History, Theology, and Practice of the Table Event

Baltimore Presbytery for Commissioned Ruling Elders

February 2027
Eric T. Myers, instructor

BOOKS/RESOURCES

Book of Common Worship (2018 edition). Prepared by the Office of Theology and Worship for the Presbyterian Church (USA). (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2018). ISBN 9780664503185.

Book of Order. PCUSA, 2025-2027. Available as a download:
2025_0724_Book_of_Order_Interactive_2025-2027.pdf

Bower, Peter C., editor, *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship.* (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2003) ISBN 0664502326. (This book may be difficult to locate but is VERY HELPFUL.)

Gambrell, David. *Presbyterian Worship: Questions and Answers.* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2019). ISBN 9780664263973.

White, James F. *The Sacraments in Protestant Practice and Faith.* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1999). ISBN 0687034027. (Chapters 1, 4, 5)

Invitation to Christ—Font and Table: A Guide to Sacramental Practices (Louisville: PCUSA Office of Theology and Worship, 2006). Available as a download at Invitation-to-Christ.pdf

Gifts of God: The Sacraments. (PCUSA) Available as a download at Layout 3

OPTIONAL: White, James F. *Sacraments as God's Self Giving. (Nashville: Abingdon, 1983, 2001).* ISBN 9780687095650

ASSIGNMENTS

Prior to Class: Read chapters 1, 4, and 5 in *The Sacraments in Protestant Practice and Faith.*

List 8-12 "things" discovered from the book with regards to sacraments, sacramentality, eucharist. These "things" may be new ideas, things you've never thought about, "a-ha" moments, etc.

What are the "meanings" of Holy Communion as expressed in the book?

The bread and wine event is commonly called: Communion, Lord's Supper, Eucharist. What meanings and biblical images are emphasized with each name?

Prior to Class: Read the following sections in the BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP (2018 edition):

Service for the Lord's Day, pp 1-12

What ideas or "how to's" or practices are new for you?
Prepare to preside at a eucharist practice session.
What are things you need to think about before hand?

Prior to Class: Read the following sections in the BOOK OF ORDER:

W-1 The Theology of Christian Worship
W-2 The Ordering of Reformed Worship
W-3 The Service for the Lord's Day

Prior to Class: Read *Invitation to Christ.*
How would you lead a church in examining INVITATION TO CHRIST and how would you lead the congregation in implementing the practices suggested?