



**The Licentiate in Theology Program
Winter Term 2026
Worship 250 Course Syllabus
Congregational Music for the Liturgical Year**

Huron University College Land Acknowledgment

Huron is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Attawandaron, and Lenape peoples, whose sharing and stewardship of the land has been governed by the Dish with One Spoon treaty since time immemorial. We are guided by this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect. Huron University College acknowledges its past role in perpetuating colonial and exclusionary relations. Because religious and ecclesial institutions were instrumental in such relations, we consider it our particular responsibility as a Faculty of Theology to work towards justice and reconciliation.

Course Dates: From Tuesday, March 10th – Tuesday, April 28th, 2026

Time: Tuesdays from 7 – 9 P.M. (CT), 8 – 10 P.M. (EDT)

Delivery: Hosted via Zoom

Instructor: Mr. William Lupton

Contact: blupton@huron.uwo.ca

Phone: [519.200.9715](tel:519.200.9715)

Course Description

This course presents an introduction to the planning of congregational music for worship leaders and practitioners. It will explore the connections between the liturgical year (as set by the Revised Standard Lectionary), the biblical readings and a variety of music and liturgical resources and settings. As an Anglican worship/liturgics course, the content material will draw, primarily, on liturgical resources within the Anglican Church of Canada, but it will also explore various other ecumenical music resources for the purpose of planning congregational worship. Lastly, the course will highlight the relational connections between music leaders, choirs, lay worship leaders, deacons and priests in the ways that they come together to share in the ministry of planning and hosting worship service for local churches.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, a student should be able to:

- Demonstrate familiarity with the primary liturgical (worship) texts and resources of the Anglican Church of Canada.
- Understand the various functions of hymns/songs within Morning and Evening Prayer, and Holy Eucharist services.
- Be familiar with the seasonal patterns and changes of the liturgy and biblical texts, as found in the Revised Standard Lectionary.
- Be able to choose hymns, psalm settings, and other types of music that are appropriate for the season (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, etc.) and special occasions such as weddings, baptisms and funerals.
- Apply a toolkit of musical resources to best suit their own congregational context (rural, urban, household).
- Understand practical issues relating to music in the church, including working with church musicians, pianos & organs, and copyright.

Required Texts

The Principal Texts for this course will be:

Common Praise [Hymn book of the Anglican Church of Canada]. Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1998. Available through purchase at the Anglican Book Store:

<https://anglican.gilmore.ca/en/product/42fa3f77-814d-4525-9002-2a94c2914acf>

Common Prayer Canada. Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1962. Available through purchase at the Anglican Book Store:

<https://anglican.gilmore.ca/en/product/92a3653a-9a5b-4747-a5cd-9ff5438a16db>

Free e-download available at:

<https://www.anglican.ca/about/liturgicaltexts/>

The Book of Alternative Services. Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1983. Available through purchase at the Anglican Book Store:

<https://anglican.gilmore.ca/en/product/5267ede2-95f3-4e9e-b516-754616149f74>

Free e-download available at:

<https://www.anglican.ca/about/liturgicaltexts/>

Other music resources may also be included. These would be made available through the shared class e-folder.

Course Outline

Week 1

1 An introduction to the planning of congregational worship music within the Anglican tradition. Understanding our primary hymnbook, *Common Praise*. Introduction to its indices and the outline of hymns in worship. A quick overview of the differences in music between Morning/Evening Prayer services and Holy Eucharist services.

Week 2

2 Understanding the liturgical year: the relationship between scripture and music. Employment of a church musician and working with a church musician. Preparing seasonal worship as a liturgical team (clergy, musicians, choir, and volunteers).

Week 3

3 Selecting music from Advent to Epiphany – themes of the lectionaries, hymns, and other music. Presenting a format of Lessons and Carols – not just for Advent and Christmas. Suggestions on preparing for the Christmas season: congregational celebrations and welcoming members of the wider community (Christmas music, sacred and secular).

Practicum Project 1 – selection of hymns for Advent and Christmas

DUE: Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Week 4

4 Selecting music from Ash Wednesday through the Easter Season – themes of lectionaries, hymns, and other music. Presenting the services of the Triduum and appropriate music that fits the full liturgy over three days. Suggestions on preparing music for baptismal services and confirmations.

Week 5

5 Selecting music from the Day of Pentecost until the Reign of Christ – themes of the lectionaries, hymns, and other music. Working with a choir (children and adults), the Royal School of Church Music's chorister training, Voice for Life and Singing Awards, and the work of RSCM Canada. Exploring musical resources for both small and large sized congregations.

Week 6

6 Maintaining your congregational instruments: organ and piano routines of repair, maintenance, and financial planning in support of music ministries.
Presenting a selection of Mass Settings for the liturgical year using Common Praise and other sources. (service music used in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist)

Practicum Project 2 – selection of hymns for Passion/Palm Sunday and Easter Day.
DUE: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Week 7

7 Music of the Anglican Tradition: Plainsong, Anglican Chant.
Responsorial psalms and settings of the Lord's Prayer.
A review of sung canticles in Common Praise.
Music resources for Weddings and Funerals.

Week 8

8 Copyright and bulletins (outlines for worship).
World music resources.
CCLI and OneLicense copyright licenses.

Concluding conversations.
Review of student evaluation components for the class.
Final Q&A with Mr. Lupton

Final Contextual Ministry Reflection Paper
DUE: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Method of Evaluation and Criteria for Grading

(only for students choosing to be evaluated for full course credit)

Two Practicum Projects (Advent and Christmas; Passion Sunday and Easter Day) and a Final Contextual Ministry Reflection paper (1000 words) will be completed by each student seeking evaluation for full LTh credit.

1. Class Engagement/Participation – 10%
2. Practicum Project 1 – 25%
For this project, students will select hymns for a service of Holy Eucharist for Advent and Christmas. Students will explain their rationale for the hymn selections, including

relationship of hymns to the readings; positioning of the music within the service; seasonal relevance and thoughts on how the music is sung within the congregational context.

Further details (including a template) will be shared by the instructor within class.

Advent 1: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24.36-44

Christmas Eve: Isaiah 62.6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3.4-7; Luke 2.8-20

Due Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026

3. Practicum Project 2 – 25%

For this project, students will select hymns for a service of Holy Eucharist for Palm Sunday (aka Passion Sunday with Liturgy of the Palms), and Easter Day. Students will explain their rationale for the hymn selections, including relationship of hymns to the readings; positioning of the music within the service; seasonal relevance and thoughts on how the music is sung within the congregational context.

Further details (including a template) will be shared by the instructor within class.

Palm Sunday: Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-16; Philippians 2.5-11; Matthew 27.11-54

Easter Day: Acts 10.34-43; Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3.1-4; Matthew 28.1-10

Due Date: April 14, 2026

4. Final Contextual Ministry Reflection Paper – 40%

In this reflection paper, students will describe the music planning situation in their own ministry context. Who does what roles? How does ministry planning take place?

They will then respond to questions regarding their own personal learnings from the class content.

Reflection questions may include: What new ideas might you consider introducing to your own congregational context? How much you better support your music leaders? If there were a special evening or upcoming service in which you could provide music planning/leadership, what type of service would you host?

Lastly, students should articulate any ministry challenges or new insights that they have encountered since taking this course. How will the course influence/support their personal ministry going forward?

Due Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Huron Grade Descriptors

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work, and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

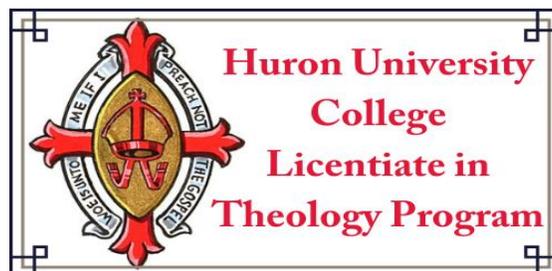
Statement on the Recording of Class Activities

Students may not record or distribute any class activity, including conversations during office hours, without written permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Any approved recordings may only be used for the student's own private use.

Online courses within the Licentiate in Theology Program are recorded for student engagement purposes. These recordings are only used by the registered students of the class and made available through a restricted video hosting site to respect both privacy and intellectual property. Should a student be uncomfortable with this practice, they can contact the course instructor or the LTh Program Director, Dr. Grayhame Bowcott at grayhame.bowcott@huron.uwo.ca

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should contact the LTh Program Director, Dr. Grayhame Bowcott at grayhame.bowcott@huron.uwo.ca.



THIS COURSE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY HURON'S FACULTY OF THEOLOGY COMMITTEE FOR THE WINTER/SPRING TERM OF THE LTH PROGRAM, 2026.