

Course: THEO5546, Preaching According to the Lectionary, Spring Semester, 2018  
Instructor: Andrew Wai Man NG 伍渭文(Th.D.)

**Course description:**

Preaching according to the lectionary is a time-honored tradition of the church. The four lessons of Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle and the Gospel for the Sunday are carefully arranged to be read and preached according to the liturgical year. The course concerns itself with the liturgical, spiritual import as well as the pastoral application of the lectionary for today's church alongside the understanding of the basics and recent discussions of homiletics.

**Texts:**

1. Bonnear, Normand. *The Sunday Lectionary: Ritual Word, Paschal Shape*. Collegeville, MN, Liturgical Press.
2. Buttrick, David. *Homilectic: Moves and Structures*. Philadelphia, PN: Fortress Press, 1987.
3. Johnson, Howard A. Editor. *Preaching the Christian Year*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1957.
4. Fuller, Reginald H. *Preaching the Lectionary. The Word of God for the Church Today*. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1984.
5. Knowles, Michael P. Editor. *The Folly of Preaching. Models and Methods*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publication Company, 2007.
6. Robinson, Haddon W. *A Biblical Preaching. The Development and Delivery of Expository Message*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1980. Chinese translation by China Evangelical Seminary Publisher, 1991.
7. Stott, John R. W. *Between Two Worlds. The Art of Preaching in the Twentieth Century*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1982.

**Course requirement:**

1. Book chapter report: One chapter on Stott, *Between Two Worlds* and one chapter on Knowles, Michael P. Editor. *The Folly of Preaching. Models and Methods*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publication Company, 2007. Students are required to submit two 1500-word reviews on the chosen chapters. Students may have substitute journal articles for book chapter with instructor's approval. 20%
2. Reading of our sermons of your choice from at least two preachers with brief summarie and reflections. 10%
3. Reading on Johnson, Robinson according to schedule. Attendance and participation of critique of sermons in class are required. 20%
4. Class assignments and a sermon written and delivered in the class. 50%

**Course outline:**

**January 8, 15**

1. Introduction to the course; The Church calendar and lectionary for the planning of the pulpit and as resources for the sermon preparation; requisites for effective preaching. Reading: Robinson, 9-30 (Chinese translation, 5-28); Fuller, *Preaching the Lectionary*,

xvii-xxxi, Preaching in Christmastide and the Epiphany; Formal elements of the sermon; the plan and division.

January 22, 29

2. Series A Advent Season, 1-13 ; Bonneau, 3-55; Pfatteicher, 105-141.  
Reading: , CY, 30-60; Bonneau, 111-128; Robinson, 115-134 (113-133).

### **February 5, 12**

3. Preaching in Advent; The text, big ideas, subject, title, proposition, objective  
Reading: Christian Year (CY), 3-29; Robinson, 31-113 (29-111)

### **February 26, March 5**

4. Preaching in Pre-Lent and Lent; Formal elements of the sermon; introduction, conclusion, transition.  
Reading: CY, 61-117; Robinson, 159-173 (159-174).

### **March 12, 19**

5. Preaching the Holy Week; Functional elements of the sermon: explanation, argument, application, illustration.  
Reading: CY, 118-156; Robinson, 137-156 (135-158).

March 19 featuring Dr. Tang Sui Keung (鄧瑞強博士) sharing on his personal experience as a preacher and the process of writing and delivery of a sermon.  
( Reading wee )

### **April 9, 16**

6. Preaching the Eastertide; The Style of the sermon: nature and importance of style; writing of sermons; imagination in preaching.  
Reading: CY, 157-157-186; Bonneau, 59-92; Robinson, 191-209 (193-211).

7. Preaching in the Trinity Season; The delivery of sermons: methods, voice and body in delivery.  
Reading: CY, 205-235; Bonneau, 141-163; Robinson, 191-209 (193-211).

### **April 23 (made-up class for March 26)**

Presentation of book chapter reviews. Each student share his/ her reviews for ten minutes for class discussion.

Students are required to prepare and deliver a homily of twenty minutes according to the lectionary of an assigned Sunday in the class with class evaluation.

### **Select bibliography:**

Blackwood, Andrew Watterson. *The Preparation of Sermons*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1948.

Bonneau, Normand. *The Sunday Lectionary: Ritual Word, Paschal Shape*. Collegeville, MN, Liturgical Press.

Broadus, John A. *On the Preparation and Delivery of Sermons*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Revised by Vernon L. Stanfield. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1979.

Brooks, Phillips. *Lectures on Preaching*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1964. Lectures delivered at Yale in 1877. Strong on the character of the preacher.

Browne, R.E.C. *The Ministry of the Word*. London:SCM Press. 1976. A classic; penetrating and profound though not easy to read.

Buttrick, David. *Homilectics*. Move and Structures. Philadelphia, PN: Fortress Press, 1987. Well researched and encyclopedic.

Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*. Grand Rapids, MI : Baker Publishing House, 2005.

Chow, Lien Hwa. *The New Homilectics*. Hong Kong: Chinese Christian Literature Council, 1987.

Craddock, B.Fred. *Preaching*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1985.

Cox, James W. *Preaching. A Comprehensive Approach to the Design and Delivery of Sermons*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1985.

Davis, H. Grady. *Design for Preaching*. Philadelphia, PN: Muhlenberg Press, 1958. Strong on the structure and the concept of idea.

Fuller, Reginald H. *Preaching the Lectionary*. The Word of God for the Church Today. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1984.

Johnson, Howard A. Editor. *Preaching the Christian Year*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1957.

Koessler, John. Editor. *The Moody Handbook of Preaching*. Chicago, IL: The Moody Bible Institute, 2008.

Knowles, Michael P. Editor. *The Folly of Preaching. Models and Methods*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publication Company, 2007.

O'Day, Gail R. & Long, Thomas G. Eitors. *Listening to the Word. Studies in Honor of Fred B. Craddock*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1993.

Lloyd-Jones. *Preaching and Preachers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1972. Heart-searching reflections and stress on the honor and formidable task of preaching.

Obama, Barack. "We the people, in order to form a more perfect union" A speech

delivered on March 8, 2008.

Pfatteicher, Philip. *Liturgical Spirituality*. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International Press, 1997. Chapter Five: The Christian Year: Hallowing the Seasons, 105-141.

Robinson, Haddon W. *A Biblical Preaching*. The Development and Delivery of Expository Message. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1980. Chinese translation by China Evangelical Seminary Publisher, 1991.

Rueter, Alvin C. *Making Good Preaching Better*. A Step-by-Step Guide to Scripture-Based, People-Centred Preaching. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1997.

Spurgeon, Charles Haddon. *Lectures to My Students*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1972. Sensible discussion on issues of preaching.

Stott, John R. W. *Between Two Worlds*. The Art of Preaching in the Twentieth Century. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1982.

Tisdale, Leonora Tubbs. Editor. *The Abingdon Women's Preaching Annual*. Series 2, Year B. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1999. The book compiles sermon briefs, litanies and prayers, call to worship and benedictions for the revised common lectionary.