

# MS 3P1050 Pastoral Theology of Preaching SYLLABUS

McMaster Divinity College  
Phil C. Zylla, D.Th.  
Office #: 215 - by appointment  
Specializations: PS, CC, CW  
Email: zyllap@mcmaster.ca

Term: Fall 2025

Course Delivery: In Person/Livestream  
Class Sessions: Wednesday 4:00-5:50 p.m.

## **Bio:**

Dr. Phil Zylla is *Professor of Pastoral Theology* at McMaster Divinity College. He also holds the *J. Gordon and Margaret Warnock Jones Chair in Church and Ministry*. His research interests include congregational studies, Christian spirituality, pastoral theology, and preaching. Dr. Zylla was preaching pastor of three congregations over 17 years and draws on his experience in the pulpit for this course. He lives in Ancaster with his wife Melodie.

## **Course Description:**

The ministry of preaching in contemporary society demands a carefully developed framework of pastoral theological imagination. This course identifies dimensions of cultural engagement, discernment of pastoral needs, practices of creative and artful communication, and attention to the contours of spiritual development of congregations. Proclamation practices that facilitate meaning, purpose, and Christian identity will be established to develop a critical framework for contemporary preaching. Finding one's voice, articulating a spiritual vision, and thinking theologically about spiritual formation through preaching will be animated dimensions of this course. The course will offer guidance for both experienced and novice preachers, with the aim of strengthening a mature framework for contemporary pastoral theology of preaching.

## **Course Objectives:**

### ***Knowing***

1. Participants will expand their knowledge of the dynamics contemporary preaching.
2. Participants will learn to think theologically about the practices of communicating the gospel and articulating a deeper Christian spirituality.
3. Participants will gain insight into the complexities of preaching in a postmodern context.

### ***Being***

4. Participants will deepen their commitment to authenticity in the ministry of preaching.
5. Participants will refresh their own spiritual practices of communion with God.

### ***Doing***

6. Participants will craft and deliver effective sermons with creativity, depth, and integration.

## **Required Course Textbooks:**

Hogan, Lucy Lind. *Graceful Speech: An Invitation to Preaching*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006

Ward, David B. *Practicing the Preaching Life*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2019.

Westerhoff, John H. *Spiritual Life: The Foundation for Preaching and Teaching*. Louisville.: Westminster John Knox, 1994.

## **Recommended Textbooks:**

Brown, Teresa L. Fry. *Delivering the Sermon*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008.

Francis, L. J. and Andrew Village. *Preaching with All our Souls*. London: Continuum, 2008.

## **COURSE OUTLINE and TOPICS**

September 10

### ***Course Introduction***

#### ***What Makes a Great Sermon?***

September 17

### ***Second Naivete and the Art of Attention***

#### ***Proclamation as Formation***

September 24

### ***Theopoetic Preaching: Imagination, Punctuation, and Surprise Finding Your Voice in Preaching***

October 1

### ***Preaching Lab – Sermons A Sermon Delivery by 3 course participants 20 min. sermon; 10 min. feedback and response***

#### ***Session Schedule:***

Introduction	Zylla 4:00-4:10
Sermon 1	4:10-4:30
Response	4:30-4:40
Sermon 2	4:40-5:00
Response	5:00-5:10
Sermon 3	5:10-5:30
Response	5:30-5:40
Closing Remarks	Zylla 5:40-5:50

October 8

### ***Preaching Lab – Sermons A Sermon Delivery by 3 course participants 20 min. sermon; 10 min. feedback and response***

#### ***Session Schedule:***

Introduction	Zylla 4:00-4:10
Sermon 1	4:10-4:30
Response	4:30-4:40
Sermon 2	4:40-5:00
Response	5:00-5:10
Sermon 3	5:10-5:30
Response	5:30-5:40
Closing Remarks	Zylla 5:40-5:50

October 15                    **no class – Reading Week**

October 22    **Preaching Lab – Sermons A**  
*Sermon Delivery by 3 course participants*  
*20 min. sermon; 10 min. feedback and response*

***Session Schedule:***

Introduction	Zylla 4:00-4:10
Sermon 1	4:10-4:30
Response	4:30-4:40
Sermon 2	4:40-5:00
Response	5:00-5:10
Sermon 3	5:10-5:30
Response	5:30-5:40
Closing Remarks	Zylla 5:40-5:50

October 29                    ***Spirituality of Preaching and Self-Disclosure***

***Preaching in Crisis***

November 5                    ***Assessing the Spiritual Needs of a Congregation***

***Cultural Horizons of Contemporary Preaching***

November 12                    ***What? Who? And How?: Register and Authenticity in Proclamation***

November 19                    **Preaching Lab – Sermons B**  
*Sermon Delivery by 3 course participants*  
*20 min. sermon; 10 min. feedback and response*

***Session Schedule:***

Introduction	Zylla 4:00-4:10
Sermon 1	4:10-4:30
Response	4:30-4:40
Sermon 2	4:40-5:00
Response	5:00-5:10
Sermon 3	5:10-5:30
Response	5:30-5:40
Closing Remarks	Zylla 5:40-5:50

November 26                    **Preaching Lab – Sermons B**  
*Sermon Delivery by 3 course participants*  
*20 min. sermon; 10 min. feedback and response*

***Session Schedule:***

Introduction	Zylla 4:00-4:10
--------------	-----------------

<i>Sermon 1</i>	4:10-4:30
<i>Response</i>	4:30-4:40
<i>Sermon 2</i>	4:40-5:00
<i>Response</i>	5:00-5:10
<i>Sermon 3</i>	5:10-5:30
<i>Response</i>	5:30-5:40
<i>Closing Remarks</i>	Zylla 5:40-5:50

December 3      **Preaching Lab – Sermons B**  
***Sermon Delivery by 3 course participants***  
***20 min. sermon; 10 min. feedback and response***

***Session Schedule:***

<i>Introduction</i>	Zylla 4:00-4:10
<i>Sermon 1</i>	4:10-4:30
<i>Response</i>	4:30-4:40
<i>Sermon 2</i>	4:40-5:00
<i>Response</i>	5:00-5:10
<i>Sermon 3</i>	5:10-5:30
<i>Response</i>	5:30-5:40
<i>Closing Remarks</i>	Zylla 5:40-5:50

December 10      ***A Pastoral Theology of Preaching***

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**Assignment # 1:**

**Sermon A    Summary (4 pages) + presented sermon 18-20 min.      25%**

**Written Summary Part I:**

- Selection of an Old Testament pericope with an explanation of the context and theological importance of that passage. (1.5 pages)
  - A clear paragraph describing the ‘core’ message of the pericope. (1 page)
  - Some analysis describing how this text can be culturally appropriated today. (1.5 pages)
- \*\*Turn this summary in to Avenue to Learn Assignment Dropbox. n.b. You do NOT need to submit a manuscript of the sermon for review (it will be recorded online); submit only the written summary.\*\***

**Sermon Presentation Part II:**

The sermon will be evaluated by your peers using these criteria:

- Creativity and engagement of the audience
- Contemporary relevance of themes
- Theological insight of the text
- Exposition and development of the primary pericope
- Effectiveness of delivery
- Articulation and Voice (*see Sermon Evaluation form at end of syllabus*)

Length: The delivered sermon should be between 18-20 mins. in length.

**Due Date for Summary: October 8, 2025**

**Sign up in course for presentation days: October 1, 8 and 22<sup>rd</sup>.**

## **Assignment # 2:**

**Textbook Review 5 pages**

**20%**

Select one of the course textbooks OR another key volume on the pastoral theology of preaching (by permission) for review. Engage in a meaningful interaction with how this book shapes your vision of contemporary preaching. What are the critical insights that shape your approach to the preaching task? What fundamental adjustments will you make in respect to your own ministry of proclamation? What notable insights can you interact with as to how they impact your vision for preaching ministry. The review should include:

- a. A summary of the primary arguments of the author.
- b. A description of the homiletical insights gained from reading this text.
- c. An examination of how the critical insights of this volume will be applied in your preaching.
- d. A one page vision statement about your renewed perspective on preaching gained from reading this text.

**Due Date: October 23, 2025**

## **Assignment # 3**

**Sermon B Summary (4 pages) + presented sermon 18-20 min.**

**25%**

Sermons will be presented in class for interaction with your peers. The assignment has both a preliminary summary and the in-class presentation itself.

### **Written Summary Part I:**

- a. Selection of a New Testament pericope with an explanation of the context and theological importance of that passage (1.5 pages)
- b. A clear paragraph describing the 'core' message of the pericope. (1 page)
- c. Some analysis describing how this text can be culturally appropriated today (1.5 pages)  
\*\*Turn this summary in to Avenue to Learn Assignment Dropbox.n.b. You do NOT need to submit a manuscript of the sermon for review (it will be recorded online); submit only the written summary.\*\*

### **Sermon Presentation Part II:**

The delivered sermon will be evaluated by your peers using these criteria:

- Creativity and engagement of the audience
- Contemporary relevance of themes
- Theological insight of the text
- Exposition and development of the primary pericope
- Effectiveness of delivery
- Articulation and Voice

Length: The delivered sermon should be between 18-20 mins. in length.

**Due Date for Summary: November 12, 2025**

**Sign up in course for presentation days: November 19, 26 or Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

## **Assignment # 4**

**Preaching Plan**

**30%**

Write a three-month preaching plan for your own congregation or ministry context (ie. youth events, etc. ). [n.b. For those in CW or CC specialization without a primary ministry, focus on

presentations to a retreat audience and plan out three retreats – with four themes/messages for each retreat. Imagine an audience of participants from various churches]. The preaching plan should include the following:

- a. General theological themes and motifs with reading list
- b. Outline of the sermon series over the three months.
- c. A description of preparation planning, weekly patterns, and presentation ideas.
- d. Creativity in planning and executing.
- e. Analysis of the setting in which the preaching occurs – congregational analysis, cultural framework, denominational or other identity markers, etc.
- f. A rationale for the sequencing of ideas and the desired outcome.

**Due Date:**     **December 10, 2025**

---

**MS 5P1060   DPT Syllabus Supplement:**

DPT students who wish to take this course for five unit credit must contact the professor to obtain the DPT syllabus supplement. This supplement involves additional reading requirements and assignments appropriate to the doctoral level study of the subject. Contact: [zyllap@mcmaster.ca](mailto:zyllap@mcmaster.ca) to request the syllabus supplement.

---

**Late Papers:** Late papers will be docked 1% each late day including weekends. (Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances such as extended illness, etc.)

**Spacing:** All assignments are to be double-spaced.

**Contacting the Instructor:**   Dr. Phil C. Zylla

**E-mail:** [zyllap@mcmaster.ca](mailto:zyllap@mcmaster.ca)

***College Style for Submission of Written Work:***

All written work—unless informed otherwise by the professor—is to be submitted in accordance with the *McMaster Divinity College Style Guide for Essays and Theses*, available on the McMaster Divinity College website.

***Academic Honesty***

Academic dishonesty is not qualitatively different from other types of dishonesty. It consists of misrepresenting the ownership of written work by deception or by other fraudulent means. In an academic setting this may include any number of forms such as: copying or using unauthorized aids in tests, examinations; plagiarism, i.e., submitting work that is not one's own (regardless of the means of its production, including AI) but passing it off as if it is; submitting work for credit in a course for which credit is being or has already been given, unless the previously submitted work was presented as such to the instructor of the second course and has been deemed acceptable for credit by the instructor of that course; aiding and abetting another student's dishonesty; giving false information for the purposes of gaining admission or credit; giving false information for the purposes of obtaining deferred examinations or extension of deadlines; forging or falsifying McMaster University or McMaster Divinity College documents.

**A special note about AI:** You are expected to do your own thinking and to write your own papers, etc., and not to have AI do this work for you. There may be value in using an AI tool to help you

locate and collate resources or to help you “tidy up” your English grammar, usage, and mechanics, especially if English is not your native language. However, using AI to create content for you and then submitting that content as if you created it is considered plagiarism (i.e., submitting work that is not one’s own as if it is one’s own) and is a violation of the academic honesty policy.

### ***AODA***

In accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), the content of this course is intended to be accessible to all students who are enrolled in the course, including those with disabilities. If a student requires accommodation to participate fully in this course, that student is to contact SAS at McMaster University, who will then work directly with the McMaster Divinity College Registrar to negotiate reasonably appropriate accommodation for the student. The MDC Registrar will communicate with faculty regarding necessary accommodations. Please note that an accommodation is not retroactive and must be requested in advance to allow sufficient time for implementation.

### ***Policy on Illness***

Every effort should be made to attend and participate in every class. In person participants should make a request to participate via livestreaming if they are not feeling well enough to attend class. If a participant is ill on the day of class (especially a presentation day), she/he should make arrangements with the course GA to post their sermon online for review. All sessions of the course are recorded and posted on A2L for review. If a class has been missed, it is required that the student review the posted material from that week. If the professor is ill, the course GA or a suitable colleague will conduct activities for the session; presentations will continue uninterrupted.

### ***Gender Inclusive Language***

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all its publications. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected, but you will need to use gender-inclusive language for humans, and you will need to quote from a gender-inclusive version such as, for example, the following: NRSVue (2022), TEV/GNB/GNT (1976), CEV (1995), NLT (1996), NIV (2011), and the CEB (2011).

### ***Inclement Weather Policy***

On the rare occasion of inclement weather that prohibits in person gathering, the course will be moved to online synchronous gathering. The decision will follow the College’s closure policy and students will be informed 3 hours before class is scheduled to meet.

### ***Bookstore***

All required textbooks for this class are available from the Hurlburt Family Bookstore located beside the entrance to the Nathaniel H. Parker Memorial Chapel of McMaster Divinity College. To purchase in advance, you may contact the bookstore manager, Bernice Quek, by phone at 416.620.2934 or 416.668.3434 (mobile); or by email at [books@readon.ca](mailto:books@readon.ca). The Hurlburt Family Bookstore also carries other books and merchandise and is open throughout the academic year during posted hours.

**Disclaimer:** This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up until the first day of class.

### *Selected Bibliography*

- Alves, Rubem A. *The Poet, The Warrior, the Prophet*. London: SCM Press, 1990.
- Arbuckle, Gerald A. *Culture, Inculturation and Theologians: A Postmodern Critique*. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2010.
- Bartow, Charles L. *The Preaching Moment*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1981.
- Bass, Dorothy C., and Kathleen Cahalan, Bonnie J. Miller-McLemore, James R. Nieman, Christian B. Scharen. *Christian Practical Wisdom: What it is and Why it Matters*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2016.
- Brown, Teresa L. Fry. *Delivering the Sermon*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008.
- Brueggemann, Walter. *Finally Comes the Poet: Daring Speech for Proclamation*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1989.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Word Militant: Preaching a Decentering Word*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2010.
- Bruner, Jerome. *Acts of Meaning*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1990.
- Buechner, Frederick. *A Room Called Remember: Uncollected Pieces*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1984.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Alphabet of Grace*. New York: Seabury Press, 1970.
- Capps, Donald. *At Home in the World*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2013
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Biblical Approaches to Pastoral Counseling*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1981.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Pastoral Care and Hermeneutics*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Pastoral Counseling and Preaching*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 1980.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Poet's Gift: Toward the Renewal of Pastoral Care*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1993.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Reframing: A New Method in Pastoral Care*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990.
- Copeland, Jennifer E. *Feminine Registers: The Importance of Women's Voices for Christian Preaching*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2014.
- Coyle, Suzanne M. *Uncovering Spiritual Narratives*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014.



Day, David with Jeff Astley and Leslie J. Francis. *A Reader on Preaching: Making Connections*. London: Routledge, 2005. <https://doi-org.libaccess.lib.mcmaster.ca/10.4324/9781315263748>

Dillard, Annie. *The Writing Life*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1990.

Edwards, Kent. *Deep Preaching*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2009.

Florence, Anna Carter. *Preaching as Testimony*. Louisville: John Knox Press, 2007.

Ford, David F. *Christian Wisdom: Desiring God and Learning in Love*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Fowl, Stephen E, and L. Gregory Jones. *Reading in Communion: Scripture and Ethics in Christian Life*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1991.

Francis, L. J. and Andrew Village. *Preaching with All our Souls*. London: Continuum, 2008.

Geertz, Clifford. *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books, 1973.

Gorman, Michael J. *Cruciformity: Paul's Narrative Spirituality of the Cross*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2001.

Grenz, Stanley J. *A Primer on Postmodernism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Prayer: The Cry for the Kingdom*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Theology for the Community of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2000.

Gustafson, James M. *Christ and the Moral Life*. New York: Harper & Row, 1968.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Treasure in Earthen Vessels; the Church as a Human Community*. New York: Harper, 1961.

Harding, Daniel W. with Deborah Hardy Ford, Peter Ochs, and David F. Ford. *Wording a Radiance: Parting Conversations on God and the Church*. London: SCM Press, 2010.

Hauerwas, Stanley. *Character and the Christian Life: A Study in Theological Ethics*. San Antonio: Trinity University Press, (1975), 1994 ed.

Heisler, Greg. *Spirit-Led Preaching: The Holy Spirit's Role in Sermon Preparation and Delivery*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2018.

Heschel, Abraham Joshua. *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity*. Edited by Susannah Heschel. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1996.

Hogan, Lucy Lind. *Graceful Speech: An Invitation to Preaching*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006.

Johnson, Darrell W. *The Glory of Preaching*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2009.

Kierkegaard, Søren. *The Prayers of Kierkegaard, Edited and with a New Interpretation of His Life and Thought*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1956.

Knowles, Michael. *We Preach Not Ourselves: Paul on Proclamation*. Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Of Seeds and the People of God: Preaching as Parable, Crucifixion, and Testimony*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Third Voice: Preaching Resurrection*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2021.

Lane, Belden C. *The Solace of Fierce Landscapes Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.

Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2016.

Loder, James E. *The Transforming Moment: Understanding Convictional Experiences*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1981.

McClure, John S. *Other-wise Preaching: A Postmodern Ethic for Homiletics*. St. Louis, MO: 2001.

Moss, Otis. *Blue Note Preaching in a Post-Soul World: Finding Hope in an Age of Despair*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015.

Nouwen, Henri J. M. *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday,

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming*. New York, 1994.

Otto, Rudolf. *The Idea of the Holy*. Translated by John W. Harvey. New York: Oxford University Press, 1958.

Palmer, Parker J. *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_. *To Know as We Are Known: Education as a Spiritual Journey*. San Francisco: Harper, 1993.

Péguy, Charles. *The Portal of the Mystery of Hope*. Translated by David Louis Schindler. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1996.

Peterson, Eugene H. *Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places: A Conversation in Spiritual Theology*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Eat This Book: The Holy Community at Table with Holy Scripture*. Vancouver: Regent College Pub., 1999.

Pinnock, Clark H. *Flame of Love: A Theology of the Holy Spirit*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1996.

Raposa, Michael L. *Theosemiotic: Religion, Reading and the Gift of Meaning*. New York: Fordham University Press, 2020.

Rilke, Rainer Maria. *Letters to a Young Poet*. Trans. Franz Xaver Kappus and Joan M. Burnham. Novato, Calif.: New World Library, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Rilke's Book of Hours: Love Poems to God*. New York: Riverhead Books, 1997.

Roberts, Robert C. *Spiritual Emotions: A Psychology of Christian Virtues*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 2007.

Robinson, Haddon. *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014.

Rolheiser, Ronald. *Against an Infinite Horizon*. New York: Crossroad, 2001.

Scorgie, Glen G. ed. *Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*. Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 2011.

Scriven, Charles. *The Transformation of Culture*. Kitchener, ON: Herald Press, 1988.

Stafford, William. *Even in Quiet Places*. Lewiston, ID: Confluence, 1996.

Tillich, Paul, and Robert C Kimball. *Theology of Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1959.

Vickers, Jason E. *Minding the Good Ground: A Theology for Church Renewal*. Waco, Tex.: Baylor University Press, 2011.

Volf, Miroslav, and Dorothy C. Bass. *Practicing Theology: Beliefs and Practices in Christian Life*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2002.

Ward, David B. *Practicing the Preaching Life*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2019.

- Weil, Simone. *Gravity and Grace*. New York: Putnam, 1952.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Waiting for God*. New York: Harper & Row, 1973.
- Westerhoff, John H. *Spiritual Life: The Foundation for Preaching and Teaching*. Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox, 1994.
- Whyte, David. *Crossing the Unknown Sea*. New York: Penguin Books, 2001.
- Wilder, Amos N. *Theopoetic: Theology and the Religious Imagination*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1976.
- Wilkens, Steve, and Mark L. Sanford. *Hidden Worldviews: Eight Cultural Stories That Shape Our Lives*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Academic, 2009.
- Williams, Rowan. *Resurrection: Interpreting the Easter Gospel*. London: Darton, Longman & Todd, 1982.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Silence and Honey Cakes: The Wisdom of the Desert*. Oxford: Medio Media; Lion, 2003.
- Willimon, William H. *Preaching About Conflict in the Local Church*. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox Press, 1987.
- Wilson, Paul Scott. *The Four Pages of the Sermon: Revised and Updated*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2018. <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/mcmu/reader.action?pq-origsite=primo&ppg=131&docID=5526160>
- Zylla, Phil C. *The Roots of Sorrow: A Pastoral Theology of Suffering*. Waco, TX.: Baylor University Press, 2012.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Virtue as Consent to Being: A Pastoral-Theological Perspective on Jonathan Edwards's Construct of Virtue*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2011.
- Zylla, Phil "Spirituality of Teaching and Theological Integration." in *Those Who Can Teach: Teaching as Christian Vocation* ed. Stanley Porter, Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2013.

### SERMON EVALUATION FORM

Date:	Start time:	End Time:
Presenter:	Evaluator:	
Text:		
Core theme and main points:		

---

Did the sermon reveal something about God's nature? Express God's perspective?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

Did the sermon offer deliberate cultural analysis and perspective

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

Was the sermon culturally sensitive and relevant to a pluralistic audience?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

Biblical exegesis and textual analysis    How effective was the interpretation of the biblical text?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

How would you rate the creativity and the careful attention to language?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

How would you rate the clarity of purpose in the sermon?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

How would you rate the preacher's poise, tone, and sense of presence?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

What value would you place on the application of core ideas to life?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

Did the sermon evoke the vocation of the congregation?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

---

What made this sermon most effective?

---

---

---

---