



Lutheran School of Theology

An Educational Ministry of Metro St. Louis Congregations—ELCA

Check out the website: <https://lststl.org>
[Upcoming Classes](#)

Email for more information: LSTstlInfo@gmail.com
Rev. Stephanie Doeschot, Executive Director

THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

What does it mean to be “Public Church”?

Through and in Christ, we have been freed and called to live in the world, “to attend to the world through the lens of our relationship to God and to one another.

As a public church, we have a responsibility to step outside our comfort zones and challenge ourselves to address issues that affect families, communities and neighbors throughout the world.

As a church body, the ELCA uses its prophetic voice boldly to address important political, social and economic issues that affect local and global communities. This work grows out of our theological understanding of God at work in the world and is articulated in the social statements of this church, which you can find at on the Web:

<https://elca.org/socialstatements>

and

[https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/
Publicly-Engaged-Church](https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church)

Other full-communion partners, denominations, and faiths have issued similar statements, yet we find

congregations struggling with “what does this mean?”

Over the coming year(s), LST will be offering classes to help us engage in what it means to be “Public Church.” LST is committed to study and dialogue, encounter and conversation as to how we can be more faithful in our endeavors to witness to the love of God through Jesus Christ in the world. We began in January with two Biblical Studies classes taught by Dr. Clint McCann (Eden Seminary, St. Louis) on Caring for Creation as a Christian Calling, and “I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food” (Matthew 25:35): Addressing Hunger and Food Insecurity in the USA and the World.

In April, Dr. Linda Thomas (Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago) introduced us to Womanist theology, racism and the theology of the cross. The next class in this series about growing in awareness of being Public Church is the Intersectionality class being offered on July 17. In the fall, Dr. Thomas will offer a follow-up class on how our theology compels us to face specific issues of being Public Church.

Lutheran School of Theology St. Louis

Teachers and life-long learners in theological study together at a high level of excellence rooted in the Word of God.



Upcoming Classes

This Summer: **Intersectionality**

Dr. Linda Thomas, Instructor

*Full Professor of Theology and Anthropology at
Lutheran School of Theology Chicago.*

Saturday, July 17, 9:00-10:30 am CDT
via zoom. Registration: \$15 at <https://lststl.org>
or [Here](#)

The concept of Intersectionality considers overlapping oppressions, such as race, class, gender, sexuality, ableism, and many other things, as they are experienced and suffered by marginalized persons. This concept is a vital tool to name multiple, intersecting oppressions for the systemic violence they cause and to propose solutions for a more just society. An example of applied Intersectionality would be naming the triple oppressions faced by a poor transgender woman of color. This woman would face discrimination based on her race, gender identity, and class from being exposed to the conditions of poverty. Thus, this session will explore Intersectionality to critique the ongoing oppressions of marginalized persons in the United States today. Special attention will be paid to Intersectionality's relationship to Womanist theology, that is, reflections about God done from the lived experiences of Black women.

This Fall: **Lutheran Confessions**

Dr. Chris Repp, Instructor

Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church in Champaign, IL

Saturdays, September 18, October 2, 16, 30,
November 20, December 4, 9:00 am - 12:00
pm via Zoom. Registration (by August 25): \$75
to audit, \$150 to meet PMA or SAM
requirements at <https://lststl.org> or [Here](#)

What we believe about God affects how we talk about God. How we talk about God determines whether we proclaim the gospel or some other message that is not faithful to who God is and

what God is up to in Jesus Christ. This realization is what set Martin Luther and his colleagues down the path of reform 500 years ago. It is the enduring legacy of the Lutheran movement and a gift to the ecumenical church. This class will highlight how these texts continue to be vitally important to the mission of the church today.

Womanist Biblical Interpretation

Dr. Wil Gafney, Instructor

*Sam B. Hulse Professor of Hebrew Bible, Brite
Divinity School, Fort Worth, TX*

Wednesdays, September 22, 29, and October 6,
7:00 - 8:30 pm Via Zoom
Registration: \$70 at <https://lststl.org> or [Here](#)

Faith in Public Life

Dr. Linda Thomas, Instructor

*Full Professor of Theology and Anthropology at
Lutheran School of Theology Chicago.*

Saturdays, Oct 23, Nov 6 and 13, 9:00-10:30 am
Via Zoom.
Registration: \$30 at <https://lststl.org> or [Here](#)

Gospel of Luke

Dates to be determined. Details (when available)
at <https://lststl.org>

Scholarships

Scholarships are available. Those who wish to apply may find information and an application on the LSTSTL website <https://lststl.org/scholarships-for-lst-classes/> or [Here](#)



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