The Shape of Chapel Worship
Chapel services are held daily (Monday-Thursday) while classes are in session. Chapel services are a form of morning prayer and include the reading or other presentation of scripture, corporate prayer, and congregational singing. Once a week (Thursday) the service includes the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. This fall Chapel services on Monday will be in the style of Taizé.

Keeping the Time
Chapel services are short, and they need to be for the seminary schedule to run smoothly: "20-25 minutes Monday-Wednesday and no more than 35 minutes on Thursdays." There is a simple rhythm to chapel worship: we gather to praise, we listen for the Word of God, we respond in faith.

Ordering the Chapel Service
Theologically, worship at Hick’s Chapel is guided by the PC(USA) Directory for Worship. The Directory does however not prescribe particular liturgical forms and worship teams are encouraged to delve deeply into the liturgical resources of their own traditions, and explore new or little known ways to lead the community in prayer and praise. In our communal worship, we seek a balance between order and creativity, rhythm and disruption, regularity and innovation.

The Tuesday and Wednesday services are expected to include congregational singing, opening of the Scriptures, passing of the peace, and prayers of the people.

The Thursday communion service should include both a proclamation of the Word and a celebration of the Lord’s Supper, preceded by a Trinitarian shaped Eucharistic prayer.

A variety of examples of previous liturgies can be found at www.pts.edu/Watch_and_Listen_to_Service.

Worship Teams, Worship Mentors, and the Worship Coordinator.
A worship team consists of a group of students and a faculty or staff mentor who work together to plan and lead a week of chapel services. We seek to involve as many students as possible in planning and leading in chapel and we aim for a chapel program that is student-led as much as possible. The primary role of the mentor is to point students to liturgical resources, guide them through the planning process, and offer them feedback afterward. Mentors may be one of the worship leaders or preachers in a given week, but should not be the primary worship leader. Each worship team will be contacted by Kendra Buckwalter Smith, the chapel’s worship coordinator, for at least one planning meeting. Kendra will be in touch with worship teams throughout the planning process. Extensive planning guides for both mentors and worship teams are available at www.pts.edu/Chapel_Resources.

Music
We encourage worship teams to help the seminary community move beyond the “traditional” vs. “contemporary” divide. As you select songs and hymns which complement your liturgy, seek a diversity of musical styles. See if you can extend our repertoire by including an unusual setting of a Psalm, songs from the global church, or music from a tradition that is not your own. The chapel has copies of the Presbyterian Hymnal and The Faith We Sing which can be distributed to worshippers as
they enter the chapel. PTS also has copyright licenses through www.onelicense.net, which covers most mainline denominational and some Catholic musical resources, and www.ccli.com, which covers much of the popular, folk, and praise and worship music in use today. You will find other hymnals and songbooks in the Worship Resource Collection in the library.

Language
The church has been enriched by several decades of conversations about language used for God and for the people of God. The position of the PC(USA) is to use inclusive language for the people of God and expansive language for God. The former implies that we ask you to refrain from referring to all humanity as “man” or “mankind” and language that can exclude or stereotype people. The latter implies that we ask you to think carefully about using gendered references to God, and to use the full reservoir of Biblical imagery for God and God’s gracious acts.

Awakening the Senses
People worship and experience God with all their senses: not only in hearing, but also in touch and sight, taste and smell. Please think of how to engage our bodies as well as our minds. Invite people to “rise in body or spirit” at the appropriate moments, make the most of the visual possibilities of the worship space, and include a “sharing of the peace of Christ.”

Before You Start Planning
Come to chapel! The best way to prepare for leading in worship at Hicks Chapel is to be a regular participant in the worshipping community. You will get a sense of “how we do things” and experience a wide range of creative possibilities week by week.

Bulletins
Bulletin information is due to Kendra Smith the week before your week of worship begins. Chapel Bulletins are prepared by Holly McKelvey, who will put your service information into the chapel bulletin template and make copies for the service. Please include a short explanation of the theme(s) of the day/week, and the names of all those leading in worship.

The Lord’s Supper
We require that the presider be ordained or authorized to celebrate communion according to the polity of her or his own denomination. All baptized believers are invited to participate in the sacrament and presiders are encouraged to use the authorized texts of their tradition. If the Eucharistic Prayer includes responses, please include those in the bulletin. Additional guidelines for the communion service are available at www pts.edu/Chapel_Resources.

Getting the Word Out
Every Friday the Chapel Team publishes the Hicks Reader, which describes the chapel services in the upcoming week. Worship Teams should write a brief description of the theme of the week, information about worship each day, and the list of participants. Those materials are due to Kendra Smith the Wednesday before your week of worship.

Facilities
If you have any questions about our AV possibilities, please contact Maxwell Muska. For questions about the building, contact John Magnuson.
People Who Can Help

Worship coordinator - Kendra Smith: ksmith@pts.edu

Chapel Musician – Michael Wallace: mwallace@pts.edu

Speech instructor - Jeff Howell (present in the sanctuary every Wednesday from 4:00-5:15 PM)

Chapel coordinator – John Magnuson: jmagnuson@pts.edu

Chapel Team: Dr. Angela Hancock, Dr. Edwin Chr. van Driel, Jane Anabe, Laura Blank, Lisa Franklin-Robinson, Elaine Loggi, John Magnuson, Michael Wallace