



Simone Weil House
Catholic Worker & Public Household

Liturgy and Communion Economy

A Free Online Course from Notre Dame's McGrath Institute for Church Life & In My Backyard

**** This has been offered twice and the next session isn't scheduled yet. If interested in the materials, email [Simoneweilhouse@gmail](mailto:Simoneweilhouse@gmail.com), or [Bertrandwfitzgerald@gmail](mailto:Bertrandwfitzgerald@gmail.com) [[Interest Form Here](#)]**

This course is about restoring dimension. It is opening our eyes to see liturgy forming the Body of Christ, opening our minds to see the Body of Christ as a living, social organism, and opening Scripture to see how its economic dimension has been lived and developed over Judeo Christian history. Finally, this course will be a forum for discussion, seeded with a variety of case studies, hopefully uncovering possibilities for a social economy of communion in our own parishes and neighborhoods.

Logistics: free 6-week course

- Estimated weekly commitment: 3-5 hours (reading, reflection, weekly 1-hour Zoom session)
- Discussion forum for reflection responses & open dialogue, with written facilitator feedback

Note: We are also very open to working with parishes to modify the course for their communities, including minimizing outside reading or providing facilitated in-person sessions for Portland groups.

Content & Structure: Each unit contains a lecture with material from Professor David Fagerberg's "[Liturgical Theology](#)" STEP course (the germ of "Liturgy and Communion Economy") as well as a mini-lecture, excerpted reading, Scripture passage, and case study that draw out the economic culture and theology that contextualize the unit's highlighted aspect of liturgical life. All content is provided via video or PDF.

The introduction to the course will begin with the question "What do we mean when we say 'economy'?" Unit 1 will introduce you to Dr. Fagerberg's approach to liturgical theology and, in the mini-lecture, invite you to see how Jesus' challenge to Temple and Synagogue worship dovetailed with his prophetic and restorative economic vision. Unit 2 will build on this framework by looking into the origins of the Church, and how Jewish understandings of covenant and redemption connect ecclesiology, liturgy, and economy, notably in the ratification of the Sinai covenant. Unit 3 will consider the Liturgy of the Word and the temporal aspects of liturgy, and draw connections between the Sabbath as a day of rest and worship, and the social and economic functions of the Sabbath Jubilee tradition. Unit 4 will consider the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Paul's understanding of the social Body of Christ, and how it defines an economy of community mutuality. Lastly, in unit 5, we will explore more particular case studies that paint a concrete image of what exactly a "communion economy" might look like.

For more information about the facilitators, In My Backyard's economic projects, or the possibility of bringing a version of this course to your parish community, check out our FAQ.

[[Interest Form](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Email](#)]

In My Backyard is the supporting non-profit of the [Simone Weil House](#), a Catholic Worker and public household in Portland, Oregon. Our mission to live the Catholic teaching on solidarity and subsidiarity as a node for neighborhood-parish scale hospitality and economy.