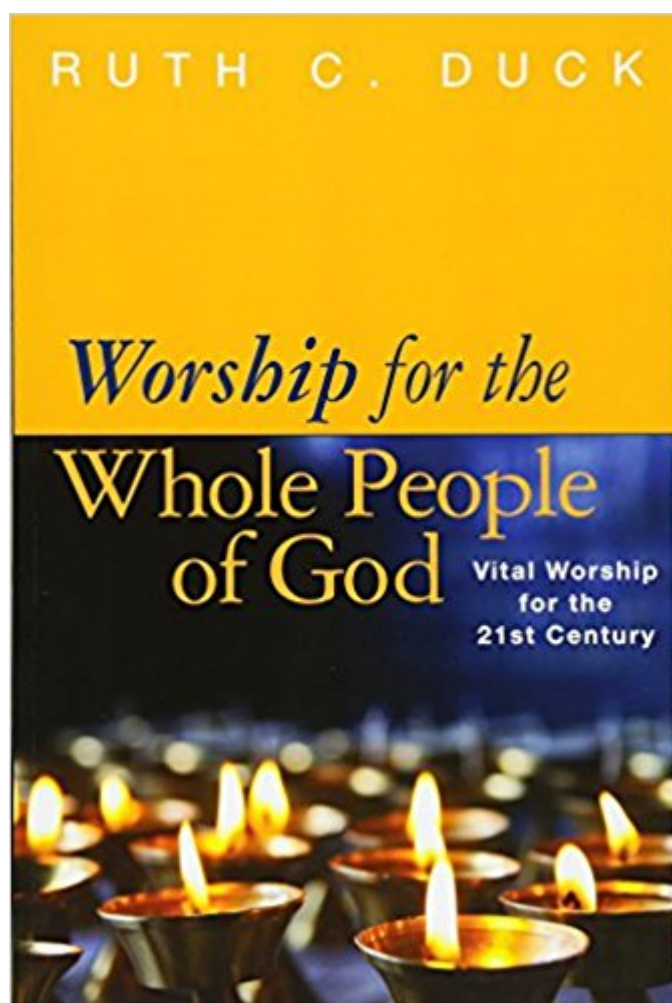


The book was found

Worship For The Whole People Of God: Vital Worship For The 21st Century



Synopsis

This new book on worship by renowned hymn writer and professor Ruth C. Duck provides theological foundations for worship and explores the variety of ways Christians have adapted worship to various cultures to help them live faithfully and to communicate the Gospel to others. The author celebrates the many languages and cultural settings in which the Gospel has been, and is, preached, sung, and prayed. The goal of this volume is to support good pastoral and congregational reflection on what worship is and does. Consequently, Duck discusses many different forms of worship from several cultures (African-American, Asian, Euro-American) and offers advice on how to read a congregation and define its culture in order to plan culturally appropriate worship. Although the book does not offer prescriptive formulas or advise a single pattern of worship, it includes many practical suggestions for preparing and leading worship, including diverse ministries of music, movement, and visual arts that are becoming more popular today. From worship's theological underpinnings the book turns to worship leadership, forms of prayer, preaching, the sacraments, ordination, and various other liturgies. Because of its emphasis on vital and Spirit-led worship, this comprehensive book on Christian worship will be used in years to come not only as a core textbook for seminarians and ministry students from a variety of cultures and traditions, but also as a resource for local church pastors and laity who are dedicated to the enlivening of Christian worship.

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Customer Reviews

"This is the textbook I have been waiting for: opening the door wide for all God's children to be a

part, grounded in theology and history, drawing on long experience of teaching and leading worship, with study of congregations in the U.S. and abroad, full of practical application, and graced by the Spirit." --Robin Knowles Wallace, Professor of Worship and Music, Methodist Theological School in Ohio "The most comprehensive introduction to worship for our time." --Kimberly Bracken Long, Associate Professor of Worship, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia "Here at last is a resource that is designed to explore the past and present and look forward to the future of Christian Worship. I highly commend this excellent resource for all who seek to engage in as well as lead Christian Worship." --Melva Wilson Costen, PhD Professor Emerita, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA "Ruth Duck brings together historical, theological, liturgical, pastoral, cultural, anecdotal, and practical elements in a comprehensive resource that students and ministers will want to use as a reference guide for years to come." --John Ambrose, Pastor, United Church of Canada, worship staff, and hymnal editor "Some of us have been waiting a decade for this book. It stands in the tradition of what was best about James White's Introduction to Christian Worship, while going much farther in areas like worship and culture, liturgical language, and services of healing. I look forward to using this with my introductory worship class with great anticipation." --Christopher Grundy, Eden Theological Seminary "An excellent textbook on worship for whole church. Duck provides a wide scope of worship resources that are biblically grounded, theologically reflective, hermeneutically sound, and liturgically insightful." --K. K. Yeo, Harry R. Kendall Professor of New Testament, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and Visiting Professor, Peking University, China "Duck guides the reader through worship as ritual, revelation, response, relationship and rehearsal, an approach that has no precedence in other books. A special value of this book is the author's concern for the needs of children, people with differing abilities, gays and lesbians, African Americans, Latinas/Latinos and Koreans, and planning worship in our multicultural society today. Duck's book is practical yet scholarly, historical yet contemporary, biblical yet contextualâ•a timely publication." --I-to Loh, composer and former President and Professor of Worship, Church Music and Ethnomusicology, Tainan Theological College and Seminary, Taiwan. "This book sheds profound, theological insights for vital, diverse, healing, and transformative worship in the twenty-first century. A must-read for every pastor, church musician, and worship leader." --Cynthia Wilson, Dean of Students and Ph.D. candidate, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Ruth C. Duck is Professor of Worship at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. A prolific hymn writer, she is the author of Praising God: The Trinity in Christian Worship,

published by Westminster John Knox Press.

An honest title for this book would be "Worship Tactics of Western Mainline Denominations in the U.S. and sometimes Canada with Notes on Historical Practices and Some of the Practices of Non-Mainline Christians." This is the kind of title old books had, but publishers like to sell books so they give them titles they think will inspire people. This book is thorough, sometimes overly so, but it is far, far too tactical. It contains too little theological grounding for various practices and follows a pattern of "Christians of the past did this, this study says this, mainline churches do this, but some Pentecostal or African American or Native American churches sometimes do this." Most of the useful advice in this book could have been condensed into an essay called "How to Be Aware of People on the Margins When Planning a Worship Service." People who are not theologically progressive will also find a lot in this book that they will disagree with. That in and of itself might not be an issue, but Duck does not seem to be aware that her theological positions are not accepted by many Christians. She gives little to no reason for why she thinks what she thinks. This great lack of the "why" behind the content in this book is a huge flaw that I found incredibly frustrating. The outcomes of following the advice in this book are also doubtful. I attended one United Methodist service where the printed program was multiple pages and the liturgy so complicated that I had no idea what I was supposed to have taken away with me when I left. After reading this book I could see Duck's fingerprints all over that service. Whether the people planning that service had read her book or not I don't know, but both Duck and that person share the same dizzying inability to simplify and focus. Although many evangelical churches in the U.S. and perhaps Canada have lost touch with deeper liturgical traditions from the historic church, and need to rediscover some of them, this book is not the way forward. It holds too tightly to the worship forms of the 1950's and 60's, missing a huge opportunity to tie worship deeply to both Scripture and tradition while keeping the door open for contemporary expressions of liturgy. I cannot recommend this book.

If you are moved by worship and want to gain a deeper understanding of liturgy, this is a valuable addition to your library.

This is the best text on worship that I have seen for a long time. I have long been a fan of Dr. Duck's hymns and imagined that she is an excellent teacher. Now I know that she is. It's excellent!

Wonderful book that marries theory and practice in a liturgical setting. Well organized. Very well

suited for a classroom setting. Would be a helpful resource for students after the class as well!

Book in very good condition

comprehensive and valuable information

Comprehensive and invitational.

If you're looking for a book to use in your Intro to Worship class, this is it! I've been teaching and supplementing White's Intro to Worship book for years until this book came out. I'm rearranging my whole syllabus around this--happily so!

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