

# Liturgy and Communion Economy

*A free, 5 week course with the Simone Weil Catholic Worker*

[ [Enroll Here](#) ] **Class starts 4/16!**

*We at the Simone Weil Catholic Worker (Portland, OR) originally developed this class with the McGrath Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame as we were developing the vision of parish life and model for redemptive lending that is now the [Living Communion initiative](#).*

**Facilitators:** The course will be facilitated by Bert and Emma Fitzgerald. Bert earned his MTS at Notre Dame and founded Simone Weil Catholic Worker, and Emma studied Religion at Princeton, and now organizes the Living Communion initiative with Bert.

**Course Description:** 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, uncovering possibilities for a social economy of communion in our own parishes and neighborhoods.

**Logistics:** free, online 5-week course running from 4/16-5/14

- Estimated weekly commitment: 1 hour live session on Thursday evenings (5-6:15pm Pacific) + 1/2 to 2 hours reading, depending on desired level of engagement
- Discussion forum for reflection responses & open dialogue

**Content & Structure:** Each unit contains a mini-lecture, excerpted readings on theology and economy, Scripture passages for meditation, and related “communion economy” examples.

- **Unit 1: God’s Household Economy** - We’ll explore the birth of a separate, self-contained economic world, distinct from social and religious life, and juxtapose that with a liturgical vision of the cosmos, where ‘economic’ life is oriented toward participation in God’s rest and freedom.
- **Unit 2: The Kingdom of God** - We’ll consider economic patterns of the Kingdom of God preached by Jesus in the synoptic Gospels. With help from Wendell Berry, we’ll explore the question: “What is a human economy that could exist in harmony with the Kingdom of God?”
- **Unit 3: Covenant & Redemption** - We’ll explore the roots of the liturgy in the Old Testament *qahal*, the gathering of the people of God to ratify their covenant with God. We’ll explore the role of Redemption within that covenant to recover its economic and familial meaning.
- **Unit 4: Sabbath and Jubilee** - We will explore how the liturgical cycles of the Old Testament were intimately bound with cycles of rest and release that ensured the human economy would always be properly inscribed within God’s economy/plan.
- **Unit 5: The Body of Christ** - We’ll close the course by reflecting on the competing demands impressed on us by our membership in the Body of Christ and the other economic, political, and social “corporate” bodies we participate in in light of the Gospel.

[Read more about Simone Weil House here.](#) *Contact us at [simoneweilhouse@gmail.com](mailto:simoneweilhouse@gmail.com).*