

THE MODEL OF COLLABORATIVE PREACHING USED BY REV. DAVID LOWER AT SAINT LUKE'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2016-2017

The particular model of collaborative preaching used includes five steps, each catalyzed by an in-person meeting with my preaching partner. While other forms of collaboration are possible in the digital age, each step can be initiated by an in-person meeting and conversation, maximizing the possibilities of interpersonal relationship including non-verbal communication. A regular meeting time helped with scheduling and allowed sufficient time for the work between meetings. The meetings were structured as followed:

- 5 weeks before sermon date – select a text together (1 hour):
 - a. Make covenant together
 - b. Select a text and confirm a preaching date
- 4 weeks before sermon date – read a text together (1 hour):
 - a. Conduct a divine reading of the text together
 - b. Share the insights and curiosities and challenges heard in the text.
 - c. Homework: divide up studies using bible dictionaries, parallel bibles, and commentaries (with a little orientation to these kinds of resources if they are new to the preaching partner).
- 3 weeks before sermon date – study a text together (2 hours):
 - Study the text together
 - Explore the text's claims and moves
 - Verify the text's claims and moves in conversation with commentaries
 - Decide on a focus statement together that can guide creation of the sermon.
 - Homework: each draft some preaching on the claim and moves of the text, including why you think this is true, in your experience, to be exchanged by email and read before the next session.
- 2 weeks before sermon date – create a sermon together (2 hours):
 - Explore each partner's expositions, and follow the conversation where it leads (i.e. "your witness to this helped me think about that as well")
 - Consider and decide on the shape of the sermon
 - Decide on the sharing of the sermon's delivery
 - Homework: build out the content of the sermon based on the work you've done together, approaching its final form.
- The week of the sermon – prepare to deliver a sermon together (1 hour):
 - Decide on the sermon's final form
 - Decide on the space for sermon delivery
 - Practice giving the sermon together
- The week after giving the sermon – reflect on the experience together (either by meeting or by phone or email)
 - Reflect together on the process and how God worked in it for the partnership and the congregation