

**For all Pastors, Ruling Elders, Deacons, CRE/CPs and other PCUSA Members
2025 – 2026 Classes**



**Soteriology – The Doctrine of Salvation
Reformed Theology, Part 2**

Rev. Gregory Love, PhD *Princeton Theological Seminary*

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Love is Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of Redlands, Graduate School of Theology. A native of Portland, Oregon, Dr. Love gained his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Princeton Lutheran University, Gustavus Adolphus College, and St. Olaf College. Dr. Love is interested in understanding how God acts in the world and in our lives. He is currently working on a constructive theology of divine providence which tries to explain how God can act in a world which science believes works according to natural laws, chance and human free will, and in which horrific events of suffering happen. His book, *Love, Violence and the Cross: How the Nonviolent God Saves Us through the Cross of Christ*, investigates the relation between religion and violence and received the 2011 Angell Book Award for the best first book written by a Presbyterian author.

When: *Thursday and Friday, March 13 and 14: 7:00 to 9:00 pm*
Saturday, March 15: 8:30 to 11:30 am; 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Where: *Thursday and Friday: On Zoom Only*
Saturday In-person at the Presbytery Offices: 545 Ashbury Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 or by Zoom if you can't make it in-person

To Register: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/u57anz0pT_uuZlyTpYAshq

Cost: *\$100 for credit* for Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidates
\$40 to audit and open to all

Class Description: We continue our look at the Christian faith, and in particular the Reformed view of the faith, this weekend by asking ourselves this question: What does it mean to say, "Jesus died for us"? How does Jesus save us from our sins? What does it mean to be saved, and how does that salvation come about? This latter half picks up where we left off in September. It moves beyond the problem with humanity to the solution: What the triune God does for us in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit, and the difference that makes for us and for the world.

Pre-class Readings:

Daniel Migliore, *Faith Seeking Understanding*, 4th Edition
Gregory Anderson Love, *Love, Violence and the Cross*.

Questions: Contact Phil Arzino, CRE/CP Coordinator, pkarzino@comcast.net, 510-828-5596

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March 13-15, 2025

Further information for CRE/CP Students

Required Reading:

1. Daniel Migliore, ***Faith Seeking Understanding, 4th Edition.***

For our March weekend, please read Chapters. 8; 10-12; 14 (pages 168-204; 232-313; 347-373). This latter half picks up where we left off in February. It moves beyond the problem with humanity to the solution: What the triune God does for us in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit, and the difference that makes for us and for the world.

2. Gregory Anderson Love, ***Love, Violence and the Cross.***

For March, also read my book (pages 1-256). This book is on the different Christian views of how Jesus saves us.

Pre-course Assignments:

1. Along with reading the Migliore and Love books, please do the following written assignment, and e-mail it to me and to Phil Arzino by the start of the class on Thursday, March 13. Write 1-2 pages, in which you answer the following two questions:
 - ~ What are three things you learned in the chapters on Migliore and Love that *surprised* you?
 - ~ What are *three questions* that came to your mind as you read these chapters?Put your name and your email address in the top right corner of your two pages you turn in.
2. You need to write a draft of your *statement of faith*. For this task, I want you to write a first draft of your statement of faith and submit it to me as a Word attachment to my email address by 11:00 PM Sunday night, March 2nd. CC to Phil Arzino. I will read it, and return it with comments and questions and suggestions for ways you can improve it that week.

Post-course Assignment: Write a revised draft of your *statement of faith* and submit it by 11:00 PM Monday night, March 24th. I will read it and return comments by Friday, March 28th. We're doing this assignment so you can get an initial draft of your own *statement of faith* done, and I can help you with it. Phil will provide a copy of my own *statement of faith* for my ordination, as an illustration of what one looks like.

The Rev. Gregory Love, Ph.D.
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