A new and one-time-only Fall 2017 course taught by Prof. Christine Helmer
(2017-2018 Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations)

Martin Luther and His Interpreters
(THEO 701501)

The aim of this course is to query the construction of Luther as modern Protestant by returning to the sources, his most important theological works. In this course we will read Luther himself and analyze his writings in order to figure out in what respects he was indeed a Catholic theologian and reformer of the Church. We will analyze the structure of his thought, his rhetoric and polemic, and his theological ideas and commitments. During this process we will gain some familiarity with Luther’s medieval theological sources in addition to the twentieth-century Protestant theologians who took him for granted as their own.

THURSDAYS 10:00 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
STOKES HALL 205S

Christine Helmer (Ph.D. Yale) is Professor of German and Religious Studies at Northwestern University. In June 2017, Professor Helmer was awarded an honorary doctorate in theology from the faculty of theology at the University of Helsinki in Finland. Professor Helmer’s area of research and teaching specialization is Christian theology from historical, systematic, and constructive perspectives. Her work is focused on German intellectual history with primary interest in the theology of Martin Luther, the philosophy and theology of Friedrich Schleiermacher, and the flourishing of scholarship on Luther and on religion in early twentieth-century Germany, known as the Lutherrenaissance. Prof. Helmer is the author of many articles and books, including her monograph *The Trinity and Martin Luther* (Zabern 1999) and her new book *Theology and the End of Doctrine* (Westminster John Knox Press 2014).