

OPENING SERVICE

at

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

at which

Nathan R. Ericson, Aaron L. Christie,
Jonathan A. Micheel, and David F. Bivens
are installed as Professors

Seminary Auditorium

August 24, 2020

HYMN

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

Christian Worship 176

Stand to sing the hymn

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!
May all your graces be outpoured
On each believer's mind and heart;
Your fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of your light
In holy faith your church unite
From every land and every tongue;
This to your praise, O Lord our God, be sung:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come, holy Light, Guide divine,
And cause the Word of life to shine.
Teach us to know our God aright
And call him Father with delight.
From every error keep us free;
Let none but Christ our Master be
That we in living faith abide,
In him, our Lord, with all our might confide.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come, holy Fire, Comfort true;
Grant us the will your work to do
And in your service to abide;
Let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by your power prepare each heart,
And to our weakness strength impart
That bravely here we may contend,
Through life and death to you, our Lord, ascend.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LITANY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

O Holy Spirit, who at the beginning moved upon the face of the waters:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, by whose inspiration holy men spoke from God:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, power of the highest, who overshadowed Mary:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, through whom the holy Child Jesus grew in wisdom:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, who descended like a dove and lighted on Christ our Lord at his baptism:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, by whom Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, who on the day of Pentecost descended upon the apostles in the likeness of fiery tongues:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, by whom we have been brought out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of God and of his Son Jesus Christ:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, by whom the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
Have mercy on us.

O Holy Spirit, by whom we were born to a new life in Baptism:
Have mercy on us.

By your life-giving power and might:
Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.

By your all-powerful intercession:
Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.

By your continual abiding in the Church:
Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.

We beseech you to hear us, O Holy Spirit, that it may please you to guide your holy Church into all truth and to fill it with your love:
Hear us, O Holy Spirit.

That we may strive to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace:
Hear us, O Holy Spirit.

That, as we live in the Spirit, we may also walk in the Spirit:
Hear us, O Holy Spirit.

That we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:
Hear us, O Holy Spirit.

That we may be filled with your sevenfold gift: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and power, the spirit of knowledge and reverence that delights in fearing the Lord:
Hear us, O Holy Spirit.

That we may ever be mindful of that solemn account which for ourselves and others we must one day give at the judgment seat of Christ:
Hear us, O Holy Spirit.

O Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of life:
We beseech you to hear us.

All sing:

O Holy Spirit, enter in and in our hearts your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine, around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us.
Hear us, cheer us by your teaching; let our preaching and our labor
Praise you, Lord, and serve our neighbor.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified, receive our prayers which we bring to you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9–21

With the Lord's strength sustaining him, Elijah invites Elisha to follow.

Following the reading:

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 78

Christian Worship Psalter

The cantors sing the refrain. All repeat the refrain and sing it again as indicated.

Your Word, O LORD, is a lamp for my feet
and a light un - to my path.

The cantors sing the psalm

My people, hear my / teaching;
listen to the words / of my mouth.
I will utter hidden things, things / from of old—
things our ancestors have / told us.

We will not hide them from their de-/scendants;
we will tell the next gener-/ation
the praiseworthy deeds / of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders / he has done.

Refrain

He decreed statutes for / Jacob
and established the law in / Israel,
which he commanded our / ancestors
to teach their / children,

so the next generation would know them, even the children yet / to be born,
and they in turn would tell their / children.

Then they would put their / trust in God
and would not forget his deeds but would keep / his commands.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be-/ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

Refrain

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:3–11; 2:1–2

Paul encourages Timothy to serve the people of God.

Following the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand to acclaim the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sing the refrain with the cantors

Refrain



The cantors sings the Verse of the Day:

The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Repeat the refrain

GOSPEL

Mark 6:30–34

In his compassion Jesus taught those who followed him.

After the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

HYMN

My God Will Never Leave Me

Christian Worship 418



1 My God will nev - er leave me, And I will
 2 When hu - man thought and ac - tion Shall un - a -
 3 God shall be my re - li - ance In sor - row's
 4 Oh, praise him for he nev - er For - gets our
 5 And when the world will per - ish With all its



not leave him; A light my God will give me In
 vail - ing prove, God grants me his pro - tec - tion And
 dark - est night; Its dread I bid de - fi - ance When
 dai - ly need; Oh, blest the hour when - ev - er To
 pride and pow'r, All that the world may cher - ish Will



path - ways dark and grim. He reach - es out his hand,
 shows his pow'r and love. He helps in ev - 'ry need,
 he is at my right. I un - to him com - mend
 him our thoughts can speed, For all the time we spend
 van - ish in that hour. But though in death they make



His might - y pow - er shar - ing, My bur - dens
 From sin and shame re - deems me, From chains and
 My bod - y, soul, and spir - it— They are his
 With - out him is but wast - ed, Till we his
 The deep - est grave our cov - er, When there our



ev - er bear - ing Wher - ev - er I may stand.
 bonds re - claims me; From death I, too, am freed.
 own by mer - it— All's well, then, at the end.
 joy have tast - ed, The joy that has no end.
 sleep is o - ver, Our God will us a - wake.

SERMON

1 Kings 19:9–21

The class that gets you ready for the day you're ready to quit.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

HYMN

Preserve Your Word, O Savior

Christian Worship 289

Preserve your Word, O Savior,
To us this latter day,
And let your kingdom flourish;
Enlarge your Church, we pray.
Oh, keep our faith from failing;
Keep hope's bright star aglow.
Let nothing turn us from you
While wand'ring here below.

Preserve your Word and preaching,
The truth that makes us whole,
The mirror of your glory,
The pow'r that saves the soul.
Oh, may this living water,
This spring of heav'nly grace,
Sustain us while here living
Until we see your face.

RITE OF INSTALLATION

Nathan R. Ericson

Library Director and Director of Educational Technology
Education

Jonathan A. Micheel

Homiletics and Church History

Aaron L. Christie

Worship and Homiletics
Dean of Chapel

David F. Bivens

New Testament and Homiletics

Stand at the invitation of the minister

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O God of truth and love, always calling us to loftier understanding and deeper wisdom, we seek your will and implore your grace for all who share the life of this seminary, knowing that unless you build among us, we who teach and learn will labor in vain.

Silence

For the men who teach here that with a love for your gospel and for all your people they may together bring fire and vision to our common task, knowing their own fields, yet eager to relate them to all others; persistent in their academic demands, yet seeing each student as a child of God; prepared to teach not only by great learning but also by child-like faith in you, their God:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For Professor Ericson, Professor Christie, Professor Micheel and Professor Bivens, that they may find joy in the new ministries set before them and faithfully entrust to their students the truths they have heard from you; that they and their families may find happiness and contentment on this lovely hill:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For those who attend to business and finance, for boards that govern our doings, and development officers who encourage gifts of love, that their concern may be not only budgets and buildings, but the men who are here roused to serve you and your Church:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For janitors and secretaries, for cooks and keepers of the grounds, for those who prepare our food and wash our dishes, and for the many other workers and suppliers whose faithfulness serves our common good:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For parents and those who give gifts for student assistance, who send and support seminary students, that they may not desire for them more income or social acceptance or glory for family or donor, but rather that they grow in intelligence, maturity, and devotion for service to Christ:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For the students themselves, that their confusion may be brief, their perspective constantly enlarged, and their minds and spirits alert to all that chapel and classroom, library and fieldwork can mean in their lives and ministry:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For all who are dealing with health concerns during these uncommon days and especially for those who are struggling with disease, discomfort and fear, that they may rest in the shadow of your love and find contentment in your perfect will:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For those who are working to keep us safe, for those searching for cures and issuing guidelines, and for those struggling to bear the burden of love for others, that they may find in your all-encompassing compassion a model for their thoughts, words and actions:

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

For all in this community of learning and service, that they may realize the Holy Spirit is leading them into all truth and may grasp your intention for all their effort and striving.

In them and in us, O God, kindle your saving truth.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Remain standing for the hymn

HYMN

Dear Lord, to Your True Servants Give

Christian Worship 542

Dear Lord, to your true servants give
The grace to you alone to live.
Set free from sin to serve you, Lord,
They go to share your living Word,
The gospel message to proclaim
That all may know your saving name.

They gladly go at your command
To spread your Word o'er sea and land.
Be with them, Lord, and make them strong
To heal sin's ills, to right the wrong.
Your rule is over wind and wave,
And mighty is your arm to save.

When all their labor seems in vain,
Revive their sinking hopes again;
And when success crowns what they do,
Oh, keep them humble, Lord, and true
Until before your judgment seat
They lay their trophies at your feet.

Be seated following the hymn

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Prof. Earle D. Treptow

President of the seminary

Preacher

Pastor Jonathan P. Bauer

Good News Lutheran Church

Mt. Horeb, WI

Installing Minister

Pastor Jonathan E. Scharf

Chairman of the Governing Board

Abiding Grace Lutheran Church

Covington, GA

Assisting Ministers

Pastor Kurt Lueneburg, Ixonia, WI

Prof. em. Forrest Bivens, Greendale, WI

Pastor Douglas Tomhave, Lake Mills, WI

Pastor Eric Roecker, Menomonee Falls, WI

Organist

Prof. em. James P. Tiefel

Mequon, WI

Cantors

Christian Willick and Joshua Frailing

David Forrest Bivens

David Forrest Bivens was born December 27, 1976, in San Jose, CA, to Forrest and Sue Bivens. He became a child of God in baptism on January 9, 1977, at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in San Jose, where his father served as pastor. His father accepted a call to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Saginaw, MI, when David was a boy, and it was there that he grew up, attended Lutheran elementary school and was confirmed in the Christian faith in 1991. David received his training for the pastoral ministry at Michigan Lutheran Seminary (1991-95), Martin Luther College (1995-99) and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (1999-2003). He served his vicar year at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Salt Lake City, UT.

Prof. Bivens has served as a missionary to Brazil in Gravatai, Rio Grande do Sul (2003-09) and as pastor of Christ the Lord Lutheran Church in Houston and Divine Savior Lutheran Church in Sienna, TX (2009-20). Divine Savior began as a second campus of Christ the Lord and officially became a separate daughter congregation in 2018. Prof. Bivens has also served our synod as chairman of the Administrative Committee for African Missions since 2017.

David met his future wife, Brandi Fauver, when they were classmates at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. They were married June 23, 2000, at Brandi's home church, St. Bartholomew's Lutheran Church in Kawkawlin, MI. Brandi is also a 1999 graduate of MLC and has taught in WELS schools in Utah, Milwaukee, and Houston. She taught English as a foreign language during their time in Brazil. She will be teaching second grade this coming year at Salem Lutheran School in Milwaukee. The Bivenses have been blessed with three daughters: Hannah, age 15; Callie, age 13; and Noelle, age 10.

Aaron Lee Christie

Aaron Lee Christie was born March 3, 1971, in Bay City, MI, to Roger and Diane Christie. He was born again in baptism at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Bay City on May 2, 1971. He received his confirmation instruction at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bay City and his training for pastoral ministry at Michigan Lutheran Seminary (1985-89), Northwestern College (1989-93), and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (1993-97). He served his vicar year at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Benton Harbor, MI. After his ordination he also received a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University here in Mequon.

Prof. Christie has served as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Antioch, IL (1997-2010) and Trinity Lutheran Church in Waukesha, WI (2010-20). He served for 14 years as district worship coordinator for the Southeastern Wisconsin District of WELS. He currently serves the synod as a member of the Commission on Worship, as the Hymnody Chairman of the WELS Hymnal Project, as a regular presenter for WELS Schools of Worship Enrichment, and as a member of WELS Institute for Worship and Outreach.

On June 4, 1994, Aaron married Kristin Paulsen of New Ulm, MN. Kristin is a 1992 graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College. She has taught at St. John's Lutheran School in Fox Lake, WI, at several public schools, and currently teaches kindergarten at Salem Lutheran School in Milwaukee. The Christies have been blessed with three children: Karl, who is a middler here at the seminary; Peter, who will enroll at the seminary in 2021; and Anna, who is enrolled at Waukesha County Technical College.

Nathan Robert Ericson

Nathan Robert Ericson was born February 1, 1976, in Edina, MN, to Richard and Kathryn Ericson. He became a child of God in baptism on February 22, 1976, at St. James Lutheran Church in West St. Paul, MN. He was confirmed in the Christian faith at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Cannon Falls, MN, where he attended Lutheran elementary school. He is a graduate of St. Croix Lutheran High School (1994), Martin Luther College (1998), and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (2002). He served his vicar year at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Tucson, AZ.

After his ordination, Prof. Ericson served as a tutor at Martin Luther College (2002-04) and as a pastor at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, WI (2004-19). He has also served as special ministries coordinator for the Northern Wisconsin District of WELS and as campus ministry pastor at UW-Oshkosh. He is currently pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science degree at UW-Milwaukee.

On June 27, 2004, Nathan married Joanna Siegler of La Crosse, WI. Joanna is a music educator who was the director of bands at Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School from 1999-2004. Since that time, she has conducted her own private music studio. The Ericsons have been blessed with three daughters: Ellie, age 14; Ginny, age 11; and Emma, age 9.

Jonathan Andrew Micheel

Jonathan Andrew Micheel was born September 23, 1972, in Seward, NE, to Virgil and Mary Micheel. He was born again in baptism at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Gresham, NE, on October 1, 1972. He was confirmed in the Christian faith at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Watertown, WI, in 1986. He received his training for the pastoral ministry at Northwestern Preparatory School (1986-90), Northwestern College (1990-94), and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (1994-98). He served his vicar year at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Benton Harbor, MI.

After his ordination, Prof. Micheel served as pastor at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Modesto, CA and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Salt Lake City, UT. He has also served as district worship coordinator for the Nebraska District of WELS, circuit pastor for the Western Slope Circuit of that district and currently serves on the Hymnal Project Executive Committee and as chairman of the Hymnal Project Rites Committee.

On July 6, 1996, Jon married Cheryl Leach of Milwaukee. Cheryl is a graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran College, with a degree in math education. The Micheels have been blessed with four children: Emma, who is a teacher in West Jordan, UT; Sophia, who is taking a year off of college this year to work; Ezekiel, a freshman at Wisconsin Lutheran College; and Noah, a sophomore at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School.



Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

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