

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary



Graduation Service

May 22, 2026

Seminary Auditorium

10:00 a.m.

Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Christian Worship 953

Musical setting by S. Drummond Wolff

Stand as the hymn is introduced and follow the path of the cross to the chancel where it serves as the focus of worship.

The faculty, members of the governing board, and the graduates process during the hymn.

1-2: All 3: Men 4: Women 5: All



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel
3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your
4 You are King of glo - ry, Christ, Son of
5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly



all, we bow be - fore you. All on
choirs a - bove are rais - ing; cher - u -
sa - cred name they hal - low; proph - ets
God, yet born of Mar - y, for us
Spir - it, three we name you, though in



earth your scep - ter claim; all in heav'n a -
bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing
swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed
sin - ners sac - ri - ficed, on the cross our
es - sence on - ly one, un - di - vid - ed



bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do -
cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with sweet ac -
mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to set of
sins did car - ry; first to break the bars of
God we claim you, and, a - dor - ing, bend the



main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
sun through the Church the song goes on.
death, you have o - pened heav'n to faith.
knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

INVOCATION

Prof. Robert Wendland

Secretary of the faculty

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

DIALOGUE

Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

The works of the Lord are great and glorious. His name is worthy of praise!

O Father most holy, gather us together in the name of Jesus whom the saints and angels adore as the Lamb on his throne and whose name is above every name,

that all we do might be done at your bidding, filled with your grace,
directed by your wisdom, informed by your truth, accomplished to your glory.

The works of the Lord are great and glorious. His love endures forever!

O Father most gracious, bring us together in the name of Jesus, that in him we might be a spiritual temple, that founded on him we might be built together as living stones; that in him we might offer to you the spiritual service

of praise and thanksgiving, of lives lived in your love,
of proclaiming your words and works, and of sharing your gifts to us.

The works of the Lord are great and glorious. Tell of all his wonderful deeds!

O Father eternal, you have sent out an invitation, you have prepared a great feast that all might enter the courts of your presence and the mansions of your paradise. Grant to us your blessing and peace,

that we may be witnesses of your truth, the reflection of your glory,
and the ambassadors of your kingdom.

The works of the Lord are great and glorious. May our mouths be filled with his praise!

To you, O Father, together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God from all eternity and to all eternity, be glory, wisdom, power, and dominion forever.



All sing:

Refrain

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa - ther, you crown our life

with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;

you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your

on - ly Son, but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo-rious is your name in all the earth. O Son of

God, e - ter-nal Word of the Fa - ther, you came to live with us;

you made your Fa - ther known; you washed us from our sins in

your own blood. You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!

Refrain

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Be seated

ANTHEM

God's Son Has Made Me Free

God's Son has made me free
From Satan's tyranny,
From fear of death, and bonds of sin,
From all that plagues my soul within.
The holy One divine,
Became a friend of mine.
From heaven high, from starry sky,
He came to give, to die.
O boundless love, He came, He died,
He rose forever glorified!
He came to give, to die, that I might live with him eternally.
God's Son has made me free.

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)
Arrangement: Oscar R. Overby

Stand

GOSPEL

John 6:60-69

Lord, to whom shall we go?

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

ANTHEM

To the Lamb on the Throne

Worthy the Lamb.

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim
And publish abroad his wonderful name;
The name all victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Worthy the Lamb.

God rules in the height, almighty to save;
Though hid from our sight, his presence we have,
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Then let us adore and give him his right,
All glory and pow'r, all wisdom and might;
All honor and blessing with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)
KINGSWOOD NEW

HYMN

Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ

Christian Worship 560



1 Your works, not mine, O Christ, speak glad-ness to this heart;
 2 Your blood, not mine, O Christ, can heal my sin-ful soul;
 3 Your cross, not mine, O Christ, has borne the dread-ful load
 4 Your death, not mine, O Christ, has paid the ran-som due;
 5 Your right-eous-ness, O Christ, a-lone can cov-er me;



they tell me all is done, they bid my fear de-part.
 your wounds, not mine, con-tain the balm that makes me whole.
 of sins that none could bear but the in-car-nate God.
 ten thou-sand deaths like mine would have been all too few.
 no oth-er right-eous-ness can set a sin-ner free.



Refrain
 To whom but you, who can a-lone for sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

SERMON

John 6:68

Professor Earle Treptow
 President of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Class Verse

Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

More of Your Words, Lord!

Stand to sing:

HYMN

Create in Me

Christian Worship 942



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right



spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your



pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS & CONFERMENT OF DEGREES

on students who have satisfactorily completed the seminary's prescribed course of study and have declared themselves to be in confessional agreement with the public doctrine of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Master of Divinity

(names are on page 11 of the service folder)

Bachelor of Divinity

Kerigiti A. Jackson, Jr.
Milwaukee, WI

Semson Lor
Manitowoc, WI

Rodney Rivera
Kissimmee, FL

Bachelor of Theology

Alexander C. Xiong
Brooklyn Center, MN

and

on pastors who have satisfactorily completed the seminary's program of post-graduate study

Master of Sacred Theology

Greg E. Pufahl
Fond du Lac, WI

David G. Scharf
New Ulm, MN

Nathanael R. Scharf
New Ulm, MN

Nathan G. Schulte
Mayville, WI

CLASS HYMN

He Will Hold Me Fast

Christian Worship 813

- 1 When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail,
he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
thro' life's fearful path,
for my love is often cold—
he must hold me fast. *Refrain*

*He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;
for my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.*

- 2 Those he saves are his delight;
Christ will hold me fast;
precious in his holy sight,
he will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
his promises shall last;
bought by him at such a cost,
he will hold me fast. *Refrain*
- 3 For my life he bled and died;
Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied;
he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life,
he will hold me fast
till our faith is turned to sight
when he comes at last! *Refrain*

Stand

PRAYER

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.

CLOSING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Christian Worship 923

Arrangement: Simon Johnson (b.1975)

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious
bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,
hold me with thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,
bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, be thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to
more, shield, feed me till I want no more.
be thou still my strength and shield.
thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

Be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESSIONAL

Graduates may be greeted on the walkway northwest of the auditorium.

Bottles of water are available following this service on the west side of the auditorium.

Copies of the list of assignments, distributed at yesterday's Call Day service, are available from the ushers at the back of the auditorium.

CDs of recent recordings by the Seminary Chorus are available at the entrance to the auditorium for \$12.00.

Members of the Seminary Chorus, directed by Prof. Aaron Christie, served in the ministry of music. Owen Eubank served as organist. Members of the seminary student body, coordinated by Ben Hillmer, served in the brass choir.

PERMISSIONS

Holy God, We Praise Your Name Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt. Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

O Lord, Our Lord Text: Christian Worship, 1993 Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993 Text: © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. Tune: © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House.

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Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt. Tune: The Parish Choir, London, 1850 Text and tune: Public domain

Create in Me Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925–1989 Text and tune: Public domain

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Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Class of 2026

Master of Divinity Graduates

Jonah A. Backus	New London, WI
Abel B. Bain	Montello, WI
Philip R. Balge	New Ulm, MN
Joseph D. Behm	Jackson, WI
Dallas D. Biga	Freeland, MI
Nathan P. Boulden	Watertown, WI
Nathaniel A. Brauer	Watertown, WI
Mark M. Burger	Grand Ledge, MI
Austin G. Claflin	Forestville, WI
Alexander M. Dimke	Great Falls, MT
John P. Fix	Germantown, WI
Eric M. Fluegge	Sun Prairie, WI
Caleb M. Foelske	Manitowoc, WI
Michael F. Friesenegger	Elizabeth, CO
Daniel R. Gensmer	Cape Coral, FL
Stephen P. Gerling	Marthasville, MO
Ryan C. Halter	Hastings, MN
Jack Heichelbech	Pewaukee, WI
Christian J. Huonder	Lakeville, MN
Jacob H. Lewis	Johns Creek, GA
Jonas F. Lindemann	Egg Harbor, WI
Kyle D. Lindemann	Lewiston, MN
Josiah L. Loersch	Watertown, WI
Noah J. Melso	Manitowoc, WI
Josiah S. Mittelstadt	Lake Elmo, MN
Micah C. Neumann	Adrian, MI
Minh (Ronny) T. Nguyen	West St. Paul, MN
Noah P. Nordlie	Lake Orion, MI
Micah J. Otto	Mequon, WI
Ethan D. Prins	Saint Peter, MN
Colin R. Rixe	Hoskins, NE
Andrew C. Ronholt	Port Orchard, WA
Matthew A. Rugen	Long Valley, NJ
Justin M. Schroeder	Sharpsburg, GA
Jonah W. Schulz	Mississauga, Ontario
Marcus J. Sims	Columbus, WI
Hunter D. Smith	Milwaukee, WI
Noah J. Vogt	Las Vegas, NV
John L. Wendland	Mequon, WI
Caleb L. Westra	Columbia, TN
Joshua D. Wordell	Kenosha, WI
Jacob D. Zabell	Green Bay, WI



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