COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION AND CONSECRATION SERVICE

MAY 13, 2023

FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER

COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Dennis R. Edwards, Dean of the Seminary and Vice President for Church Relations,
North Park Theological Seminary, Presiding

Prelude

March upon Handel's "Lift Up Your Heads" — Alexandre Guilmant

Please stand

Processional

Trumpet Tune in D Major — David Johnson

Welcome and Invocation

Dennis R. Edwards

Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from?
People: My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
L: He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;
P: Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
L: The Lord watches over you—the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
P: The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
L: The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;
P: The Lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore.

Opening Song

"Build My Life" — Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Hannah F. Nielsen, Master of Arts in Christian Formation Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman, and Pat Barrett

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, oh, we live for You

Chorus
Jesus, the Name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, we live for You

Holy, there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Chorus

Holy, there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me
And I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Service of the Word

Please be seated

The Old Testament Reading

Joshua 1:1-9
Elizabeth Pierre, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling

Please stand

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:16-20
Cheryl Lynn Cain, Assistant Director of Contextual and Lifelong Learning

Please be seated

Introduction of the Speaker

Dennis R. Edwards

Commencement Address

"The God of Joshua Is Going With You"
Willie Peterson, Assistant to the Superintendent of the Midsouth Conference

Responsive Song

"Christ Be All Around Me" — David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, and Leslie Jordan
Carri Stevens, Master of Divinity

As I rise, strength of God
Go before, lift me up
As I wake, eyes of God
Look upon, be my sight

As I wait, heart of God
Satisfy and sustain
As I hear, voice of God
Lead me on, be my guide
Be my guide

Chorus
Above and below me
Before and behind me
In every eye that sees me
Christ be all around me

And as I go, Hand of God
My defense, by my side
And as I rest, breath of God
Fall upon, bring me peace
Bring me peace

Chorus

Your life, Your death
Your blood was shed
For every moment
Every moment

Chorus

Academic Ceremony

Conferring of the Honorary Doctor of Ministry

Mark Novak
Presented by Tim Johnson, Professor Emeritus of Ministry

Announcement of Awards

Hauna Ondrey, Associate Professor of Church History and Interim Dean of Faculty

History	Kristi Ivanoff
Theology	DeCedrick Walker
Biblical Exegesis and Interpretation	Samuel Mariano
Biblical Languages	Kirsten Phillips
Innovative Ministry	Hannah Nielsen
	Eric Watkins
Academic Excellence in Christian Formation	Rachel Hart

Presentation of the Ahnfeldt Medallion

Mary K. Surridge, President, North Park University

Congratulations to Graduates

Mary K. Surridge

Conferring of Degrees

Hauna Ondrey
Dennis R. Edwards

Consecration Service

The Prayers

Of Thanksgiving
Scott Kirksey, Master of Arts in Christian Formation

Of Intercession
Natasha Robinson, Doctor of Ministry in Urban Ministry Leadership

Of Consecration
Andrea Spicer, Master of Arts in Restorative Justice Ministries

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

Charge

Tammy Swanson-Draheim, President, Evangelical Covenant Church

Please stand

Hymn 412

"Be Thou My Vision" — Traditional Irish hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, thy child I shall be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of All.

Benediction

Willie Peterson

Recessional

Prelude to a Te Deum — Marc Antoine Charpentier

Postlude

Toccata from Symphony No. 5 — Charles Marie Widor

Immediately following the service, you are invited to a reception in honor of the graduates in the gymnasium.

Please refrain from flash photography during the service.

Speaker

Rev. Dr. Willie Peterson

Dr. Willie Peterson has served as a pastor of churches in Texas and Oregon since 1965. He retired from the pastorate in 2003. Peterson has served as an adjunct professor in pastoral ministries and the Doctor of Ministry Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. He also served as assistant director of the Doctor of Ministry Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. For 14 years he was a member of the Denver Seminary's board of trustees, serving one term as its chairman. He also served for many years as vice president for the Urban Evangelical Mission.

His international conference speaking and teaching ministry has included parts of Africa, Europe, India, Southeast Asia, Latin and South America. In 2006, Peterson conducted the spiritual life retreat at Garmisch, Germany, for all US military chaplains serving in Europe.

Since 2003, Peterson has been a confidential consultant to pastors and senior leaders of Christian organizations and institutions. He was a founding board member of the Mosaix Global Network. Peterson joined the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC) 22 years ago and is most proud to be an ordained minister of the ECC and to serve as assistant to the superintendent for the Midsouth Conference. He lives in a suburb of Dallas with his wife, Anna Marie Peterson.

Honorary Degree Recipient

Mark Novak

Mark Novak is a graduate of Seattle Pacific University with a degree in political science. He received his Master of Divinity from North Park Theological Seminary and was ordained to word and sacrament in 1980.

Novak has served in various church settings as a youth pastor, church planter, and revitalization pastor. He served as superintendent of the Pacific Northwest Conference from 1999–2012. He then served the Evangelical Covenant Church as the executive minister for Develop Leaders from 2012–17. Novak also served as the transitional lead pastor for Praise Covenant Church, Tacoma, Washington. In 2018, he served as the transitional executive director at Cascades Camp and Conference Center in Yelm, Washington.

Currently he spends time coaching and encouraging other pastors as they navigate ministry in these complex times. Novak is very passionate about building high-trust cultures and environments of grace in the workplace and at home. He has a Certificate in High Trust Leadership from the Trust One Center.

He has been married to Marilyn for 46 years; they have three married children and six grandchildren. They live in Gig Harbor, Washington, where the views of Mt. Rainier rise above Puget Sound. Novak enjoys rowing, golf, working on his British sports car and simply being outside.

Banner Bearer: Samuel Mariano
Crucifer: Harun Kunyu
Marshal: David D. Bjorlin, Assistant Professor of Worship
Organ: John Sherer, University Organist
Piano: David D. Bjorlin
Head Usher: Emily Berg

A NOTE REGARDING ACADEMIC REGALIA

Today's academic costume is a legacy of the Middle Ages. In that period, the loose-fitting academic gowns, which today are merely decorative, served a useful purpose—keeping warm in the drafty and unheated stone buildings of the medieval university. Academic hoods were equally useful for keeping the head warm. But then, as now, clothing served not only practical purposes, but was also a way to define status. When the practical uses of academic garb were superseded by central heating, the symbolic use remained.

Most academic gowns in the United States today are black. The unadorned bachelor's gown is the simplest in design. The master's gown is somewhat more ample, with a peculiar half-sleeve. The doctoral gown is yet more generous of cut and distinguished by velvet facing and three velvet chevrons on the sleeve. The velvet may be black, or it may reflect the color of the wearer's degree. You will notice, however, that some faculty are more colorfully attired. These more splendid gowns have traditionally denoted degrees from European universities, where each institution prescribes its own regalia. In recent years, however, American institutions have increasingly departed from the somber black and adopted their own more colorful garb for doctoral degrees.

Academic hoods reflect both the wearer's degree by the size of the hood and the color of the velvet trim, and the institution from which the degree was earned. At North Park University, hoods are worn by both graduates and faculty. The degree colors commonly found at North Park are:

White	Arts and Letters
Gold	Science
Apricot	Nursing
Pink	Music
Scarlet	Theology or Divinity
Peacock Blue	Community Development
Drab	Business Administration, Economics, Management
Light Blue	Education
Dark Blue	Philosophy
Purple	Law
Green	Medicine
Brown	Fine Arts

The hood linings carry the colors of the school at which the degree was earned.

For the graduates, the color is also reflected in the tassels. Some graduates are distinguished by gold cords worn around the neck. These are honor cords. One pair denotes honors (cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4-point scale), and two pair denotes high honors (3.75).

The medallion traditionally worn by the President of the University contains the seal of North Park University and is the symbol of the presidential office. The celtic cross worn by the Dean of the Seminary was presented to him at his installation as a symbol of his office.

The order of precedence in academic processions generally places those of highest rank toward the rear. In order of procession, the degree recipients enter first, led by the marshal, banner bearer, and crucifer, followed in order by faculty, administrators, and board members, and finally the platform party. The opposite order prevails for the recessional.

These centuries old customs reflected in today's ceremonies remind us that while "commencement" points to the future, that which is now "commencing," it is also a culmination. Our resources for dealing with either the present or future are necessarily drawn from the accumulated store of wisdom that belongs to the ages and is by each generation discovered and reworked anew.

North Park Theological Seminary Class of 1973

David H. Ahlberg

Wallace E. Almquist

Kenneth P. Carlson

Mark A. Johnson

Douglas E. Olson

Curtis D. Peterson

Gordon J. Schultz

Dale G. Tremper

Richard E. Wahlquist

Barry M. Wright

Acknowledgment of 2020 Graduate

Jillian C. Evans

Doctor of Ministry

Mark G. Dotson
"Christian Leadership in the Pulpit: Using Prophetic Imagination to Revive the Senior Congregation"

Terence Zaire Gadsden
"Hip-Hop Preaching: Preaching Using the Culture of Hip-Hop to Inspire College Students to Develop Their Christian Faith"

Natasha L. Robinson
"Becoming a Links Leader: A Training Manual for Women Mentoring African American Girls"

David Antonio Washington
"Equipping the Saints: Kingdom Covenant Church Residency for Leaders of African American Church Plants"

Master of Divinity

Talee L. R. Auerswald

Caesar Carlos Evangelista

Harun Henu Kunyu, *Honors* *

Cheryl Rae Meakins, *High Honors*

Matthew Scott Ness, *High Honors*

Kirsten Lauren Phillips, *High Honors*

Emily A. Seyler, *Honors* Dec. +

Carri Marie Stevens *

David Winston Swanson, *High Honors*

Phillip Kyle Tolbert, *Honors* Dec.

Master of Arts in Christian Formation

David M. Barboza, *Honors*

Kathryn Lee Falgien, *High Honors*

Joy Annette Fishler

Ellie K. Gundlach, *High Honors*

Rachel Mae Hart, *High Honors*

Dana Marie Huang, *High Honors*

Kristi Marie Ivanoff, *High Honors*

Christopher Kelley, *Honors* Dec.

Scott Christian Kirksey, *High Honors*

Timothy Loux

Hannah Fujioka Nielsen, *High Honors*

Zachary Asa Panis Pennell, *High Honors*

Serena Sinclair, *Honors*

Master of Arts in Christian Formation/Master of Nonprofit Administration

Chanel L. Kennedy-Bertrand

Samuel Vincent Mariano, *Honors*

Master of Arts in Christian Ministry

Mario Lorenzo Lucado +

Jasmin C. Turner

Katelyn Williams, *High Honors* *

Master of Arts in Christian Ministry/Master of Nonprofit Administration

Nils David Clauson, *Honors* +

Master of Arts in Restorative Justice Ministries

Andrea Jane Spicer, *High Honors* *

Antonio Balderas

David William Carter, *Honors*

James Eric Degorski

Sherron Maurice Dillon

Amotto Lee Jackson

Robert James John, *High Honors*

Michael Anthony Jones

Antonio Marquette Kendrick, *High Honors*

Kenneth Michael Key, *Honors*

Larry Luellen Jr., *High Honors*

Robert Maury, *Honors*

Ryan Alan Miller

Thomas William Mills III, *High Honors*

Ronald Anthony Steele

Marshall William Stewart, *High Honors*

Yarmale D. Thomas, *High Honors*

DeCedrick A. Walker, *High Honors*

Eric James Watkins, *High Honors*

Elton Williams, *Honors*

Master of Arts in Christian Ministry with Restorative Arts Track

Aryules Bivens

Benjamin William Meyer, *High Honors*

Todd Christopher Smith, *High Honors*

Jamie Lee Thomasson, *High Honors*

Vaughn L. Washington, *Honors*

+ In Absentia
* Pending completion of requirements
Dec. completed requirements December 2022

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