Wartourg Theological Seminary



Artwork by Hannah DiPasquale

CLASS OF 2023 BACCALAUREATE & COMMENCEMENT

The One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth Year May 14, 2023 11:00 a.m. CT & 3:00 p.m. CT

Details & Schedule of the Day

Class Verse | A Note from the Graduates | Schedule | Contents

CLASS VERSE 1 Peter 4:10

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

A NOTE FROM THE GRADUATES

Each one of us has had a unique Wartburg experience; no one's journey is exactly like another's. Through varying programs and degrees, timelines and locations, joys and challenges, we are the Class of 2023. God has instilled diverse gifts in each of us. Throughout this journey, these gifts have been named, enlivened, and strengthened for the journey yet to come. Now we branch out, stewarding and serving, all by the grace of God.

SCHEDULE

Baccalaureate begins at 11 a.m. CT. Those who pre-ordered boxed lunches are welcome to pick them up beginning at 12:30. You may enjoy your boxed lunch as an outdoor picnic, in your own living/eating space, or in the limited seating areas throughout the campus. Alternately, you are welcome to visit a local eatery for your lunch. Commencement begins at 3 p.m. CT. Both services will be livestreamed and accessible on our Facebook page (Facebook.com/WartburgSeminary/Live).

CONTENTS

This booklet includes the order for both Baccalaureate and Commencement services. Follow along using this booklet, beginning on page 4 for Baccalaureate and page 19 for Commencement, followed by acknowledgments and thanks on page 29. Thank you for joining us!

Baccalaureate

Holy Communion | Sixth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE Aria La Romanesca
Kathleen Scheide

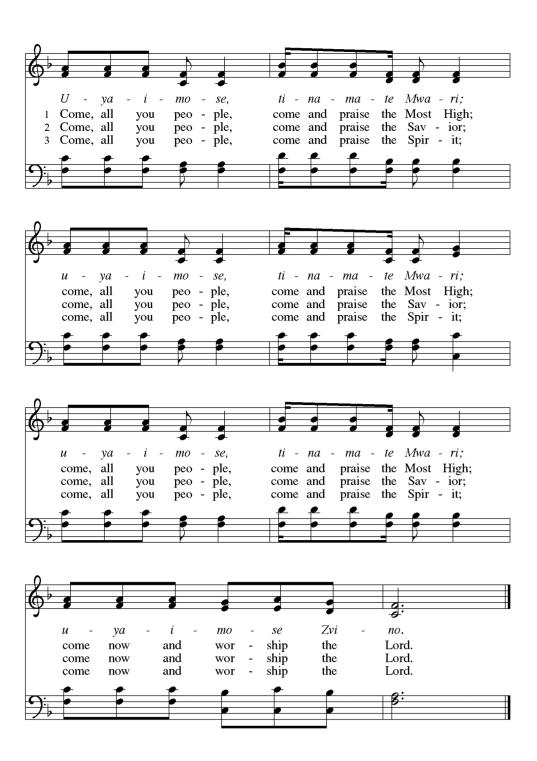
The assembly may stand and face the cross in procession.

GATHERING SONG

Come, All You People Uyaimose

The original language of this song is Shona. "Uyaimose tinamate Mwari" means "Come, all you people, come and praise God." "Uyaimose tinamate Zvino" means "Come now and worship the LORD."

The assembly sings each verse once, beginning with the verse in Shona. Then the assembly repeats the song in Shona until the procession is completed.



Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
† one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us
and all of creation.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

The cantor sings the verses and the assembly responds with the refrain.

Ky-ri - e



ev-'ry

day.

e - lei - son,

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Acts 17:22-31

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 66:8-20

The psalm for the day is sung in alternation between the piano side and the pulpit side. Online assembly members should sing with the pulpit side.



Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

⁸Bless our | God, you peoples;

let the sound of | praise be heard.

⁹Our God has kept us a- | mong the living and has not allowed our | feet to slip.

¹⁰For you, O God, have | tested us; you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.

¹¹You brought us in- | to the net; you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water, but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.

¹³I will enter your house | with burnt offerings and will pay | you my vows—

¹⁴those that I promised | with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.

¹⁵I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams; I will give you ox- | en and goats.

¹⁶Come and listen, all you | who believe, and I will tell you what God has | done for me.

- ¹⁷I called out to God | with my mouth, and praised the Lord | with my tongue.
- ¹⁸If I had cherished evil | in my heart, the Lord would | not have heard me;
- ¹⁹but in truth | God has heard me and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.
- ²⁰Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer, nor withheld unfailing | love from me.

SECOND READING

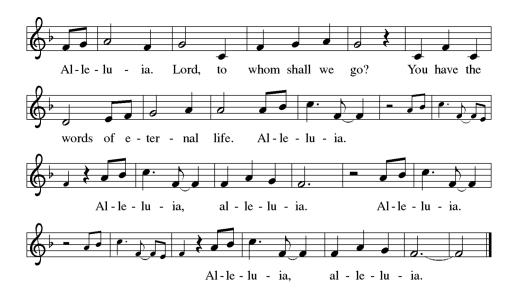
1 Peter 4:8-11

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Lamont Wells

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Advisor and Executive Director of the Network of ELCA Colleges and Universities

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayer Response

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

Prayer: An Offertory George Walker

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church. The graduating class has designated the offering to be shared between the River Bend Food Pantry and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. You may give using the QR code or by going to https://www.wartburgseminary.edu/payments/



The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

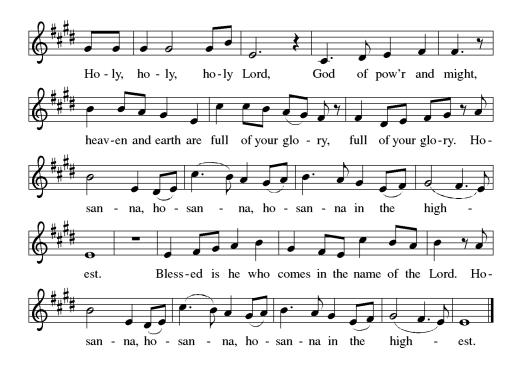
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, is truly present in the Lord's Supper, and that in this meal, our Lord gives forgiveness of sin, life. and salvation.

You are invited to receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ by eating the bread and drinking the wine or grape juice. An usher will invite you to take an empty cup and move toward the communion servers. The first server will offer you gluten free bread made in a mixed kitchen. The second server will pour wine—or the third server will pour grape juice—into your cup. You may place your cup in the basket provided as you return to your seat. If you cannot eat or drink one of the elements, be assured that Christ is fully present in either element alone.

Children are communed or blessed according to the practice of one's church or home congregation.

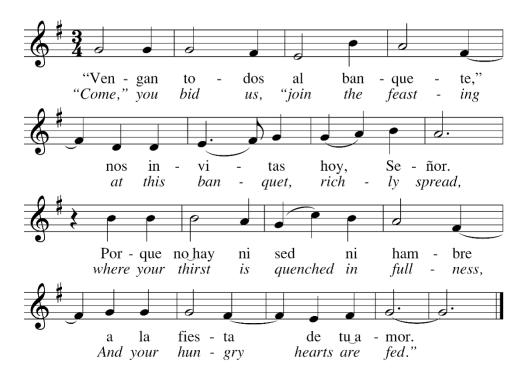
If you are physically unable to come forward, please notify an usher of your desire to commune.

If you desire to participate but do not wish to commune, we invite you to come forward with arms folded to hear Jesus' words of promise.

We celebrate this Holy Communion in the confidence that Christ is here in our midst, truly present for all.

SONG DURING COMMUNION

The cantor sings the verse, and the assembly responds with the refrain, using the language of the verse just sung.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

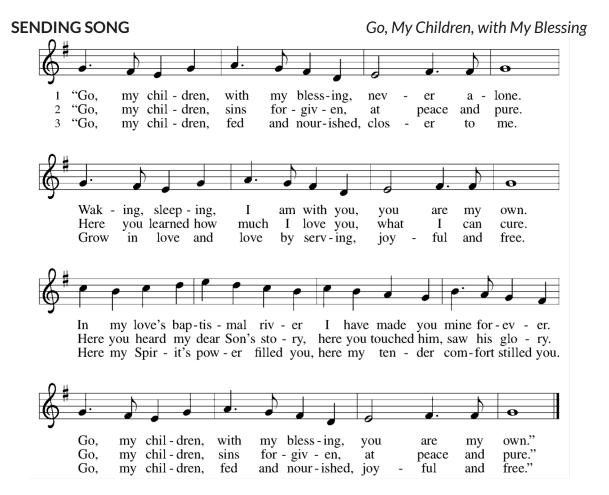
AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION

The members of the assembly affirm their various occupations of witness and service in Christ's name as they prepare to go forth into God's mission.

Beloved in Christ, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and play, all the days of your life? I will, and I ask God to help me.

BLESSING

The assembly turns to follow the cross as the worship leaders process out.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare and Chorale Calvin Fuller

Commencement

Wartburg Theological Seminary's One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth Year

PRELUDE

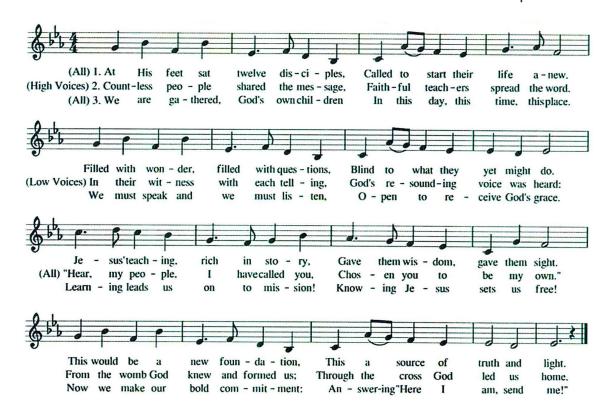
Le Banquet Céleste Olivier Messiaen

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will live in me and I in them."

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand in body and/or spirit.

At His Feet Tune: Michael Joncas Text: Ralph F. Smith



INVOCATION

Susan Ebertz

Associate Professor of Bibliography & Academic Research
Director of the Reu Memorial Library

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS

The Rev. Dr. Kristin Johnston Largen

President

The Honorary Doctor of Divinity



Kathleen D. (Kadi) Billman attended Muskingum College, and received her M.Div., Th.M, and Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Billman served at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, first as Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, then as Dean (1999-2009), and finally as the John H. Tietjen Professor of Pastoral Ministry: Pastoral Theology. Since 2009, Dr. Billman has served as co-editor (with Dr. Craig Nessan) of *Currents in Theology and Mission*, a joint venture of LSTC and Wartburg Seminary. Dr. Billman was married to James F. (Jim) Galuhn until his death in

2018. Their son Adam is married to Kaylee, and they have two children, James and Charles. On January 1, 2023, Dr. Billman married her dear friend Daniel Migliore. They live in Princeton, NJ, where they enjoy frequent theological conversations, thought-provoking movies, and duets on the piano (Kadi) and clarinet (Dan).

The Living Loehe Award



Knut Holter was born in Oslo in 1958. In 1980 he married Berly and the two have three children and eight grandchildren. He did an M.Th. at the School of Mission and Theology (Stavanger) in 1985 and a Ph.D. at the University of Oslo in 1993. He was ordained in the Church of Norway (Lutheran) in 1986 and serves regularly as pastor and Sunday school teacher in his home congregation. Throughout most of his career, Holter worked at the School of Mission and Theology (today part of VID Specialized University), as a Professor of Biblical Studies from 2002 to 2022, and as President

from 2004 to 2010. Since 2022 he has been Professor at NLA University College (Bergen). For the last 25 years, his main research and publishing focus has been on African interpretive strategies vis-à-vis the Old Testament, from three perspectives: first, networking with and analysis of the first two generations of African Old Testament scholars; second, analysis of examples of popular Old Testament interpretation in Nigeria and Madagascar; and third, analysis of colonial Old Testament interpretation in relation to Africa.



Kelly Sherman-Conroy; Mato Wašté Winyan (Good Bear Woman), is a member of the Oglala Lakota Nation. An Indigenous theologian, Dr. Sherman-Conroy specializes in social justice, racial and ethnic diversity, trauma and healing, Indigenous leadership, and community. She is the first Native woman theologian to have earned a Ph.D. in the ELCA, with a dissertation focused on "The Reclamation of Lakota Spiritual Sovereignty." She brings a theological perspective emphasizing Indigenous spirituality, history, and culture, specifically how these influence Christianity and interreligious di-

alogue, and help Indigenous people heal from trauma. Walking with people of all cultures, she actively provides ministry around the exploration of intersections of identity, personal narratives, and faith. Dr. Sherman-Conroy is a devoted mother to her young son Ciaran, and deeply values her connections with friends and family, and she honors her Indigenous ancestors by inspiring people to make a difference.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy

HYMN OF THE DAY

Please stand in body and/or spirit.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dr. Kristine Stache Professor of Missional Leadership and Loehe Professor in Mission Vice President For Leadership Formation

The assembly is seated.

The Conferring of Academic Degrees & Citations

The Rev. Dr. Kristin Johnston Largen, President of the Seminary Kathy Patrick, Chair, Board of Directors The Rev. Dr. Nathan Frambach, Interim Academic Dean

WARTBURG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY CLASS OF 2023

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

Dorothee Marie Caspari

TEEM CERTIFICATE

(Theological Education for Emerging Ministries)
Susan Harriett Cira
Chad A. Duffy
Deborah Lynn Hammer
Vicki L. Hedger
Donna Jean Krueger
Robert John Ossefoort
Brenda Rodger
Rex Norman Rogers
Jennifer Kay Sosinski

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN DIACONAL MINISTRY

Jennifer Jane Elsenbroek

CERTIFICATE FOR LUTHERAN LEARNING & FORMATION

Connor Freeman # Michael Schulte *

THE DEGREE MASTER OF ARTS

Joshua C. Gomez *
Katherine Anne Kemp
Leah Elaine Kieler
Wendi S. Van Beek

THE DEGREE MASTER OF ARTS IN DIACONAL MINISTRY

Jennifer Joy Willmschen Barker
Aimee Lynn Denison Elles
Eric Nathan Haitz
Amy Margurite Sowers Mambu *
Jessica Marie Heinz McCarty
Jennifer Claire Watson

THE DEGREE MASTER OF DIVINITY

Nathaniel Peter Adkins Lars Henrik Anderson Edwin Alexander Aparicio Ortez Callie Caroline Arendt Rebecca Vesti Baird John William Baynton Christina Kay Beauvais Angela C. Chacón (M) Myron Vernon Crawford Holly Bradley Cummings Nichole Janeane D'Onofrio Hannah Marie Drewes DiPasquale Joseph Alan Doegen Jonas Ellison **Emily Christine Erisman** Katie Rode Evans Jonathan Richard Fry Laurie Elizabeth Hensley (RM) Cheryl Ann Herreid Candice Ann Hinkle

Suzanne H. Hoff Elise Meredith Hynek Wesley Joy Isberner Robin Johnson (M) Patrick E. Kaley Marla Anne Wood Kay + Amy Elizabeth Kelly Wesley Alexander Kimball Sara J. Larson Eric J. Locke Jonathan Edward Lys Sean Thomas McConathy Ruth Suzanne Mhanga Rebekah Katherine W. Nelson Gretchen R. Olson Kopp Roger A. Raddatz Matthew William Goodwin Rossler Kurt Matthew Saenger-Heyl Melissa Anne Salminen Haley Anne Schepers Glenn LaRue Schrader Jr (M) Daniel John Shimon Katy Duaan Tomlanovich Madeleine Ruth Tyler Alisha Abigail Ungs Laura Renee Waltermire Anthony Gerard Windau

Key:

* in absentia (absent)

+ completing course requirements in Fall Semester 2023
 # completing internship in 2023-2024
 (M) completed Mission Development/Redevelopment Concentration
 (RM) completed Rural Ministry Concentration

CHARGE TO THE CLASS OF 2023

The Rev. Dr. Kristin Johnston Largen President

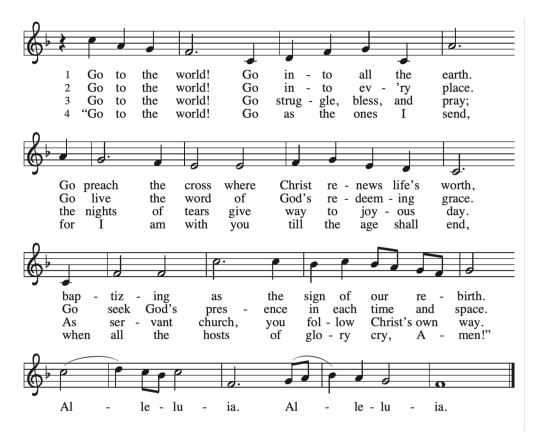
CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Schattauer Emeritus Professor of Liturgics

Please stand in body and/or spirit.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Go to the World



POSTLUDE

Hymne d'Action de Grâce 'Te Deum' Jean Langlais

Special Thanks

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Preacher The Rev Lamont Wells DEI Strategic Advisor and

Executive Director of the Network of

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Edwin Aparicio-Ortez Lectors M.Div. Graduating Student

> John Baynton M.Div. Graduating Student Wendi Van Beek M.A. Graduating Student

Crucifer Laura Waltermire M.Div. Graduating Student

Torch Bearers M.Div. Graduating Student Callie Arendt

> Cheryl Herreid M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student **Emily Erisman** Jonathan Lys M.Div. Graduating Student

Bible Bearer Elise Hynek M.Div. Graduating Student

Nathaniel Adkins M.Div. Graduating Student Streamer and **Shaker Procession**

MADM First Year Student Liz Locke

Ruthie Mhanga M.Div. Graduating Student Children of Graduating Students

Communion Chad Duffy TEEM Certificate Student Jen Elsenbroek Advanced Certificate in Diaconal Ministry **Assistants** Katie Rode Evans

M.Div. Graduating Student

	Connor Freeman Jon Fry Robin Johnson Marla Kay Kurt Saenger-Heyl Alisha Ungs	Certificate for Lutheran Learning and Formation M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student
Flagon Bearers	Deacon Kellie Lisi The Rev. Blake Shipman	Director of Community Life and Candidacy Development Officer
Ushers	Mark Glazener The Rev. Dr. John Largen The Rev. Dr. Kristin Largen Dr. Man-Hei Yip	M.Div. Continuing Year Student Spouse President Assistant Professor of Systematics
Musicians Organ/ Piano Cantor Percussion Violin Guitar	Dr. David Pitt Angela Chacón Maddy Tyler Tina Beauvais Dan Shimon	Seminary Cantor M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student M.Div. Graduating Student
Technology	Ted Winders	Technology Director
Chapel Staff		
Sacristans	Nathaniel Adkins Connor Freeman	M.Div. Graduating Student Certificate for Lutheran Learning and Formation
Digital Sacristans/ Chapel Assistants	Mark Glazener Maddy Tyler	M.Div. Continuing Year Student M.Div. Graduating Student
Chapel Musician	Katie Ohren	M.Div. Continuing Year Student
Sexton	Sam Trottier	M.Div. Continuing Year Student

COMMENCEMENT

Ushers Brittany Barkus M.Div. Continuing Year Student

Mark Glazener M.Div. Continuing Year Student

The Rev. Stacey Nalean-Carlson Director for Contextual

Education

Crucifix Bearer Lisa Robison M.Div. Continuing Year Student

Torch Bearers Ethan Edsall M.Div. First Year Student

Zachary Bell-Nance M.Div. Continuing Year Student

Banner Bearer Katherine (Kit) Mackenzie M.Div. First Year Student

Cantor/Organist Dr. David Pitt Seminary Cantor

Bagpiper The Rev. Dr. Sam Giere Professor of Biblical Interpretation

Faculty Host for The Rev. Dr. Troy Troftgruben Associate Professor of **Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy** New Testament

The William A. & John E. Wagner

Professor in Biblical Theology

Faculty Host for Dr. Beth Elness-Hanson Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible

The Rev. Dr. Knut Holter

Faculty Host for The Rev. Dr. Jan Schnell Assistant Professor of Liturgics

Dr. Kathleen Billman

Faculty Marshal Dr. Kevin Anderson Registrar

Assistant to the Jeanette Perrault Director of Admissions

Faculty Marshal

Faculty

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Jan Schnell

Assistant Professor of Liturgics

Kristine Stache

Vice President for Leadership Formation, The Loehe Professor in Mission, and Professor of Missional Leadership

Troy Troftgruben

The William A. and John E. Wagner Chair of Biblical Theology, and Associate Professor of New Testament

Man-Hei Yip

Assistant Professor of Systematics

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May Burt Persaud

Instructor in Biblical Languages

M. DeWayne Teig

Instructor in the Pastoral Arts and Advisor for TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries)

Mark Yackel-Juleen

Director of Small Town and Rural (STaR) Ministries, and Part-time Instructor in Rural Ministry

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FOUNDED IN 1854, WARTBURG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IS A SEMINARY OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

Wartburg Theological Seminary serves the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by being a worship-centered community of critical theological reflection where learning leads to mission and mission informs learning.

Within this community, Wartburg educates students to serve the church's mission as ordained and lay leaders. This mission is to proclaim and interpret the gospel of Jesus Christ to a world created for communion with God and in need of personal and social healing.

