



# *Baccalaureate*

The Service of Praise and Consecration

Friday, May 6, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Chapel of our Lord | [CUChicago.edu/Live](https://CUChicago.edu/Live)

## *Through Him. For Him.*

Colossians 1:16

*For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. (ESV)*

**S**t. Paul's words to the Christians at Colossae peer into the deep mystery of the person and work of Christ Jesus. Revealed as both fully God and fully human, the divine Christ was present at the beginning, Himself as the Word, the means through which all things came to be. Through Him all things—spiritual or physical, visible or invisible—came to be; even now all powers, earthly or heavenly, receive life-sustaining power solely through Him.

But all things were also created *for Him*. In connection with Christ all things hold together, as our very selves are directed toward Him in faith. Christ Jesus receives all honor, glory and praise for the greatest of all our accomplishments. United in Him, and with one another through baptism and brought into His kingdom of light, we rejoice in the salvation given to us by His blood.

A Christian university ceases to be Christian if it is not “Through Him. For Him.” Education, learning and knowledge are gifts of divine creative power. Received from Him, they return to Him in praise and then flow outward to our neighbor in love and service. How unlike our secular institutions of higher learning is a university like Concordia-Chicago! All that we do in this place has sacred, divine meaning because He is both our “source and our destination” (st. 1 of our University Hymn).

Though most familiar as a Christmas text, Concordia-Chicago's hymn of the year, “Of the Father's Love Begotten” (LSB 384) conveys the same message of Colossians 1:16. As we sing the beloved phrase “He is Alpha and Omega,/ He the source the ending He,” we sing of the mystery of the Incarnation—God with us in all things. Though begotten from the Father before all worlds, God the Son took on flesh and blood for us and for our salvation. A new setting of this ancient hymn by our own Professor Jonathan Kohrs BA '85, MCM '93 joins our voices with all created things in praise:

O Ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;

Angel hosts, His praises sing.

Pow'r's, dominions, bow before Him

And extol our God and King. (st. 4)

Let us sing this hymn, then, not just at Christmas, but throughout this academic year, with awe and love for the God who gave everything for us so that all our endeavors might be “Through Him. For Him.”

~Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Leininger

## PRELUDE

*Aria in Classic Style*

*O Gracious Light*

O gracious Light, pure brightness  
of the ever-living Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!  
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
You are worthy at all times  
to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

—*Phos hilaron*, Greek 3<sup>rd</sup> century, trans.  
American Book of Common Prayer, 1979

Marcel Grandjany

Howard Helvey

## INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

*(stand and face the procession)*

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P Christ is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation.

**C By Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.**

P Thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—

**C all things were created through Him and for Him.**

P Come, let us celebrate God's abundant blessings upon this place and in our lives!

**C Let us join our voices with the whole Church, the angels and all creation!**

P Through Christ we have been brought into the kingdom of light.

**C We have peace by the blood of His cross.**

*(Colossians 1:16)*

# HYMN

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

setting by Jonathan Kohrs BA '85, MCM '93

The musical score is written on five staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words in italics. The lyrics are:   
All Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -   
Women Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,   
Choir This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with   
All O ye heights of heav'n a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His   
All Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly   
gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,   
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,   
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets   
prais - es sing, Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him   
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing   
He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that   
Bore the Sav - ior of our race; Men And the babe, the   
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the   
And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on   
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry,   
are, that have been, And that fu - ture years shall see   
world's Re - deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face   
long - ex - pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord   
earth be si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring   
and do - min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry   
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!   
All Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!   
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.   
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!   
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c. 413; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, sts. 1-4, alt.;  
tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, st. 5  
Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
87 87 877

Text and tune: Public domain

# COLLECT

## FIRST READING

John 8:31-36

*(sit)*

Jesus then said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will be made free?’” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not continue in the house for ever; the son continues for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. (RSV)

## SECOND READING

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (ESV)

## HOMILY

Rev. Spencer Mielke



# UNIVERSITY HYMN

(stand)

*O God Our Father, Source and Destination*

Text: David Rogner BA '82  
Music: Carl Schalk HS '47, BS '52

1 O God our Fa - ther, source and des - ti - na - tion,  
2 O Christ our Sav - ior, light of ev - 'ry na - tion,  
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, fin - ish your cre - a - tion,

Our ev - er - last - ing hope and con - stant stay,  
We praise you for the saints who la - bored here  
By grant - ing pow'r and wis - dom from a - bove

Your migh - ty arm has won for us sal - va - tion,  
To build a house up - on your sure foun - da - tion,  
That we may glad - ly serve in our vo - ca - tion

Your gra - cious hand has led us on the way.  
And bear your light through ev - 'ry pass - ing year.  
As true dis - ci - ples, quick - ened by your love.

Pre - serve us now and grant that we  
Help us pro - claim, as they have done,  
And give us thank - ful hearts to raise

Hold fast the truth that makes us free  
The truth of our re - demp - tion won  
A nev - er - end - ing song of praise

As we con - tin - ue in your Word.  
As we con - tin - ue in your Word.  
As we con - tin - ue in your Word.

## RECOGNITION OF VOCATION FOR ALL GRADUATES

*(sit)*

**University President:** Dear members of the class of 2022, the mission of Concordia University Chicago underscores the idea of vocation—that all Christians are called in baptism by our Lord to serve faithfully, whatever their station in life. Whether in the home, in an occupation, in the institutions of society or in the Church, we are all to regard our undertakings as callings from God—vocations done to the best of our ability in service to others, in response to His love and for His glory.

**Rev. Anderson:** Hear the words of St. Paul, from Philippians 4:8-9: “Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.”

**University President:** These graduates are pleased to present themselves, collectively and individually, to the Church.

**Rev. Anderson:** On behalf of the Church, I accept with joy these members of the class of 2022—gifts of God’s grace. I now ask you to affirm your intention to serve God and His people.

All Graduates: **We desire to serve God and His people as servants of Christ, and as extensions of His love to a world in need. We ask the Lord to use us and our talents in the Church and the world according to His will and for His glory. We seek the Lord’s blessings on our work and service, all in the name of Christ.**

**Rev. Anderson:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All Graduates: **Thanks be to God!**

## RECOGNITION OF THOSE COMPLETING CHURCH PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

**University President:** Some of you have come together to affirm your intention to serve in the commissioned ministries of the Church. Others of you may be continuing your vocational development in seminary education. As you do so, let me remind you that your work in the called ministries of the Church is but a special opportunity to live out your baptismal vocations from God.

Therefore, I ask you now to affirm your intention to serve God and His people in the specific called ministries of the Church, giving glory to God in word and deed through your service.

Church-Professional Graduates: **We do so intend, with the help of God.**

## PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

## ANTHEM

*Christ Is with Me*

Gerald Patrick Coleman

We were buried with him into death,  
That as he was raised by God's glory,  
We might walk in life made new by grace.  
Having died with Christ, we shall live with him.

I have now been grafted to the vine,  
Drawing life from roots, rich in mercy,  
Bearing fruit as I abide in him:  
Fruit forever fresh, glorifying God.

*Christ is with me everywhere I go,  
Never to leave me, this I know.*

*Christ is with me everywhere I go,  
Never to leave me, this I know.*

I have now been crucified with Christ,  
I no longer live, Christ lives in me.  
Now I live by faith in God's own Son,  
One who loved me so – gave himself for me.

*Christ is with me everywhere I go,  
Never to leave me, this I know.*

—Gerald Patrick Coleman,  
passages from John 15, Romans 6 and Galatians 2

## PRAYERS

*(stand)*

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C 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;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.**

## CHORAL BLESSING

*May You Abound with Hope*

Anne Krentz Organ

May the God of hope fill you with joy,  
May the God of hope fill you with peace,  
peace in believing,  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
may you abound in hope.

—Romans 15:13, adapted by Anne Krentz Organ

## BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

**C Amen.**



## RECESSIONAL HYMN

*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*  
(Choir sings stanza 3)

Les Petite Soeurs de Jesus and L'Arche Community  
setting, Jonathan Kohrs

1 Lord, Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord, Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
*Choir* 3 As long as I live, Je - sus make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song,  
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
And with all of the fam - ily you saved by your love,

Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
Lord, Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
As long as I live, Je - sus make me your ser - vant.  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

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## POSTLUDE

*Christ Is Arisen*

Gerald Near

## CHURCH PROFESSIONAL CANDIDATES

### Deaconess

Emma Heinz  
Abigail Meyer

### Director of Parish Music (DPM)

Peter Stigdon

### Lutheran Teacher Education (LTE)

Alexandria Clasen  
Michelle Frerking  
Madalyn Graves  
Abigail Mielke  
Jacob Mills  
Jesse Muehler  
Rachel Mueller  
Mikala Perino  
Aaron Reynolds

### Completing Pre-Seminary Requirements and Recommended to the Seminary

Noah Dunsmore

### Recommended to Seminary

Jack Engelder

### Director of Christian Education (DCE)

Aaron Finkel  
Andrew Kaufmann

## SOLI DEO GLORIA

### PREACHER

Spencer Mielke  
Pastor, Trinity Lutheran, Elkhart, IN

### OFFICIANTS

Russell Dawn, DPhil  
President, Concordia University Chicago  
Jeffrey Leininger, PhD  
University Pastor and Pre-Seminary Program Director  
Steven Anderson  
East Region Vice-President, Northern Illinois District, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### LECTORS

Debbie Arfsten, PhD, Director of Christian Education Program  
Jared Stiek MA '15, Lutheran Teacher Education Program

### MUSICIANS

*Kapelle*, Charles P. Brown, DMA, directing  
Steven Wentz BA '75, MCM '76, DMus  
Chapel Organist, Emeritus  
Jonathan Kohrs BA '85, MCM '93, MFA  
Music Department Chair  
Members of the Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony

### PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Debbie Arfsten, PhD, Director of Christian Education Program  
Jeffrey Leininger, PhD, Pre-Seminary Program  
Jonathan Kohrs BA '85, MCM '93, MFA, Director of Parish Music Program  
Jared Stiek MA '15, Lutheran Teacher Education Program  
Kristin Wassilak BA '86, MA '96, Deaconess Program

***Truth~Freedom~Vocation***

*"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,  
and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

*–John 8:31-32*

