

A CONVOCATION
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
FOR
THE ADMISSION TO THE ORDER OF THE GOWN
AND
THE CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES



ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL
SEWANEE, TENNESSEE

4:30 P.M.
FRIDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2023

CONVOCAATION OF THE UNIVERSITY

At 4:20 p.m. the Mildred and George Bentley Change Ringing Bells in Breslin Tower ring and the Academic Procession leaves Walsh-Ellett Hall.

As the Procession enters the Chapel, the Congregation stands and joins in the singing of this Hymn.

Hymn at the Procession

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

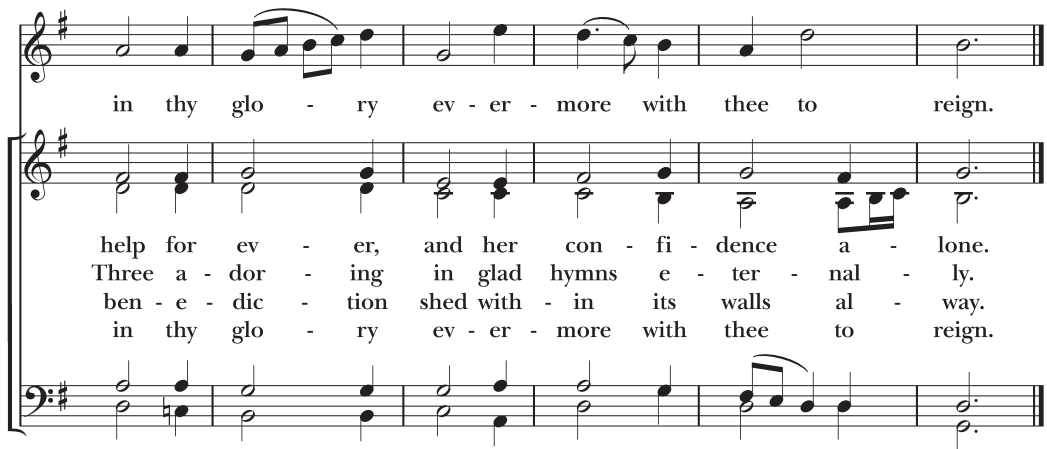
1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
 help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818–1856), alt. Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659–1695), adapt.: desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929). Descant by permission of Church Society, London. All rights reserved. Used with permission. From the 1982 *Hymnal* reproduced by permission of Church Publishing, CCLI #383702 or One License.net. #A-702255.

The University Chaplain opens the Convocation, saying

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Chaplain

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good; for the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Once the Congregation is seated, the Choir sings this Psalm.

Psalm 133..... *Ecce quam bonum* Anglican Chant by
 C. Hylton Stewart (1884–1932)

Behold how good and pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!
 It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard,
 Upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down the collar of his robe.
 It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion.
 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: life forever more.
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

THE FIRST READING Proverbs 2:1-15

Taken from the wisdom tradition of the Hebrew Bible (or Christian Old Testament), this reading speaks to the value of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding;
if you indeed cry out for insight,
and raise your voice for understanding;
if you seek it like silver,
and search for it as for hidden treasures—
then you will understand the fear of the Lord
and find the knowledge of God.
For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,
guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.
Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path;
for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;
prudence will watch over you;
and understanding will guard you.

THE SECOND READING Quran 4:135

This reading, from chapter four of the Quran in the Islamic tradition, speaks to the responsibility of every member of society to uphold the ideals of justice.

You who believe, uphold justice and bear witness to God, even if it is against yourselves, your parents, or your close relatives. Whether the person is rich or poor, God can best take care of both, Refrain from following your own desire, so that you can act justly-if you distort or neglect justice, God is fully aware of what you do.

The Choir then sings the following.

Hark, I Hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore, As I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar. Halelujah, Halelujah, Halelujah praise the lamb,
Halelujah, Halelujah, Glory to the great I AM.
And my soul though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day, Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.
Halelujah, Halelujah, Halelujah praise the lamb,
Halelujah, Halelujah, Glory to the great I AM.
Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest; And I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest. Halelujah, Halelujah, Halelujah praise the lamb,
Halelujah, Halelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

All stand, as the University Chaplain invites the community to prayer.

Chaplain and People 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Chaplain Gracious God, we pray for this University. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. *Amen.*

*The Congregation is seated for the Announcement of Awards, the Conferring of Honorary Degrees, and the Convocation Address.
(A listing of these awards and honors will be available on the University's website shortly after the Convocation.)*

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS AND HONORS

Scott H. Wilson
Acting Provost

THE CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS
Malcolm Holzman

DOCTOR OF LETTERS
Natasha Trethewey

DOCTOR OF DIVINITY
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson

PROCANCELLARIUS: Cancellarie reverendissime, exornare honoribus bene meritos meritasque est proprium munus huius Universitatis. Gratissimum igitur mihi est tibi praesentare hos homines ab Universitatis Meridianae Regentibus et Senatu doctores honoris causa creatos qui ad illum gradum proferantur atque quibus diplomata pro huius rei testimonium dentur.

CANCELLARIUS: Auctoritate huius Universitatis mihi commissa, admitto te ad gradum Doctorem in Bellis Artibus/Doctorem in Litteris/Doctorem in Divinitate honoris causa, et omnia dona, jura, privilegia, honores, dignitates, et potestates quae aut hic aut alibi ad istum gradum quocumque modo pertinent, do et concedo.

In nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.

PROCANCELLARIUS: Huius rei hoc diploma testimonium sit.

VICE-CHANCELLOR: Most reverend Chancellor, a proper function of this University is to adorn with honors those who are well deserving. It is, therefore, most pleasing to me to present to you these persons, who have been created honorary doctors by the Board of Regents and the Senate of the University of the South, who are to be advanced to this degree and to whom diplomas are to be given as evidence of this act.

CHANCELLOR: By the authority of this University vested in me, I admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts/Doctor of Letters/Doctor of Divinity, and give and grant all of the gifts, rights, privileges, honors, dignities, and powers which here or elsewhere pertain in any way to that degree.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

VICE-CHANCELLOR: Let this diploma be witness to this act.

THE CONVOCATION ADDRESS The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson

THE ADMISSION TO THE ORDER OF THE GOWN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Congregation remains seated as the president of the Order of the Gown, Sofie Behr, announces the new members of the Order. When their name is read aloud, the student exits the chapel accompanied by the individual who will confer their gown, and proceeds to the Quadrangle. In the event of rain, all students will remain in the chapel for the duration of the service.

Once all students being gowned have reached the quadrangle, the University Choir will lead everyone in singing

ALMA MATER, SEWANEE,
My glorious Mother ever be.
I will give my all to thee—
God bless thee to eternity.
Thou canst make me worth the while,
O guide and shelter me,
And all my life, through storm and strife,
My star thou'lt be.

Newton Middleton
Class of 1909

The Chancellor prays the University Prayer.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we Thy servants implore Thy blessing upon this University. Give the spirit of Wisdom to all those to whom Thou hast given the authority of teaching and of government. Let the students grow in grace day by day; enlighten their minds, purify their hearts, and sanctify their wills. Bless all who have contributed to this institution; and raise up to the University, we humbly pray Thee, a never-failing succession of benefactors; through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Vice-Chancellor closes the ceremony with remarks and the following.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Vice-Chancellor, I declare you members of the Order of the Gown and confer on you all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of the Order. You may now put on your gowns.

All are invited to enjoy the picnic on the Quad as we celebrate the achievements of our students.

THE BELLS OF THE UNIVERSITY CARILLON

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HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS

MALCOLM HOLZMAN is an American architect who practices in New York City. He is a partner of Steinberg Hart and was founding partner of Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture and Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates. Holzman's buildings and interiors are acknowledged for their evocative nature, technical vision, and singular character. He has completed 140 commissions in 32 states, including Sewanee's McClurg Dining Hall—which was named one of 15 best-designed university dining halls by *Architectural Digest* in 2022. His work shows a diversity of design solutions, reflecting a wide range of public building types and the application of materials unique to the region of each project. In addition to enhancing the built environment, he contributes to national design publications. He authored *A Material Life: Adventures and Discoveries in Materials Research*; and *Stone Work: Designing with Stone*. He also co-authored *Theaters 1* and *Theaters 2: Partnerships in Facility Use*, in addition to contributing to two firm monographs and spearheading research for *Movie Palaces: Renaissance and Reuse and Reusing Railroad Stations*. Holzman is a member of the American Institute of Architects College of Fellows. Over his years of practice, he has been widely recognized, earning a place in the Interior Design Hall of Fame and the Honor Society of Architecture and the Allied Arts. He received the Pratt Institute Distinguished Alumni Award, the Gold Medal from Tau Sigma Delta, the first James Daniel Bybee Prize, the Bruner Prize, 10 national American Institute of Architects (AIA) project awards in addition to 100 single project awards, and the AIA Firm Award.

DOCTOR OF LETTERS

NATASHA TRETHERWEY served two terms as the 19th poet laureate of the United States (2012–2014) while also serving as the poet laureate of her home state of Mississippi (2012–2016). She is the author of five collections of poetry, including *Native Guard* (2006)—for which she was awarded the 2007 Pulitzer Prize—and, most recently, *Monument: Poems New and Selected* (2018); a book of nonfiction, *Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast* (2010); and a memoir, *Memorial Drive* (2020), an instant *New York Times* bestseller. Trethewey delivered the Stacy Allen Haines Lecture at Sewanee in 2022. She is the recipient of fellowships from the Academy of American Poets, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Beinecke Library at Yale, and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the American Philosophical Society. In 2017, she received the Heinz Award for Arts and Humanities. A chancellor of the Academy of American Poets since 2019, Trethewey was awarded the 2020 Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt Prize in Poetry for Lifetime Achievement from the Library of Congress. In 2022, she was the William B. Hart Poet in Residence at the American Academy in Rome. Trethewey earned a B.A. in English from the University of Georgia, an M.A. in English and creative writing from Hollins University, and an M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1995. Currently, she is Board of Trustees Professor of English at Northwestern University.

DOCTOR OF DIVINITY

V. GENE ROBINSON was elected bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire on June 7, 2003, becoming the church's first openly gay and partnered bishop. After a decade serving as bishop of New Hampshire, he worked as a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, speaking and writing on national and international LGBT issues, race, poverty, and immigration reform. Most recently, he served as vice president of religion and senior pastor at Chautauqua Institution in western New York. In his retirement, he is serving as a part of the worship team at the Washington National Cathedral. Robinson graduated from Sewanee in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in history. In 1973, he earned a master of divinity degree at the General Theological Seminary in New York. In 1975, he moved to New Hampshire, where he founded Sign of the Dove Retreat Center—which includes a residential summer camp for girls designed to instill participants with a renewed sense

of hope and stronger sense of self. In the early 1980s, he helped create the Episcopal Youth Event, a gathering of high-schoolers from around the world, which continues to this day. He has done AIDS work around the world and authored three AIDS curricula. Bishop Robinson has been particularly active in the area of full civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people, and other marginalized communities, and has spoken and lobbied for equal protection under the law and full civil marriage rights. His first book, *In the Eye of the Storm: Swept to the Center by God*, was published in 2008. In 2012, he authored *God Believes in Love: Straight Talk About Gay Marriage*, contributing to the national debate about marriage equality. He has been the subject of two feature-length documentaries: *For the Bible Tells Me So*, which premiered at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, and *Love Free or Die*, which also premiered at Sundance, in 2012, winning the Special Jury Prize.

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ORDER OF THE GOWN

Among Sewanee's many customs, none perhaps is more distinctive than the wearing of the gown by students and faculty. Gowns were originally authorized to be worn by all students in 1871, and the Order of Gownsmen was established in 1873 at the instigation of Chaplain William Porcher DuBose. The students who are members of the Order have worn the gown as a badge of academic distinction ever since. The Order of Gownsmen (shortened to the Order of the Gown in March 2017) was the original and only form of the student government until the 1960s, when the Delegate Assembly was created. Today, the Order advises the Student Government. It is also uniquely charged with the maintenance and promotion of the spirit, traditions, and ideals of the University.



THE RT. REV. JACOB W. OWENSBY, B.A., M.A., M.DIV., PH.D.
Chancellor

ROBERT W. PEARIGEN, B.A., M.A., PH.D.
Vice-Chancellor and President

SCOTT H. WILSON, B.A., M.A., PH.D.
Acting Provost

BETSY A. SANDLIN, B.A., M.A., PH.D.
Interim Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College

THE VERY REV. JAMES F. TURRELL, B.A., M.A., M.DIV., PH.D.
Vice Provost and Dean of the School of Theology

THE REV. PETER W. GRAY, B.A., M.T.S., M.DIV.
University Chaplain

THE REV. MELISSA M. HARTLEY, B.A., M.DIV., S.T.M., PH.D.
Senior Associate University Chaplain

GEOFFREY H. WARD, B.MUS., B.ED., A.R.C.T., M.MUS., A.R.C.C.O., D.M.A.
University Organist and Choirmaster

DAVID H. W. SHIPPS SR., B.A., M.B.A.
University Marshal



ECCE QUAM BONUM