The University of the South Sewanee, Tennessee

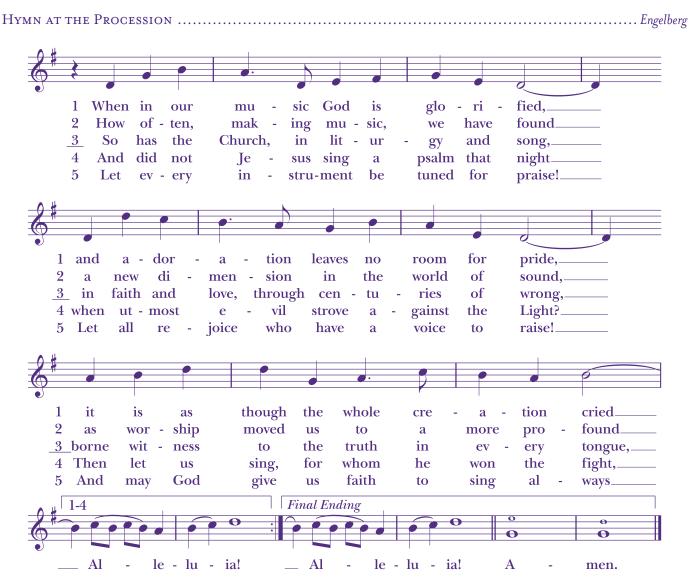
The Baccalaureate Service in the One Hundred Sixty-sixth Year of The University of the South and The Installation of the Chancellor and The Awarding of the Sewanee Medal and

The Conferring of an Honorary Degree

Saturday, May 13, 2023 10 a.m. All Saints' Chapel

#### MORNING PRAYER

At 9:50 a.m. the Mildred and George Bentley Memorial Change Ringing Bells in Breslin Tower ring and the procession leaves Walsh-Ellett Hall. As the procession enters the Chapel, the congregation stands and joins in the singing of this hymn.



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#### Welcome

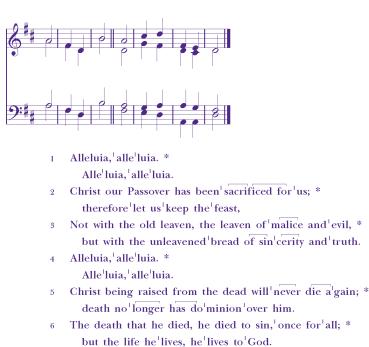
Chaplain On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Chaplain Lord, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

#### Chaplain and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.



- 7 So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*
- and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 8 Alleluia, 'alle'luia. \*
- Alle'Iuia,'alle'Iuia.
- 9 Christ has been 'raised from the dead, \* the first fruits of those who have fallen a sleep.
- 10 For since by a man came death, \*
  - by a man has come also the resurfrection of the dead.
- 11 For as in Adam all die, \*
- so also in Christ shall all be made a live.
- 12 Alleluia, 'alle'luia. \* Alle'luia, 'alle'luia.
- Music: Oxford Chant. From The Hymnal 1982, © by The Church Pension Fund.

#### Once the congregation is seated, the choir sings

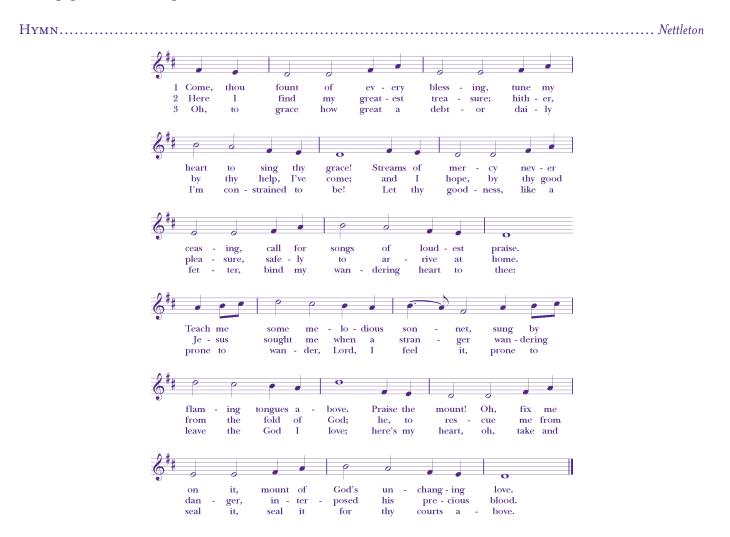
PSALM 133 ..... Ecce quam bonum ..... Anglican Chant by C. Hylton Stewart (1884–1932)

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 READING......Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 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.

The congregation stands and sings



Words: Robert Robinson (1735–1790), alt. Music: Nettleton, melody from A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813. The congregation remains standing and says together

### The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Chaplain The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Chaplain Let us pray.

# 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.

# The Suffrages

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
- R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
- V. Day by day we bless you;
- R. We praise your Name for ever.
- V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
- R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
- R. For we put our trust in you.
- V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
- R. And we shall never hope in vain.

# A collect for Saturdays

ALMIGHTY GOD, who after the creation of the world rested from all your works and sanctified a day of rest for all your creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of your sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to your people in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

# A collect for guidance

HEAVENLY FATHER, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

# A prayer for mission

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* 

# The congregation is seated.

### THE INSTALLATION OF THE CHANCELLOR

EPISCOPUS CURATOR: Habemus pro nobis Jacob Owensby, quem Cancellarium huius Universitatis Curatores consensu creaverunt. Placetne vobis, socii Curatores, ut in hoc insignissimum officium hic publice hodie admittatur?

### CURATORES: Placet.

EPISCOPUS CURATOR: Proprium igitur est vobis praesentare hunc virum, Cancellarium Designatum, qui in officium Cancellarii nunc proferatur.

Jacob Owensby, dasne fidem te statuta, iura, privilegia, libertates, et consuetudines huius Universitatis bene et fideliter, quantum in te sit, tuturum et conservaturum esse?

CANCELLARIUS DESIGNATUS: Do fidem.

EPISCOPUS CURATOR: Jacob Owensby, dasne fidem te munera omnia et singulae quae ad officium Cancellarii spectent fideliter exsecuturum esse?

CANCELLARIUS DESIGNATUS: Do fidem.

CURATORES: Auctoritate Collegii Curatorum huius Universitatis, admittimus te in officium Cancellarii Universitatis Meridianae et omnia dona, iura, privilegia, honores, dignitates, et potestates quae aut hic aut alibi ad istud officium quocumque modo pertinent, damus et concedimus. In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen. TRUSTEE BISHOP: We have before us Jacob Owensby, to whose election as Chancellor of this University the Trustees have given their consent. May I have your approval, fellow Trustees, that he be publicly admitted to this most eminent office here today?

TRUSTEES: I approve.

TRUSTEE BISHOP: It is therefore proper to present to you this man, the Chancellor Designate, now to be installed into this office.

Jacob Owensby, do you give your pledge that, as far as in you lies, you will well and faithfully protect and preserve the ordinances, rights, privileges, liberties, and customs of this University?

CHANCELLOR DESIGNATE: I give my pledge.

TRUSTEE BISHOP: Jacob Owensby, do you give your pledge that you will faithfully perform each and all of the duties which pertain to the office of Chancellor?

CHANCELLOR DESIGNATE: I give my pledge.

TRUSTEES: By the authority of the Board of Trustees of this University, we admit you to the office of the Chancellor of the University of the South and give and grant you all the gifts, rights, privileges, honors, dignities, and powers, which here or elsewhere in any way pertain to that office. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. The congregation remains seated as the choir sings

### REMARKS

Chancellor Jacob Owensby

## THE AWARDING OF THE SEWANEE MEDAL Reid Funston

Established by the Board of Regents, the Sewanee Medal recognizes service to the University of the South by alumni, faculty, staff, community members, parents, and friends of the University. Extraordinary service to the life of the University may include teaching, administration, management, generosity, leadership, and innovation. Those receiving the Sewanee Medal are examples of outstanding, transforming, and lasting service to the University.

CANCELLARIUS: In decoris certisque temporibus, Universitas homines quibus praecipue gratiae agendae sunt maxima cum honore laudat. Placet mihi, pro Collegio Regentium, in sincera cognitione tuae singularis et supremi ad Universitatem Meridianam pietatis, tibi tribuere Medalliam Sevaniensem. CHANCELLOR: When appropriate and at certain times, the University recognizes those to whom we are most grateful with high honor. On behalf of the Board of Regents, I am pleased to award you the Sewanee Medal with sincere appreciation of your extraordinary and devoted service to the University of the South.

The congregation remains seated during the Conferring of the Honorary Degree and the Baccalaureate Address.

## THE CONFERRING OF AN HONORARY DEGREE

## Doctor of Letters Margaret Renkl

PROCANCELLARIA AGENS: Cancellarie reverendissime, exornare honoribus bene meritos meritasque est proprium munus huius Universitatis. Gratissimum igitur mihi est tibi praesentare hanc hominem ab Universitatis Meridianae Regentibus et Senatu doctorem honoris causa creatum quae ad illum gradum proferantur atque cui diploma ut huius rei testimonium dentur.

CANCELLARIUS: Auctoritate huius Universitatis mihi commissa, admitto te ad gradum Doctorem in Litteris 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.

PROCANCELLARIA AGENS: Huius rei hoc diploma testimonium sit.

ACTING 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 this person, who has been created an honorary doctor by the Board of Regents and the Senate of the University of the South, who is to be advanced to this degree and to whom a diploma is 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 Letters 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 Ghost. Amen.

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

## THE BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS Margaret Renkl

Following the address, all stand as the Chaplain says

Let us pray.

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

### Chaplain and People

ALMIGHTY GOD. Father of all mercies. we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### The congregation remains standing as the Chancellor says

### CLOSING PRAYERS

### THE UNIVERSITY PRAYER

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 Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.* 

## The Blessing

## HYMN AT THE RETIRING PROCESSION......Cwm Rhondda



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Voluntary	Festive toccata	Denis Bédard
		(b. 1950)

The Bells of the University Carillon

The flags displayed behind the choir were designed by Dr. Waring McCrady and are representative of each of the University's residence halls.

Photographs should not be taken during the Baccalaureate and Commencement services.

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If you need assistance, please ask an angel or proctor; these individuals, who are wearing academic gowns, have white ribbons attached to their name tags.

Assisted listening amplifiers are available for the hearing impaired. Please see the audio technician at the booth in the rear of the Chapel.

Any lost and found articles may be claimed at the Commencement desk located at the McGriff Alumni House.

Medical assistance is available on the ground floor of Carnegie Hall.

Restrooms are located in Carnegie Hall (accessed via elevator or stairs under the archway to the left of the stage), Guerry Auditorium, and in Spencer Hall and Woods Labs.

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 7:30 a.m. tomorrow in St. Augustine's Chapel. All students, faculty, staff, and visitors are invited.

The Convocation of the University for the Conferring of Degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences will be at 10 a.m. tomorrow. Guests will be seated on the main quadrangle. For additional viewing locations and severe weather instructions, please visit www.sewanee.edu/parents/commencement.

#### CHANCELLOR

#### JACOB OWENSBY

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jacob Owensby, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana was elected the 26th chancellor of the University of the South by the Board of Trustees on December 29, 2022. The chancellor serves as president, ex officio, of the Board of Trustees and as a member of the Board of Regents. Bishop Owensby graduated from the School of Theology in 1997 and was elected bishop of the Diocese of Western Louisiana in 2012. Owensby has served the Episcopal Church as a member of the Standing Commission on Governance, Structure, Constitution, and Canons; the House of Bishops Pastoral Development Committee; and the Task Force on the Opioid Crisis. He has also served as president of the Louisiana Interchurch Council and currently serves as vice president of Province VII and as a member of the Presiding Bishop's Council of Advice.

#### SEWANEE MEDAL RECIPIENT

### **Reid** Funston

Reid Funston is the first recipient of the Sewanee Medal, an award given by the Board of Regents to individuals demonstrating extraordinary service to the University of the South. Funston is a 1986 graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has served the University as a member of the College Visiting Committee, as a member of the Board of Trustees, and as a member of the Board of Regents. In 2019, he was elected chair of the Board of Regents, serving during the outbreak and the first 18 months of the COVID-19 pandemic, working closely with the administration to keep the University open with in-person classes. In the fall of 2021, at the end of his six-year term as a member of the Board of Regents and his two-year term as chair, he was elected to serve an additional one-year term as a non-regent chair of the board. During this time, Vice-Chancellor Reuben Brigety resigned in order to ultimately be appointed as the U.S. ambassador to the Republic of South Africa. Funston led the University during this period of transition, which led to the appointment of Provost Nancy Berner as acting Vice-Chancellor. Funston's calm demeanor, steady hand, and confident manner provided exceptional leadership and service to Sewanee during an unprecedented, demanding, and consequential period in the University's history.

### BACCALAUREATE SPEAKER

### MARGARET RENKL

Margaret Renkl is the author of Late Migrations: A Natural History of Love and Loss and Graceland, At Last: Notes on Hope and Heartache From the American South. She is also a contributing opinion writer for The New York Times, where her essays appear each Monday. Her work has also appeared in Guernica, Literary Hub, Oxford American, River Teeth, and The Sewanee Review, among others. A graduate of Auburn University and the University of South Carolina, she lives in Nashville.

Growing up in Alabama, Renkl was a devoted reader, an explorer of riverbeds and red-dirt roads, and a fiercely loved daughter. In *Late Migrations*, she traces (in brief essays) a tender and honest portrait of her complicated parents—her exuberant, creative mother; her steady, supportive father—and of the bittersweet moments that accompany a child's transition to caregiver. Gorgeously illustrated by the author's brother, Billy Renkl, *Late Migrations* is an assured and memorable debut. Her next book, *Graceland, At Last*, brings together 60 of Renkl's *New York Times* columns, which offer a weekly dose of natural beauty, human decency, and persistent hope in a sparkling new collection. In a patchwork quilt of personal and reported essays, Renkl highlights some other voices of the South, people who are fighting for a better future for the region. A group of teenagers who organized a youth march for Black Lives Matter. An urban shepherd whose sheep remove invasive vegetation. Church parishioners sheltering the homeless. Throughout, readers will find the generosity of spirit and deep attention to the world, human and nonhuman, that keep readers returning to her columns each Monday morning.

Braided into the overall narrative of her work, Renkl offers observations on the world surrounding her suburban Nashville home. Ringing with rapture and heartache, these essays convey the dignity of bluebirds and rat snakes, monarch butterflies and native bees. As these two threads haunt and harmonize with each other, Renkl suggests that there is astonishment to be found in common things: in what seems ordinary, in what we all share. For in both worlds—the natural one and our own—"the shadow side of love is always loss, and grief is only love's own twin.

### CHANCELLORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

I. The Rt. Rev. James Hervey Otey 1857–1863

II. The Rt. Rev. Leonidas Polk 1863–1864

III. The Rt. Rev. Stephen Elliott 1864–1866

IV. THE RT. REV. WILLIAM MERCER GREEN 1866–1887

V. The Rt. Rev. Alexander Gregg 1887–1893

VI. The Rt. Rev. Thomas Underwood Dudley 1893–1904

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XI. The Rt. Rev. James Matthew Maxon 1942–1944

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XXIV. The Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard 2012–2018

XXV. The Rt. Rev. Robert Stuart Skirving 2018–2023

XXVI. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jacob W. Owensby 2023–

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The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, B.A., M.A., M.Div., Ph.D. *Chancellor* 

> NANCY J. BERNER, B.S., M.S., PH.D. Acting Vice-Chancellor and President

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> 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

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