

A CONVOCATION
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
FOR
THE INSTALLATION OF JENNIFER J. COOLEY
AS DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
AND FOR
THE ADMISSION TO THE ORDER OF THE GOWN



ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL
SEWANEE, TENNESSEE

4:30 P.M.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

CONVOCATION 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 Westminster Abbey

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 Gليسپل (b. 1929). Descant by permission of Church Society, London. From *The Hymnal 1982*. Reproduced by permission by OneLicense.net A702255, CCLI 2192795, Church Publishing.

The University Chaplain opens the Convocation, saying

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalm 43:3*

And also with you.

Chapla

Let us pray.

Almighty G

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom. Almighty Sir, our Holy Spirit, those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through 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, the origin of the University's motto.

PSALM 133 *Ecce quam bonum* Joseph Running (1917-2016)

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 8:1-12

Does not wisdom call and understanding raise her voice? On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; at the entrance of the portals she cries out: "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all who live. O simple ones, learn prudence; acquire intelligence, you who lack it. Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right, for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. They are all straight to one who understands and right to those who find knowledge. Take my instruction instead of silver and knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her. I, wisdom, live with prudence, and I attain knowledge and discretion.

THE SECOND READING Matthew 5:1-10

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

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 installation of the Dean of the College.

THE INSTALLATION OF THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE

Jennifer J. Cooley

CURATOR PRAESENTANS (UNUS EX REGENTIBUS): Cancellarie nobilissime, Procancellarie insignissime, habemus pro nobis Jennifer Cooley, quae Artium Scientiarumque Collegii Decana electa est. Placetne tibi, Cancellarie, ut in hoc insigne officium hic publice hodie admittatur?

CANCELLARIUS: Placet.

CURATOR PRAESENTANS: Placetne tibi, Procancellarie?

PROCANCELLARIUS: Placet.

CURATOR PRAESENTANS: Proprium igitur est, Procancellarie insignissime, tibi praesentare Jennifer Cooley, Decanam electam, quae a te in officium Artium Scientiarumque Collegii Decanae hic publice hodie proferatur.

PROCANCELLARIUS: Jennifer Cooley, visne omni fidelitate et diligentia illam eruditionem excelsam integrumque quae sit huius Universitatis exemplar tueri et docere atque illos in Artium Scientiarumque Collegio illa mentis ingenique disciplina quae educationis Christianae sit indicium ducere et instruere?

DECANA ELECTA: Hoc volo, auxiliante Domino.

PROCANCELLARIUS: Tibine persuadetur officium ad quod electus sis existere ut adulescentes virtute Christiana, insignibus ducum, victoria sui, conscientia hominum, amore artium, probitate intellectus, rationibus ad scientiam cognitionis instruantur ut eis Deus gloriatur atque felicitas humana progrediatur?

DECANA ELECTA: Ita mihi persuadetur.

PRESENTOR (A REGENT): Most noble Chancellor, most distinguished Vice Chancellor, we have before us Jennifer Cooley, who has been elected Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Are you willing, Chancellor, that she be admitted to this notable office here, publicly, today?

CHANCELLOR: I am willing

PRESENTOR: Are you willing, Vice Chancellor?

VICE-CHANCELLOR: I am willing.

PRESENTOR: It is therefore proper, most distinguished Vice Chancellor, to present to you Jennifer Cooley, the Dean-elect to be installed by you here, publicly, today, into the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

VICE-CHANCELLOR: Jennifer Cooley, are you willing to protect and teach with all fidelity and diligence that high and pure learning which is the ideal of this University and to lead and instruct those in the College of Arts and Sciences in that discipline of mind and character which is a mark of Christian education?

DEAN-ELECT: I am willing, with God as my helper.

VICE-CHANCELLOR: Are you persuaded that the office to which you have been elected exists to train young persons in Christian virtue, in personal initiative, in self-mastery, in social consciousness, in aesthetic appreciation, in intellectual integrity, and in scientific methods of inquiry, that by them God may be glorified and human happiness advanced?

DEAN-ELECT: I am so persuaded.

PROCANCELLARIUS: Semperne pro illis in Artium Scientiarumque Collegio mores ad gloriam Dei, in honorem reipublicae, et in splendorem huius Universitatis sustinebis?

DECANA ELECTA: Hoc volo, auxiliante Domino.

PROCANCELLARIUS: Magistra perita doctrinaeque plena, auctoritate huius Universitatis mihi commissa, admitto te in officium et opus Artium Scientiarumque Collegii Decanae, secundum statuta, iura, et consuetudines huius Universitatis. Esto fidelis serva et prudens, adulescentibus exemplar, amator eruditionis.

VICE-CHANCELLOR: In the interest of those in the College of Arts and Sciences, will you ever support customs which look to the glory of God, to the honor of the state, and to the good name of this University?

DEAN-ELECT: I am willing, with God as my helper.

VICE-CHANCELLOR: Skilled and learned teacher, by the authority of this University which has been entrusted to me, I admit you to the office and work of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, in accordance with the constitution, ordinances, and customs of this University. Be a servant faithful and wise, an example to the young, a lover of learning.

The Choir then sings the following.

ANTHEM: JUBLIATE DEO Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

- 1 O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :
serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise :
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
- 4 For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Psalm 100

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS AND HONORS

Scott H. Wilson

Provost

A WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF THE CONVOCATION SPEAKER BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

THE CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Mila Dragojević

Professor and Chair of the Department of Politics

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, Lily Mobley, addresses the congregation and announces the new members of the Order.

The Vice-Chancellor closes the gowning ceremony with 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 upon you all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of the Order. Please accept your gowns.

All stand and sing.

ALMA MATER Newton Middleton, C'1909

All remain standing as the Chancellor closes the Convocation by saying

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 Chancellor then blesses the people.

As the Procession leaves the Chapel, all sing the Sewanee Hymn. The congregation is asked to remain in place until the Procession has left the Chapel.

SEWANEE HYMN Abbot's Leigh

God of Light, whose face grows be - hol ding, Is - rael's lea - der learn'd thy will, On the world now train vi-sion Fa-ther, Love of coun - try ba - tles, free - doms of call; For the war - fare us, God of God ba - tles, God might,

9 Fire and storm the rock en - fol-ding, Where the voice was calm and still, Gage of batt - le, life's de - ci-sion, the will see Christ through all. That no mists of Hell may ga-ther, Dar - ken or the ob - scure and right.

17 Give thy chil - dren on this moun-tain pow'r thy truth to know; Clea - rer, sur - er, rings the sto - ry, bro - ther, God High! Gird our souls with thy thy pas - sion, our minds with fire di - vine;

25 O - pen here a li - ving foun-tain, Whence thy praise shall e - ver flow. Through Earth's va - pors Truth sweeps glo - ry, in - car-nate. Wrong, Make in our jus - stice, sin thoughts must like die." Thine.

Thomas Frank Gailor (1856–1935)

THE BELLS OF THE UNIVERSITY CARILLON

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CONVOCATION ADDRESS SPEAKER

Mila Dragojević is a professor and chair of the Politics Department at the University of the South, where she has taught since 2010. Her research interests include nationalism, ethnic politics, political violence, and migrations, with a focus on Southeast Europe. In addition to authoring numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, she has published two books in these areas of research. Her first book, *The Politics of Social Ties: Immigrants in an Ethnic Homeland* (Ashgate/Routledge, 2014/2016), examined political incorporation of former refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia in Serbia. In her second book, *Amoral Communities: Collective Crimes in Time of War* (Cornell University Press, 2019), she studied the local conditions associated with violence against civilians in Croatia, Uganda, and Guatemala. Her third book, *An Uncertain Spring: Reform, Protest, and Suppression in Croatia, 1968–1971*, is forthcoming from Indiana University Press. Dragojević holds a B.A. from Wilson College, an M.B.A. from the University of New Hampshire, an M.A. from Northeastern University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Brown University. Her research has been recognized with awards and funding from the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, the Fulbright Program, and the Appalachian College Association. She has also received numerous faculty research grants from the University, including the McCrickard Faculty Development Grant and the Kennedy Fellowship. She teaches courses on European and Latin American politics, immigration, political violence, peace and diplomacy, and memory politics.

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

THE RT. REV. J. NEIL ALEXANDER, B.A., M.M., M.DIV., TH.D.
23rd Chancellor, Presiding

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

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

JENNIFER J. COOLEY, B.A., B.A., M.A., PH.D.
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 VERY REV. CHRISTOPHER L. EPPERSON, B.S., M.DIV.
Dean of All Saints' Chapel and University Chaplain

THE REV. LEIGH C. PRESTON, A.B., B.S., M.DIV.
Interim 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