

# Commencement Service

## 10:00 a.m.

*Please remain seated for the processional.  
Pictures may be taken during the processional, the distribution of diplomas, and the recessional.*

### Processional

Trumpet Tune in C Major

David Johnson

*Stand*

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you. (spoken)**

M: O give thanks unto the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell of all his wonderful works!

C: **The works of the Lord are great and glorious. His name is worthy of praise!**

M: O Father most holy, gather us together in the name of Jesus whom the saints and angels adore as the Lamb on his throne and whose name is above every name,  
that all we do might be done at your bidding,  
filled with your grace,  
directed by your wisdom,  
accomplished to your glory.

C: **The works of the Lord are great and glorious. His love endures forever!**

M: O Father most gracious, bring us together in the name of Jesus, that in him we might be a spiritual temple, founded on him and built together as living stones; that in him we might offer to you the spiritual service  
of praise and thanksgiving,  
of lives lived in your love,  
of proclaiming your words and works,  
and of sharing your gifts to us.

C: **The works of the Lord are great and glorious. Tell of all his wonderful deeds!**

M: O Father eternal, you have sent out an invitation; you have prepared a great feast that all might enter the courts of your presence and the mansions of your paradise. Grant to us your blessing and peace, that we may be  
witnesses of your truth,  
the reflection of your glory,  
and the ambassadors of your kingdom.

C: **The works of the Lord are great and glorious. May our mouths be filled with his praise!**

M: To you, O Father, together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God from all eternity and to all eternity, be glory, wisdom, power, and dominion forever.

C: **Amen and amen!**

*Sing*

**Oh, that I had a thousand voices  
To praise my God with thousand tongues!  
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices,  
Would then proclaim in grateful songs  
To all, wherever I might be,  
What great things God has done for me.**

**Lord, I will tell, while I am living,  
Your love and grace with every breath  
And greet each morning with thanksgiving  
Until my heart is still in death,  
And, when at last my lips grow cold,  
Your praise shall in my sighs be told.**

*Be seated*

**Lesson—Deuteronomy 31:7-8**

**What Then?**

John Ferguson

What then? What then are we to say about these things?  
If God is for us, who is against us?  
Who will separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will hardship, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or sword?  
No! In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.  
What then are we to say about these things?

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
No merit of my own I claim but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid Rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.

**Lesson—1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

**Hymn**

See p. 8 in service folder

**Lord, You Call Us**

**Sermon**

**John 16:33**

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

**Courage for the Commission**

## **Presentation of Diplomas**

*Please reserve applause for the Presentation of the Class of 2017, which occurs after the Blessing.*

*Stand*

## **Prayer**

**Minister:** Heavenly Father, we praise you for the gospel of our salvation, and for giving your Church men and women who are qualified to serve in the public ministry of the gospel. We pray especially for our graduates who have successfully completed their course of study at this college of ministry.

**Graduates:** Lord, be with us as we serve in the future. From your hand we are willing to accept the joys and the sorrows of life. Keep us from sin, comfort us with your Word, and bless our service to you.

**All others:** **You have promised to be with them. Watch over their lives, both now and forevermore. Keep them faithful to your Word, that they may continue to grow in wisdom, righteousness, and holiness.**

**Minister:** Bless those who will enter your ministry as teachers and staff ministers with the boldness to speak the mysteries of your gospel. Give those who will continue their preparation for the pastoral ministry at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary patience and diligence. Provide those who will be serving as lay members in your congregations or in international fields with opportunities to use their training and special gifts to serve your kingdom.

**All:** **Empower all of us to bring honor and glory to your name.**

**Minister:** Gracious Lord, continue to bless Martin Luther College with instructors who recognize Jesus Christ as wisdom's highest treasure, and with students who are committed to preparing themselves for the public ministry of your Church.

## **Faculty and Students:**

Lord, all we have comes from you. Help us use our talents and energies in joyful service to you.

**Minister:** Lord God, watch over the lives of all your people. Cause the faith you have planted in our hearts to fill our lips with your praise that we may share Jesus' love with all people. Dispel our fears, strengthen us in our weakness, and finally bring us all to everlasting glory through the merits of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**All:** **In his name we pray. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

**M:** May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C:** **Amen. (spoken)**

## **Peace I Leave With You**

Rene Clausen

Peace I leave with you, peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives I give to you.

Peace I give to you.

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Amen.

**Announcements**

**Presentation of the Class of 2017**

**Recessional**            *Please remain seated until the graduates and the faculty have recessed.  
Following the service you may greet the graduates on the mall.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Presiding Minister

Rev. Paul Koelpin  
*MLC Faculty Secretary*

Preacher

Rev. Mark Zarling  
*MLC President*

Assisting with the distribution of diplomas

Dr. Jeff Wiechman  
*MLC Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Organist

Prof. Craig Hirschmann  
*MLC Music Division*

Martin Luther College Choir Conductor

Prof. Adrian Smith  
*MLC Music Division*

Graduation Marshal

Michelle Gartner  
*MLC Event Coordinator*

## Lord, You Call Us



*All:* 1. Lord, you call us, as your peo - ple, out of dark - ness in - to  
*Choir:* 2. Lord, you call us, as dis - ci - ples, walk - ing on your pil - grim  
*Men:* 3. Lord, you send us to the har - vest in your Great Com - mis - sion's  
*Choir:* 4. Lord, you call us to new ven - tures by a path - way yet un -  
*All:* 5. Lord, you call us, as your peo - ple, joined in faith we sing your



light. You cre - at - ed and re - deemed us, made us pre - cious in your  
 way. Cru - ci - fied and ris - en Sav - ior, you are with us ev - 'ry  
 call, reach - ing out to all the na - tions, bring - ing life and hope to  
 known. Though we can - not see the end - ing, we will fol - low you a -  
 praise: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Al - le - lu - ias to you



sight. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly and to love you stead - fast -  
 day. Give us wis - dom; give us cour - age as you teach us pa - tient -  
 all. *All:* Give us bold - ness and com - pas - sion; bless us with your eyes to  
 lone, know - ing that your hand is guid - ing, and you love us faith - ful -  
 raise. Hold us in your gra - cious pow - er, bless - ed Ho - ly Trin - i -



ly. By your Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.  
 ly. By your Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.  
 see. By your Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.  
 ly. By your Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.  
 ty, that re - joic - ing we will ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.

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Tune: *JOYOUS LIGHT*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950.

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