

## Commencement Service

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

### Hymn—How Firm a Foundation

CWS 768

Text: *A Selection of Hymns*, London, 1787, alt.

Tune, Setting: Traditional American melody, Caldwell's *Union Harmony*, 1837

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed;  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes.  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!**

**“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace all sufficient shall be your supply.  
The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.**

**“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love,  
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne.”**

*Stand*

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

**C:** And also with you.

### DIALOGUE FOR THANKSGIVING

*from Psalms 103 and 145*

**M:** Praise the Lord, O my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
Praise the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.

- C: I will exalt you, my God the King;  
I will praise your name forever and ever.  
Every day I will praise you  
and extol your name forever and ever.**
- M:** He forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;  
he redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion.
- C: The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.  
The Lord is good to all;  
he has compassion on all he has made.**
- M:** He does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
- C: The Lord is faithful to all his promises  
and loving toward all he has made.  
The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up all who are bowed down.**
- M:** As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.  
From everlasting to everlasting  
the Lord's love is with those who fear him.
- C: The eyes of all look to you,  
and you give them their food at the proper time.  
You open your hand  
and satisfy the desires of every living thing.**
- M:** Praise the Lord, all his works  
everywhere in his dominion.  
Praise the Lord, O my soul.
- C: My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord.  
Let every creature praise his holy name  
forever and ever.**

*Be seated*

## Choral Response

## “Fear Not”

Text: Isaiah 43:1-4  
Music: Carl J. Nygard Jr.

Fear not, for I am with you.  
Fear not, for I have redeemed you and loved you,  
blessed you and called you by name.  
You are mine. Fear not.

Fear not the threat of the fire.  
Fear not the threat of the water.  
Fear not when troubles surround you and trials confound you.  
Be not afraid. I am your God.

Fear not, for I am the Lord God.  
My love will always surround you and hold you;  
for you are precious to me.  
I have called you by name. Most precious child, you are mine.

I am the Lord God.  
I am yours. You are mine.

*Stand*

## The Gospel — Matthew 6:25-33

*Be seated*

## Hymn—Day by Day

**CWS 765**

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936  
Used by permission. Tr. © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

**Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, Bringing comfort to my anxious soul.  
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me Draw me nearer to my heav’nly goal.  
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, Brings to naught the burdens of my quest;  
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, Where at last I’ll find eternal rest.**

**Day by day, I know you will provide me Strength to serve and wisdom to obey;  
I will seek your loving will to guide me O’er the paths I struggle day by day.  
I will fear no evil of the morrow; I will trust in your enduring grace.  
Savior, help me bear life’s pain and sorrow; Till in glory I behold your face.**

**Oh, what joy to know that you are near me When my burdens grow too great to bear;  
Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me When I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.  
Day by day, no matter what betide me, You will hold me ever in your hand.  
Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.**

**Sermon — Deuteronomy 31:8**

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

**Never Alone!**

**Choral Response**

**“O God, We Kneel before Your Throne”**

Text: Ephesians 3:14-21

Music: Roy Hopp



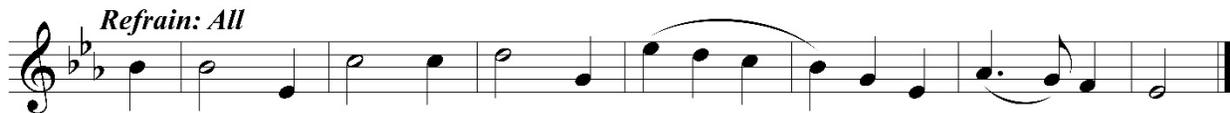
*Choir:* 1. O \_\_\_\_\_ God, we kneel be - fore your throne to \_\_\_\_\_  
*Choir:* 2. O \_\_\_\_\_ Christ, we bow in faith to pray: come \_\_\_\_\_  
*Choir:* 3. O \_\_\_\_\_ Spir - it, grace us with your pow'r so \_\_\_\_\_  
*All:* 4. Now \_\_\_\_\_ to the One who can do more than \_\_\_\_\_



hon - or you whose name is known to \_\_\_\_\_ all your fam - 'ly  
live with - in our hearts to - day and \_\_\_\_\_ fill us till we  
that our weak - ened faith may flow'r; come \_\_\_\_\_ breathe your sa - cred  
we could dream of ask - ing for, e - ter - nal glo - ry



by your love \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ earth be - low and heav'n a - bove:  
o - ver - flow \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ love sur - pass - ing all we know.  
har - mo - ny \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ we with all your saints may see  
to our King \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ gen - er - a - tions rise to sing:



How wide, how long, how high, how deep \_\_\_\_\_ is the love \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ!

**Conferring of Degrees** *Please reserve applause for the Presentation of the Class.*

## Hymn—Praise to You and Adoration

CW 470

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. composite  
Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

**Praise to you and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God,  
Who, to serve your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.  
Guide me that I never may From your fold or pastures stray,  
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where your steps are leading.**

**Hold me ever in your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.  
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.  
Give me greater love for you, And my faith and hope renew  
In your birth, your life, and passion, In your death and resurrection.**

*Stand*

### Prayer

**M:** Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for giving your Church men and women who are qualified to serve in the public ministry.

**All:** **Bless every servant of your Word who proclaims Christ crucified for sinners as the wisdom and power of God.**

**M:** We pray especially for our graduates, who have successfully completed their course of study at this college of ministry

**Graduates:** Lord, 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.**

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

**Faculty & Students:** Help us use our talents and energies in joyful service to you.

**M:** Lord God, watch over the lives of all your 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:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** **Amen. (spoken)**

## Choral Response

## “Peace I Leave with You”

Text: John 14:27

Music: Walter L. Pelz

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth give I unto you.

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

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth give I unto you.

My peace I give to you.

*Be seated*

## Presentation of the Graduates of May 2018

## Recessional

*Following the recessional, please usher yourselves out of the sanctuary.*

## Service Participants

Presiding Minister

Prof. Paul Koelpin  
*Professor of History/Theology, MLC*

Preacher

Rev. Mark Zarling  
*President, MLC*

Presenting degrees

Dr. Jeff Wiechman  
*Vice-president for Academics, MLC*

Organist

Prof. Craig Hirschmann  
*Professor of Music, MLC*

Martin Luther College Choir Conductor

Prof. Adrian Smith  
*Professor of Music, MLC*

Martin Luther College Wind Symphony Conductor

Prof. Miles Wurster  
*Professor of Music, MLC*

Graduation Marshal

Michelle Gartner  
*Event Coordinator, MLC*

Instrumentalists

Raquel Freese, *piano*  
Hannah Paustian, Matthew Scharp, *trumpet*  
Joseph Loescher, Karissa Nolte, *trombone*  
Zachary Johnson, *tuba*  
Zachary Scharlemann, *timpani*