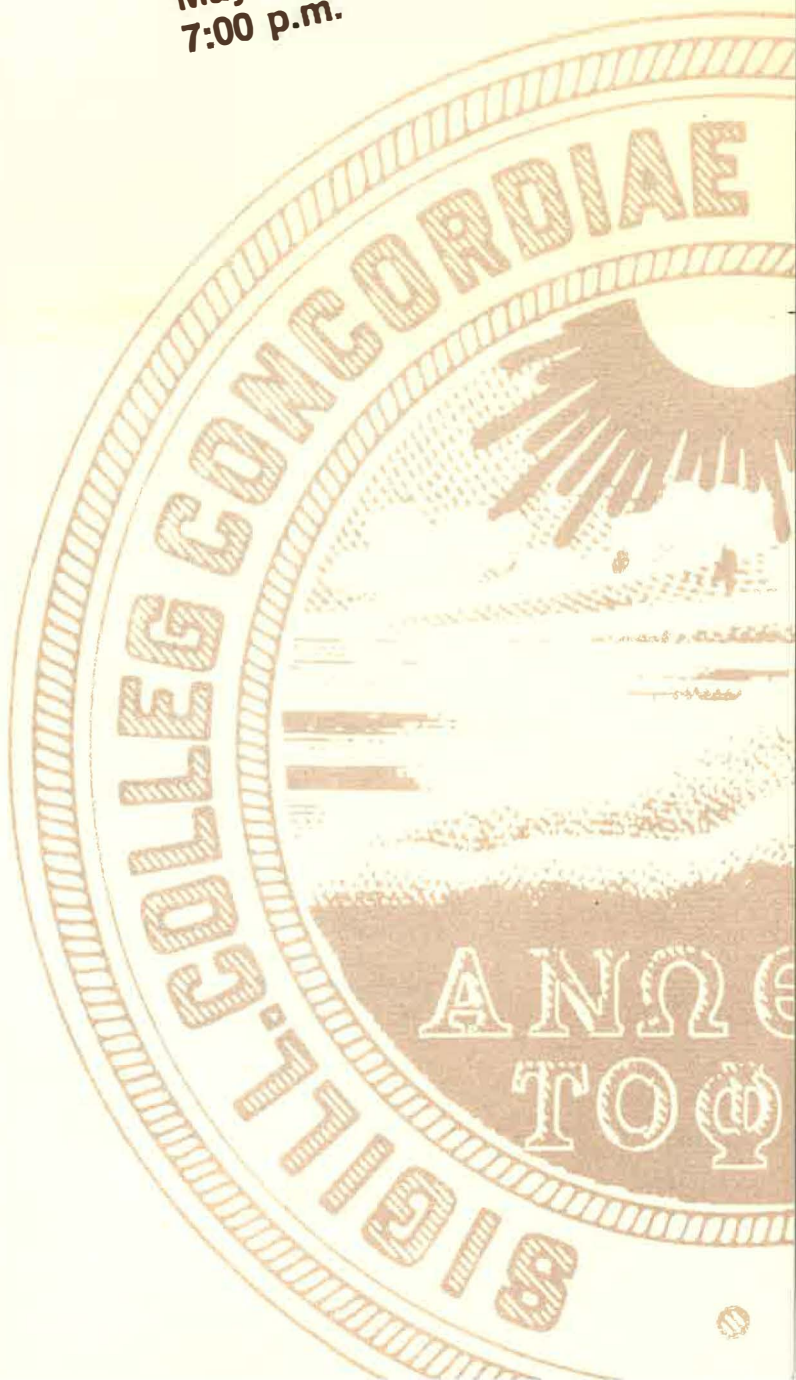


Service of Praise for Assignment of Calls

Concordia Seminary
Saint Louis, Missouri

May 2, 1984
7:00 p.m.



THE PRELUDE

Brass Ensemble

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*"Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness"*¹

Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done;
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

Lo, on men who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

(seminarians)

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hope confess:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

From the Cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conquering might;
From the Cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

(candidates)

Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim.
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name:
Alleluia! God of Glory!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluia without end!

God the Father, Light-Creator,
To Thee laud and honor be;
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally;
Holy Spirit, Light-Revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee;
Men and angels, now and ever
Praise the Holy Trinity.

THE DIALOG

- V: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
R: **Amen.**
- V: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous;
R: **It is good for the just to sing praises.**
- V: For the word of the Lord is right;
R: **And all His works are sure.**
- V: He loves righteousness and justice;
R: **The lovingkindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.**
- V: Let all the earth fear the Lord;
R: **Let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of Him.**
- V: For He spoke, and it came to pass;
R: **He commanded, and it stood fast.**
- V: The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught;
R: **He thwarts the designs of the peoples.**
- V: But the Lord's will stands fast forever;
R: **And the designs of His heart from age to age.**
- V: Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear Him;
R: **On those who wait upon His love.**
- V: Our soul waits for the Lord;
R: **He is our help and our shield.**
- V: Indeed, our heart rejoices in Him;
R: **For in His holy name we put our trust.**
- V: Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us;
R: **As we have put our trust in You.**
- V: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
R: **As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever and ever. Amen.**

CHOIR

"Praise the Lord"
Heinz Werner Zimmermann

THE HYMN

"Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak"²

Lord, speak to us that we may speak
In loving echoes of Thy tone;
As Thou hast sought, so let us seek
Thy erring children lost and lone.

Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead
The wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;
Oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed
The hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

Oh, strengthen us that while we stand
Firm on the Rock and strong in Thee,
We may stretch out a loving hand
To wrestlers with the troubled sea.

Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach
The precious things Thou dost impart;
And wing our words that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

Oh, fill us with Thy fullness, Lord,
Until our very hearts o'erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity.

THE LESSON

2 Timothy 2:1-15

CHOIR

"God Wills It So"
arranged by Alfred Fremder

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Saint Matthew 24:42-47

THE HYMN

"Awake, O Spirit of the Watchmen"³

Awake, O Spirit of the watchmen
Who never held their peace by day or night,
Contending from the walls of Zion
Against the foe, confiding in your might.
Throughout the world their cry is ringing still
And bringing peoples to your holy will.

O Lord, now let your fire enkindle
Our hearts, that ev'rywhere its flame may go
And spread the glory of redemption,
That all the world your saving grace may know.
O harvest Lord, look down on us and view
How white the fields, the laborers, how few!

Send forth, O Lord, your strong Evangel
By many messengers, all hearts to win.
Make haste to help us in our weakness,
Break down the realm of Satan, death, and sin.
The circle of the earth shall then proclaim
Your kingdom and the glory of your name.

O God, to you be praise and glory,
To Father, Son, and Spirit, gracious Lord!
Give strength and power to your people
To do your work in joy with one accord.
With all the hosts of heaven we adore
And magnify your name for evermore.

THE SERMON

THE CANTICLE *"One Thy Light, the Temple Filling"*⁴

One Thy Light, the Temple filling,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Three!
Meanest men and brightest angels
Wait alike the word from Thee
Highest musings, lowliest worship,
Must their preparation be.

Now Thou speakest, hear we trembling,
From the glory comes a voice,
Who accepts th' Almighty's mission?
Who will make Christ's work his choice?
Who for us proclaim to sinners,
Turn, believe, endure, rejoice?

Here are we, Redeemer, send us!
But because Thy work is fire
And our lips unclean and earthly,
Breathe no breath of high desire,
Send Thy seraph from the altar,
Veiled, but in his bright attire.

Cause him, Lord, to fly full swiftly
With the mystic coal in hand,
Sin consuming; soul transforming
Faith and love will understand.
Touch our lips, Thou wondrous Mercy,
With Thine own keen healing brand.

Thou didst come that fire to kindle;
Fain would we Thy torches prove,
Far and wide Thy beacons lighting
With th' undying spark of love.
Only feed our flame, we pray Thee,
With Thy breathings from above.

Now to God, the soul's Creator,
To His Word and Wisdom sure,
To His all-enlightening Spirit,
Patron of the frail and poor,
Three in One, be praise and glory
Here and while the heavens endure.

THE ASSIGNMENT OF CALLS

THE HYMN

*"Bow Down Your Ear, Almighty Lord"*⁵

Bow down your ear, almighty Lord,
And hear your Church's suppliant cry
For those who preach your saving Word
And serve you in their ministry.

In mercy, Father, now give heed,
And pour your quick'ning Spirit's breath
On those whom you have called to feed
Your flock redeemed by Jesus' death.

O Savior, from your pierced hand
Shed on them all your gifts divine,
That those who in your presence stand
May form their lives to your design.

Blest Spirit, in their hearts abide
And give them grace to watch and pray,
That as they seek your flock to guide,
They too may keep the narrow way.

O God, your strength and mercy send
To shield them in their strife with sin.
Grant them, enduring to the end,
The crown of life at last to win.

THE PRAYERS

(unison)

O Heavenly Father, the Author of all wisdom, understanding, and true strength, we ask you to look mercifully upon your servants and send your Holy Spirit into their hearts, that when they must join to fight in the field for the glory of your holy name, then they, being strengthened with the defense of your right hand, may manfully stand in the confession of your faith and of your truth, and continue in the same unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(candidates)

Almighty and gracious God, you have commanded us to pray that you would send forth laborers into your harvest; in your mercy make us true teachers and ministers of your Word and put your saving Gospel in our hearts and on our lips that we may truly fulfil your command and preach nothing contrary to your holy Word, that we, being warned, instructed, nurtured, comforted and strengthened by your heavenly Word, may do those things which are well-pleasing to you and profitable to your people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

(unison)

O Lord, your holy apostle has taught us that as members of your body we all have our part to play in the whole life of your church; we thank you for the work you have given us to do together in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; we ask you to give us grace to persevere in it, and through it to serve you to your honor and glory, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

V: The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and be with you all.

R: Amen.

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"⁶

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds,
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift he brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life
And by his presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

Soli Deo Gloria

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Marion Hendrickson, *Director*
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The Faculty, Council of Presidents, Board of Regents, Candidates, Vicars, spouses, relatives, and friends are invited to a reception in Sieck Hall, rooms 201-202, at 8:30 p.m.

314 428-9794

