

BACCALAUREATE WORSHIP SERVICE

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023, 7:00 P.M.
R. R. HODGES CHAPEL/AUDITORIUM
CAMPUS PASTOR
REV. STEPHANIE LOBDELL, M.DIV., PRESIDING

PRELUDE

Rebecca L. Abbott, D.W.S.
Organist

*PROCESSIONAL

Rebecca L. Abbott, D.W.S.

*WELCOME

Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

*INVOCATION

Jadon Bird
Christian Ministry, Youth and Family Ministries ~ Spring 2025

*HYMN

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.
Professor of Music, Director

Holy, Holy, Holy, Heber/Dykes, arr. Rouse and Kirkland

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

*UNIVERSITY SCRIPTURE

II Corinthians 5:14-21 NRSV

Maggie Little
*Student Government Association
Administrative Chairperson 2022-2023
Elementary Education/Elementary Intervention Specialist P-5 ~ Spring 2026*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Senior Ensemble

I Speak Jesus, Cliff Duren

***PRAYER FOR THE GRADUATES**

Hank Spaulding III, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Theology

CHORAL ANTHEM

Collegians Chorale and Instrumental Ensemble

We Believe, Nathan DiGesare and Dan Scott, arr. Mark Hayes

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.

BACCALAUREATE SERMON

Michael VanZant, Ph.D.
Professor of Biblical Literature

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Stephanie Lobdell, M.Div.
Campus Pastor

***CHORAL BLESSING**

Collegians Chorale

The Lord Bless You and Keep You, Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Rebecca L. Abbott, D.W.S.

**Audience stands*

Immediately following the Baccalaureate Service:

President's Dessert Reception for all graduates and their guests, trustees, administrators, faculty, and staff (Dining Commons)



Michael VanZant is a professor of biblical literature at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Born and raised in Trotwood, Ohio, VanZant and his wife of 45 years, Julie, have lived in five states as well as in Nairobi, Kenya. They have two married daughters and four grandchildren. VanZant is retiring from full-time teaching this year; he and his wife plan to move to Kentucky in be closer to their grandchildren.

VanZant's academic background includes a B.A. in religion from MidAmerica Nazarene University, an M.Div. from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. from SBTS in Hebrew Bible, language, and archaeology. His ministry experience in the local church and in higher education spans nearly 40 years with pastoral and educational assignments in Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, and Kenya. From the beginning, his call to ministry has been as both pastor and educator in the Church of the Nazarene.

While VanZant is grateful for the opportunity to serve in the church and classroom, it is the people in those churches and universities who have been the joy of his ministry. Seeing students grow and become the incredible humans this world needs is the ultimate blessing for an educator. VanZant is blessed to have a former student teaching at Africa Nazarene University and another serving as leader of one of his former pastorates. He is grateful for every moment of this journey of life with Jesus.