

Sixty-third Commencement

Mount Vernon Nazarene University

Spring 2023



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UNIVERSITY MISSION

Mount Vernon Nazarene University exists to shape lives through educating the whole person and cultivating Christlikeness for lifelong learning and service.

University Mission Context

Mount Vernon Nazarene University, established by the Church of the Nazarene, opened its doors in 1968 and serves the denomination's East Central Region. The University offers liberal arts, professional, and graduate programs at its main campus in Mount Vernon, Ohio, downtown Mount Vernon, and online.

MVNU's educational philosophy and purpose are shaped by its Wesleyan-Holiness theological roots, informed by the Bible, focused on Christlikeness in every aspect of life, and defined by an emphasis on loving God with all of one's heart, mind, soul, and strength, as well as one's neighbor as one's self. Students are nurtured and empowered through caring relationships with faculty, staff, and administrators; challenged to be devoted disciples of Christ; drawn toward discovery of wisdom and truth in every discipline of study; prepared for leadership in various professions; equipped to be lifelong learners; and sent into the world to live out their faith by offering their hearts and lives in service to God and others.

The University is characterized by an engaging environment where diversity is celebrated and differences in ethnicity, denomination, gender, economic level, and stage of spiritual development are embraced. A spirit of worship unifies the academic, social, and spiritual life of the student body; and the community is shaped through shared commitments, values, and experiences that provide the context for transformation in Christ, individually and collectively. Excellence in vocational pursuits and in character development are viewed as an expression of faithful stewardship, and a lifestyle of compassion is demonstrated as the most effective witness to others of God's love. As students become graduates, the character of Mount Vernon Nazarene University continues to identify them as devoted disciples, servant leaders, learning professionals, and loyal alumni.

UNIVERSITY MOTTO

To Seek to Learn is to Seek to Serve

UNIVERSITY VISION

To Change the World with the Love of Christ

Dr. J. K. Warrick General Superintendent Emeritus Church of the Nazarene



Following nearly 38 years of pastoral ministry, J. K. Warrick was elected to the Board of General Superintendents by the 26th General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 2005. He pastored churches in Oklahoma, Texas, Florida, Ohio, Indiana, and Kansas. Prior to his election, he served for nearly 12 years as pastor of College Church of the Nazarene in Olathe, Kansas.

A pastor at heart, he considers his role as general superintendent an opportunity to join his colleagues in shepherding the global church. He has a heart for church planting, evangelism, world missions, discipleship, and compassionate ministries. Central to his ministry is the

encouragement of the people of God to find a place of service and ministry in the church and community. He is passionate about equipping pastors and laypersons to be missional leaders.

After attending Southern Nazarene University (formerly Bethany Nazarene College), he graduated from Trinity College. He is an alumnus of Wesley Biblical Seminary. In 1994, his alma mater, Southern Nazarene University, honored him with a Doctor of Divinity in recognition of his service to Christ and the Church of the Nazarene. He has served on the boards of trustees at Mount Vernon Nazarene University and at MidAmerica Nazarene University and has also served on district boards and committees in the church. In May 2017, in recognition of his ongoing passion and effort to involve young people in the mission of God, MidAmerica Nazarene University awarded him with a second Doctor of Divinity.

Warrick has been married to Patty (Delores J. Ouzts) since 1967. They have two married adult children, Brad and Jill, and seven grandchildren.

TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Saturday, May 6, 2023, 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. R. R. Hodges Chapel/Auditorium President Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D., Presiding

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

Organist

Brass Choir John E. Packard, D.A. *Professor of Music, Director*

Professor of Music, Director

*Processional Brass Choir

Trumpet Voluntary, John Stanley Trumpet Voluntary, Jeremiah Clarke

*Academic Procession

Flag Bearers: Anna Dudgeon; Logan Kazelman; Ryan Casimer O'Donnell

Academic Marshals: Colleen S. Bryan, Ph.D.; James D. Dalton, Ed.D.; Stephen P. Metcalfe, Ph.D.;

John T. Noonan, Ph.D.; Yvonne R. Schultz, Ph.D.

University Marshals: Alex Hayden; Erin King

*WELCOME Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer

*Invocation Rev. Stephanie Lobdell, M.Div.

*Campus Pastor

*University Hymn Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.

Be Thou My Vision, Traditional Irish Melody

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art Thou my best Thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, thine own may I be; Thou in me dwelling, and I one with Thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, May I reach heaven's joys, Bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

^{*}Audience stands

*University Scripture
II Corinthians 5:14-21 NRSV

Georgia Belle Frank Student Government Association Senior Class Chaplain Bachelor of Arts, Christian Ministry – Spring 2023

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

J. K. Warrick, D.D. General Superintendent Emeritus Church of the Nazarene

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees

Amy A. Kovach, Ph.D. Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.

The Class of 2023
Associate of Arts
Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Bachelor of Social Work

Joseph D. Rinehart, M.A.
Assistant Professor of Communication,
Director of Broadcasting, and Reader

ALUMNI RELATIONS WELCOME

Rev. Mike Cheek, M.Min. Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Advancement

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD Presented at 1:00 p.m. ceremony

Amy A. Kovach, Ph.D.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Rev. Stephanie Lobdell, M.Div. Campus Pastor

*Alma Mater

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.

Brass Choir

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL

Tavaris Taylor, MIM Assistant Vice President for Intercultural Engagement and Learning

Fanfare from Orfeo, Claudio Monteverdi

Fanfare from Orfeo, Claudio Monteverdi Trumpet Tune and Air, Henry Purcell

Ringing of the $Shaw\ Bell$

^{*}Audience stands

Traditional Undergraduate Candidates for Degrees ~ Spring 2023

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Jared Robert Ross General Studies

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Amanda Catherine Agler Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Magna Cum Laude ♦

JESSICA RILEY ALBRIGHT Psychology

Benjamin Caleb Alexander Communication and Media Cum Laude

CLAIRE EVELYN ALLEN
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)
Magna Cum Laude

Melissa Joy Alvis Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

SHAY-LYNN NICOLE BAKER Christian Ministry

Keon H. Boney Psychology

Garrett Thomas Bradley Middle Childhood Education

SAGE CAROL BRANNON Sports Management

Paige Britney Brenner Psychology Summa Cum Laude

MATTHEW ROBERT BRIGHTBILL
Physical Education/Health Education
Cum Laude

Kimberly Marie Brown Christian Ministry

Brogan Scott Campbell Communication and Media Summa Cum Laude

Meghan Elaine Carter Art

Jonathan Herbert Champlin Psychology

MADISON LYNN CLAPP Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Magna Cum Laude

Maggie Elizabeth Coblentz
Physical Education/Health Education
Cum Laude

Avrey J. Cornelius Psychology Magna Cum Laude COOPER THOMAS CRAWFORD Business Administration Cum Laude

Sarah Elizabeth Cuckler Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

Bryson Jared Curtis Business Administration

ELISSA GRACE CURTIS
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

David Allen Dailey
Integrated Social Studies Education
Magna Cum Laude

John Edward Davis Christian Ministry

KATLYN ELIZABETH DAVIS Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Magna Cum Laude

Kylee Marie Dettmer Criminal Justice Magna Cum Laude

Sarah Anne Dickhof Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Cum Laude

Robyn Natalie Downes Psychology Magna Cum Laude

Catherine Michelle Dugan Communication and Media

Alexis Mae Eaton History Cum Laude

LYDIA CATHERINE FALGNER Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

ABBEY RENEE FAUCETT
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)

Bryce Courtney Fender Integrated Social Studies Education Magna Cum Laude

JACOB JAMES FINNICUM Graphic Design

Morgan Elaine Forney Art/Psychology Magna Cum Laude

Georgia Belle Frank Christian Ministry Lydia Pauline Frankart Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Magna Cum Laude

Sarah Elaine Friedrich Psychology *Magna Cum Laude*

Hannah Marie Fugate Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Cum Laude

GRAYSON GABRIEL GEORGE Christian Ministry Cum Laude

JACOB LEVIN GLAZE
Communication and Media

Noah Charles Gleason Business Administration

Noelle Renae Gniewek Middle Childhood Education Cum Laude

Benjamin Goss Christian Ministry

Arminas Griska Business Administration

Sarah Elizabeth Guipe Psychology Summa Cum Laude

Joshua Ray Hageman Physical Education/Health Education

MORGAN LEIGH HARDEN Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Cum Laude

Anthony Dare Harman Mathematics

Emma Michelle Harvey Music Education Magna Cum Laude

Carol Faye Heininger Business Administration

SARAH JACQUELYN HILL Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Cum Laude

CLAY WILLIAM KENNETH HILLIARD Sports Management

MacKenzie Grace Holder Communication and Media *Magna Cum Laude* ◊

JOSEPH SCOTT HURST Christian Ministry Cum Laude

ALLEN MICHAEL JACOBSON Business Administration Cum Laude

Zachary David Jenney Middle Childhood Education Magna Cum Laude

Joshua Michael Jerome Criminal Justice

Lauren Michelle Jones Business Administration ◊

Randy E. Johr English

KYLE AUSTIN KEGLEY Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5)

CAILYN ANN KENNEDY Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5)

Taryn Mae King Music Magna Cum Laude

Emma Grace Klemanski Business Administration Summa Cum Laude

NATHAN P. LAHR Christian Ministry Summa Cum Laude

MICHAELA JANE LEONARD Christian Ministry Magna Cum Laude

Gabrielle Rose Lozano
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)
Magna Cum Laude

COLIN MAFFETT
Integrated Social Studies Education
Cum Laude

ALYSSA ANN MARSHALL Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Cum Laude

COURTNEY MAE McCOY Criminal Justice Magna Cum Laude

Ryan Matthew McCoy Business Administration

Bailey Chase McVay Christian Ministry

Emma Jane Ann McVay Psychology

SARAH ANN MEEK Christian Ministry/Spanish Magna Cum Laude

MITCHELL RAYMOND MELLERT Sports Management ♦

Mattison Tailor Melvin English

GENESIS VICTORIA MENA CRUZ Worship Arts Cum Laude

Kasey Ryan Middaugh Christian Ministry Brittany Nicole Miller Elementary Education/ Elementary Intervention (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

JACQUELINE ANN MILLER Middle Childhood Education

ETHAN S. MILLS
Business Administration

Jackson Alexander Moody Christian Ministry Summa Cum Laude

Anna Marie Neipling Criminal Justice Magna Cum Laude

Bailey Elaine Niedermier Music Education Cum Laude

Serena Grace Owens Psychology Cum Laude

Megan Marie Pentz Psychology

Kenzie Elizabeth Potter Integrated Social Studies Education/ History Cum Laude

Madison Marjorie Powers Integrated Social Studies Education

Bailey Ann Remmert Psychology Magna Cum Laude

Micah Gerald Rex Criminal Justice ◊

CLAY PATRICK REYNOLDS Business Administration

LARRY JUNIOR RITTERBECK, III Christian Ministry Magna Cum Laude

Jordan Mitchell Rowden Psychology

JEFFREY B. RUCKER Mathematics

ALLYSON GRACE SCHALL Middle Childhood Education Magna Cum Laude

CHRISTIAN ANTONIO SHAKLEE
Physical Education/Health Education
Cum Laude

SCOTT T. SHARP Christian Ministry Summa Cum Laude

ELIZABETH GRACE SHARROCK Middle Childhood Education Summa Cum Laude

HENRY KENNETH SHOBERT Communication and Media Magna Cum Laude

Nathaniel Horn Short Computer Science Hanna Dawn Sims Graphic Design Magna Cum Laude

Cambrey Ashton Sipes Psychology ★

Joshua Elijah Sitney Sports Management

DANIEL CHRISTOPHER SKRZYPCHAK Communication and Media Summa Cum Laude

TREYTON RUSSELL SLONE Criminal Justice

ISAAC DALE STEIN
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)
Cum Laude

GAGE ALLEN STEINMETZ Middle Childhood Education Magna Cum Laude

Juliana Noel Sullivan Music

Samuel Clark Swanger Middle Childhood Education

Brody Edward Swisher Christian Ministry Magna Cum Laude

Alyxandra Rose Syrek Criminal Justice

MALLORY RUTH THOMAS
Communication and Media
Summa Cum Laude

Brett Allen Townsend Sports Management

Sidney Denae Van Fossen Psychology Summa Cum Laude†

KRISTY IRENE VARGO
Integrated Language Arts Education/
Integrated Social Studies Education
Summa Cum Laude

Ryan Daniel Walters Business Administration *Magna Cum Laude*

LILYANN GRACE WARD
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude †

EMMA KAY WARKALL Business Administration Summa Cum Laude

SCOTT DAVID WARTON, II Computer Science Cum Laude

Lydia Christine Wicks Art Magna Cum Laude

Jacob Elishah Wilcox Christian Ministry ★

RILEY DANIEL WILCOXON Business Administration

Melia Christine Williamson Psychology

JULIA FAITH WILSON
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention (P-5)
Magna Cum Laude

Hunter Alan Winey Christian Ministry Summa Cum Laude †**

RYAN DAVID WOLFE Integrated Language Arts Education Magna Cum Laude

Isabella Ann Yoder Graphic Design Cum Laude

Jonathan David Young Christian Ministry

Grace Elisabeth Ziegler Psychology

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Deborah Ann Abendroth Biology

Owen Maxwell Adkins Biology \Diamond

LINDSEY MARIE AMBERGER Health Sciences Magna Cum Laude

Andrew David Batson Health Sciences

Elijah Lee Bost Biology

Austin Eugene Brown Chemistry

Jesse Nathaniel Brunton Mathematics Cum Laude

ALEXIS BUKURU Management

Alexander Scott Burkett Marketing

Luke Addison Caddy Exercise Science Cum Laude

ETHAN PAUL CAMPBELL Biology

Abigail Erin Chadwick Chemistry

Sarah Elizabeth Chadwick Chemistry Cum Laude

Cameron Tyler Cole Computer Science

HEDRIC YITZAK COLÓN PARÉS Exercise Science

Austin Armstrong Conrad Accounting

Hannah Grace Crouse Chemistry Magna Cum Laude

KATIE ANNMARIE CUNDIFF
Communication Sciences and Disorders
Cum Laude

Brock Ward Dettmer Finance Cum Laude

Kylee Marie Dettmer Biology *Magna Cum Laude*

Kyler Wayne Dickey Biology ◊

Maria Anastasia Dobson Exercise Science Magna Cum Laude

MATTHEW SCOTT FALKENBERG Exercise Science

Grant Raymond Ford Management

Alyssa Noelle Fraley Chemistry Cum Laude †

Garett Michael Fry Engineering Summa Cum Laude

MILTON JONELL CORT GAGE Exercise Science

Garrett Ryan Gemmaka Accounting Magna Cum Laude

Natasha Jewel Goins Biology

CHRISTIAN HENRY GRABER Exercise Science Summa Cum Laude

LOGAN CHRISTOPHER GRANTZ
Accounting

MICHAEL JOHN HAHN Accounting

Chase Austin Hall Biology≉

Isaac Shawn Harley Engineering Cum Laude

Jordan Thomas Hoag Exercise Science

Andrew Cole Holmes Exercise Science

Declan Josiah Howell Exercise Science Summa Cum Laude

Matthew James Jackson Accounting Cum Laude

ALEXANDER MARK JENNEY Finance Magna Cum Laude Megan Elizabeth Jennings Biology

Kiera Marie Maple Jones Biology Magna Cum Laude

Luke Christopher Jungeberg Exercise Science Summa Cum Laude

Addison Boyd Karger Management Magna Cum Laude

Emma Grace Klemanski Health Sciences Summa Cum Laude

Kasson Dennis Krownapple Finance

Ryan Douglas Kuhn Finance

JASON EDWARD LAASMAR Biology Cum Laude

ALYSSA M. LEPARD Marketing

Benjamin Michael Leskey Computer Science Summa Cum Laude †**

Macee Brenae Marcum Exercise Science

REAGAN RAQUEL MARSHALL Accounting Magna Cum Laude

Iran Masis Fuentes Accounting

LINDSEY NOELLE MAST Management Summa Cum Laude

Morgan Lewis Maurer Engineering

Chase Adlai Miles Finance

Alissa Katherine Miller Biology Summa Cum Laude†

Patricia Maye Mills Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Magna Cum Laude

Darren Thomas Moon Mathematics Cum Laude

Jared Austin Mount Biology *Magna Cum Laude*

Ryan Casimer O'Donnell Biology Summa Cum Laude

KAYCEE LEE OLLIS Exercise Science

† Honors Scholar ** Alpha Chi ♦ Nease Scholar * Military

Owen Lee Paulus Engineering Magna Cum Laude

Ryan James Peeples Computer Science

Cassandra Heather Nicole Petrey Biology *Cum Laude*

Joshua Robert Pettit Biology Magna Cum Laude

Kylee Leann Pettit Biology *Magna Cum Laude*

Rylee Grace Pireu Exercise Science Magna Cum Laude

Madison Marjorie Powers Integrated Math Education

Isaac LeRoy Ramseyer Marketing Cum Laude

Evelyn Genevieve Ranck Health Sciences

WAVERLY ANNE REIDENBACH
Communication Sciences and Disorders
Cum Laude

Cullen Alexander Rogan Finance Cum Laude

Claire Jayne Rothert Biology *Cum Laude*

Joshua Daniel Schilling Exercise Science Cum Laude

Raquel Alexandra Schuttenberg Biology

LUKE MICHAEL SHOEN Engineering Magna Cum Laude

Brittany Faith Smith Finance

Spencer Corwin Smith Finance

Noah John Stephens Engineering Magna Cum Laude

Ryan Michael Stevely Biology

Parker Gregory Stigall Biology

Daniel Thomas Stimson Management Magna Cum Laude

Ashley Rose Stumperth Exercise Science Magna Cum Laude WILLIAM DWIGHT ISAAC SWEETMAN Mathematics Cum Laude

RILEY E. TEW Accounting Summa Cum Laude †

JENSON GRAY THOMPSON Finance Summa Cum Laude †**

MacKenzie Briann Thorne Biology

SIDNEY DENAE VAN FOSSEN Biology Summa Cum Laude †

Kayli Ann Vipperman Biology Summa Cum Laude

Grant David Wagner Biology Cum Laude

Braden Christian Wallace Marketing

Taryn Larue Waugh Biology Cum Laude

Naomi Kim Weaver Biology

CONNOR SCOTT WILLIAMS Engineering

TIMOTHY EDMUND WILLIAMS, JR. Management

NATHAN TIMOTHY WINGERT Management Summa Cum Laude†

Jonathan Lewis Winningham Accounting Summa Cum Laude

Spencer Nicholas Wolfe Exercise Science

BRYCEN MITCHELL WOOD

Management

Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Erin Ann Boehm Nursing

Renee Noelle Bolon Nursing Cum Laude

Sydney Elizabeth Bradley Nursing Cum Laude

Hannah Grace Brandenstein Nursing

Brett Joseph Cingle Nursing

Hailey Paige Clayborn Nursing Summa Cum Laude** Maggie Kristine Coe Nursing Cum Laude

Emily Ann Conrad Nursing Magna Cum Laude

JORDYN TAYLOR DAERR Nursing

Caitlin Johanna Erlandson Nursing *Magna Cum Laude*

Erica Lynn Gasser Nursing Cum Laude

Emily Lenore Grimm Nursing Cum Laude

Kyra Lynn Lepley Nursing

KODY LANE MILLER Nursing Magna Cum Laude

LIAM RICHARD NEAR Nursing

Bailey Anne Plott Nursing Magna Cum Laude

Abigail Danae Ralston Nursing \Diamond

Kinnedy Montanna Ratliff Nursing

Emily Elizabeth Ryan Nursing Summa Cum Laude**

Meghan E. Sommers Nursing

Savannah Elizabeth Sparks Nursing Cum Laude

MEGAN NICOLE TSCHIEGG Nursing Cum Laude

Peggy Elizabeth Ulmer Nursing Summa Cum Laude

NICOLE FRANCINE WALL Nursing

Madison Domonique Windom Nursing★

Brianna Amber Wood Nursing

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Rachael Rose Brown Social Work ◊

Emily Elizabeth Burley Social Work Magna Cum Laude

ALINE BUTOTO Social Work Cum Laude

Mallory Jane Conrad Social Work Magna Cum Laude

Robyn Natalie Downes Social Work Magna Cum Laude

Haley Elizabeth Isaacs Social Work

Kevin Michael Kadrich Social Work Morgan Patricia Maffett Social Work Cum Laude

Sydney Elizabeth Ogden Social Work

Abigail Grace Penhorwood Social Work Magna Cum Laude

Lydia Mae Pitstick Social Work

Aubrey Faith Shaffer Social Work Summa Cum Laude Samantha Nicole Shaklee Social Work Summa Cum Laude

Kyra Rose Terrell Social Work

Cassidy Renee Turner Social Work

Virginia Ann Watkins Social Work

Melia Christine Williamson Social Work Magna Cum Laude

SENIOR CLASS VERSE

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

SENIOR CLASS MOTTO AND QUOTE

"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." -Christopher Robin, Winnie the Pooh

SENIOR CLASS COLOR

Purple

SENIOR CLASS FLOWER

Gladiolus

FLAG BEARERS: Anna Dudgeon, Senior Class President, 2023-2024

Logan Kazelman, Student Government Association President, 2023-2024 Ryan Casimer O'Donnell, Alpha Chi Honor Society Representative 2023-2024

UNIVERSITY MARSHALS: Alex Hayden, Student Government Association Vice President for Community Life, 2023-2024

Erin King, Student Government Association Vice President for Academic Life, 2023-2024

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023, 4:00 P.M. R. R. Hodges Chapel/Auditorium President Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D., Presiding

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

> Brass Choir John E. Packard, D.A. Professor of Music, Director

Brass Choir *Processional

Trumpet Voluntary, John Stanley Trumpet Voluntary, Jeremiah Clarke

*Academic Procession

Anna Dudgeon; Logan Kazelman; Ryan Casimer O'Donnell Flag Bearers:

Academic Marshals: Colleen S. Bryan, Ph.D.; James D. Dalton, Ed.D.; Stephen P. Metcalfe, Ph.D.;

John T. Noonan, Ph.D.; Yvonne R. Schultz, Ph.D.

University Marshals: Alex Hayden; Erin King

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

*Invocation Rev. Stephanie Lobdell, M.Div.

Campus Pastor

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D. *University Hymn Professor of Music, Director

Be Thou My Vision, Traditional Irish Melody

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art Thou my best Thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, thine own may I be; Thou in me dwelling, and I one with Thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, May I reach heaven's joys, Bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

^{*}Audience stands

*University Scripture
II Corinthians 5:14-21 NRSV

Kenneth L. Graves Bachelor of Social Work Spring 2023

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

J. K. Warrick, D.D. General Superintendent Emeritus Church of the Nazarene

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees

Eric W. Stetler, D.B.A. Vice President for Graduate and Professional Studies and

Dean of the School of GPS

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D.

The Class of 2023

Joseph D. Rinehart, M.A.
Assistant Professor of Communication,
Director of Broadcasting, and Reader

Associate of Arts Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Business Administration Bachelor of Science in Nursing Bachelor of Social Work Master of Arts in Education

Master of Business Administration

Master of Business Administration/Master of Ministry (Dual Degree)

Master of Ministry

Master of Science in Management

ALUMNI RELATIONS WELCOME

Rev. Mike Cheek, M.Min Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Advancement

*Alma Mater

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.

Brass Choir

*Benediction

*RECESSIONAL

Tavaris Taylor, MIM Assistant Vice President for Intercultural Engagement and Learning

Fanfare from Orfeo, Claudio Monteverdi Trumpet Tune and Air, Henry Purcell

RINGING OF THE SHAW BELL

^{*}Audience stands

Graduate and Professional Studies Candidates for Degrees ~ Spring 2023

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

OLIVIA CHENEY General Studies

TISH DENLINGER General Studies

Melissa Elizabeth Dolin General Studies Cum Laude

Cassandra Hampton General Studies★

Lauren Elizabeth Hejny General Studies Cum Laude

Cassidy Dawn Helman General Studies Cum Laude

Авву Kritikos General Studies Summa Cum Laude

Kristine N. Lloyd General Studies

Angela Lucas General Studies

Devin Thomas Lusk General Studies★

Kerry Althoff Nafzger General Studies

Amy Nicole Parsell General Studies Summa Cum Laude

Lauren Elizabeth Shaum General Studies

Amanda Simmons General Studies Magna Cum Laude

RICHARD C. WHEELER General Studies Cum Laude★

BACHELOR OF **A**RTS

MELISSA ANN BAYLY Christian Ministry Magna Cum Laude

Toij'a Monteil Bell Elementary Education (P-5) Magna Cum Laude

MELANIE BOULIS Educational Studies Summa Cum Laude

Brianna Porsche Brown Elementary Education (P-5) Magna Cum Laude

MACEY BURKE Educational Studies Summa Cum Laude

NICOLE DANIELLE CARROLL Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude CECIL RAY CHAPMAN Christian Ministry Cum Laude

SHERRY DAVIS
Elementary Education (P-5)
Magna Cum Laude

JADE DELONG
Early Childhood Education
Summa Cum Laude

Rh'yan Taylor Dotson Public Administration Magna Cum Laude

Daniel Goodale Christian Ministry Summa Cum Laude

Lauren Hejny Leadership Cum Laude

Ashton Hindel Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

LAUREN MACKENZIE HOLSCHBACH Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

TERESA KAYE McCune Educational Studies Summa Cum Laude

Syrena Padilla Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

KAYLA PAXTON Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

Wanda M. Peterson Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

JILL M. POSTON
Early Childhood Education
Summa Cum Laude

Julissa Crystal Reyes Elementary Education (P-5) Cum Laude

JESSICA ROBINSON
Elementary Education (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

NAUDIA N. SAEGER Elementary Education (P-5) Summa Cum Laude

MICHAEL C. SCALLEY
Public Administration
Summa Cum Laude

Bryana Hope Schweickart Elementary Education (P-5)

BROOKE E. STATON
Elementary Education (P-5)
Magna Cum Laude

Lauren L. Steinbauer Educational Studies Summa Cum Laude

HAYDEN WOJCIECHOWSKI Elementary Education (P-5)

MICHAEL YETZER Leadership Summa Cum Laude★

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Jacquelynn K. Arnold Business Administration Magna Cum Laude

Lydia Lynette Blackmon Management

Stephen Ray Tyler Butsko Management

Sarah Christian Management

BETH A. COOK
Business Administration
Cum Laude

LETHA COOK Marketing Cum Laude

Angel R. DeCapio Business Administration Cum Laude

Natasha Hatfield Business Administration

Benjamin J. Horn Finance Magna Cum Laude

Candace Hornung Human Resource Management Summa Cum Laude★

Donald R. Jarrell, Jr. Business Administration Magna Cum Laude

JUSTIN KNOBLOCK Marketing Magna Cum Laude

Heather Lea Lloyd Business Administration Magna Cum Laude

Zacery Mansker Management Magna Cum Laude*

KATHLEEN MILLER
Business Administration
Cum Laude

Amanda Moyer Finance Summa Cum Laude

Elisabeth Ann Pahlman Business Administration Cum Laude★

★ Military

Авву E. Pugh Business Administration

Fernando Rosales Management Cum Laude*

Curtis James Ruhl Management

Tosha Lynn Rupard Business Administration

Samantha L. Scoles Digital Marketing Cum Laude

ALANTA SPURGEON Business Administration

Ann Marie Stacklin Business Administration

LISA THOMAN-CHA Finance Magna Cum Laude

Shelby D. Weaver Finance Magna Cum Laude

Damien Richard Williams Management Magna Cum Laude

Melissa N. Wilson Business Administration Summa Cum Laude

McLane Scott Wyatt Management

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

SHERIS BELL Nursing Summa Cum Laude

Cassandra Butts Nursing Summa Cum Laude

Jackie D. Marvin Nursing Summa Cum Laude

Jamie M. Waite Nursing *Magna Cum Laude*

Kimberly Danielle White Nursing Summa Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Melissa Berkshire Social Work

DIXIE COLLINS Social Work

Donovan Crisp Social Work Magna Cum Laude

Jessica J. Donabauer-Hook Social Work Summa Cum Laude

Courtney Dusenberry Social Work Samantha Finley Social Work Magna Cum Laude

Katherine Joy Gholson Social Work Cum Laude

Kenneth Graves Social Work

Ryan Jackson Social Work Cum Laude

Tiera Lowe Social Work Cum Laude

Candace M. Mills Social Work

ELYSE S. OSBORNE Social Work

Angela Sciara Social Work Summa Cum Laude

JENNA A. SCOTT Social Work Cum Laude

Amber L. Wood Social Work

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

SKYLER R. APTHORPE Intervention Specialist

CODY S. BARKER Intervention Specialist

Caitlyn D. Blecha Intervention Specialist

Jessica Bowen Professional Educator Licensure

Julie Brunke Intervention Specialist

THERESE ROSE BURNHAM Professional Educator Licensure

EMILEE CLINE Intervention Specialist

John Richard Davis Intervention Specialist

Anna Deeter Intervention Specialist

JENNIFER D. LYNN DETTY Professional Educator Licensure

Nicholas Friedman Intervention Specialist

COLLIN GORSLINE Professional Educator Licensure

Shaun Anthony Greene Professional Educator Licensure

Colleen Hall Intervention Specialist

Bonnie Hamilton Professional Educator Licensure Bethany M. Herron Intervention Specialist

RICHARD W. HESSE Professional Educator Licensure

ALICIA M. HOEFER Education Theory and Practice

Cassondra Kahr Intervention Specialist

Stephanie Kimball Professional Educator Licensure

Brooklyn Mae Knopp Intervention Specialist

Kyle Joseph Lauer Intervention Specialist

JULIE KAY LEE Professional Educator Licensure

SANDRA M. MICK Intervention Specialist

Laura Kay Miller Intervention Specialist

YVONNE CAITLIN MORI Intervention Specialist

HANNAH RAE MUZIC Professional Educator Licensure

OLIVIA SUSAN RAINES Professional Educator Licensure

HAYDEN RAMSEY Intervention Specialist

Rebecca Jean Reeves Intervention Specialist

Melissa Hope Rondinelli Intervention Specialist

JULIANNE SCHNEEG Professional Educator Licensure

Christina Sidaras Intervention Specialist

Benjamin R. Stafford Professional Educator Licensure

Joseph Michael Stryffeler Professional Educator Licensure

EMILY ELIZABETH SUMNER Professional Educator Licensure

Erica J. Swart Intervention Specialist

Dessiree L. Thomas Intervention Specialist

Nick Thomas Professional Educator Licensure

OLIVIA R. VOLLMAR Professional Educator Licensure

Samantha Watson Professional Educator Licensure

Hannah Morgan Wilkes Professional Educator Licensure

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CANDICE DONELLA ANDERSON
Business Administration

AARON ALDEN ARTIS Business Administration

Amber Bartels
Business Administration

SARAH E. BAUDER Business Administration

Rosa Beltré Business Administration

Benjamin Bunnell Business Administration

JENNIFER MICHELLE BURKE Health Care Administration

SARAH H. CAMPBELL Business Administration

LARUNIE JOLENE CAYETANO Health Care Administration

JOSEPH COMPARETTE Business Administration

SHELBY CONLEY Business Administration

BEN R. COOK, SR. Business Administration

Kristin Taylor Davidson Business Administration

RACHEL BRACK DEMAR Business Administration

Dennis Dennison Business Administration

SIERRA SHANTEL DOWLING Health Care Administration

Barbara Duperree Business Administration

Melissa Ann Emery Business Administration

Samantha Evans Health Care Administration

Daniel Padraig Fallon Business Administration

BETHANY NICOLE FOY Business Administration

LOGAN DANIEL GAUTHIER
Business Administration

MITCHELL GREGORY GEORGE Business Administration

ADAM A. GOERLITZ
Business Administration

VICTORIA ESMERALDA GRIMALDO Business Administration

Sydney Nicole Hadley Business Administration

Branham Hammond Business Administration Madison Lynne Harsh Business Administration

Samantha Blair Henderson Business Administration

Tasha Lashay Jacobs Business Administration

Damien Lee Kandel Business Administration

Austin Charles Keel Business Administration

HEATH ALLEN KLINE Business Administration

Brian G. Kwetkowski Health Care Administration

KINLEY B. LEE Health Care Administration

MARK LOSINSKI Business Administration

Andrew Thomas Luckett Business Administration

RAYMOND L. MANN, JR. Business Administration

Braden Christian Mast Business Administration

ERIC MCLAUGHLIN
Business Administration

BROOKE N. MILLER
Business Administration

COURTNEY PAIGE MORIARTY Business Administration

Juan Felipe Muñoz Sanchez Business Administration

TAMEKA-MARIE NELSON Health Care Administration

SARAH ELIZABETH NICHOLS Business Administration

Christian Niemeyer Business Administration★

KEVIN RICHARD PATELLOS Health Care Administration

Samantha Lynn Poor Business Administration

RICH PORCHER Business Administration

IAN RICHARD RANCK Business Administration

Kyle Patrick Reed Health Care Administration

Taiylor Romine Business Administration

ROBERT EDWARD RUCK Business Administration

Emmanuel Adetola Temiloluwa Salako Health Care Administration Dane Schlafley Business Administration

NICHOLAS GEORGE TAKACS Business Administration

ASHLEY REBECCA TOWNSEND Business Administration

SARAH ANNALISE TOWNSEND Health Care Administration

NICOLE TUCKER Business Administration

MICHAEL EUGENE WALKER Health Care Administration

ISSAC WALLACE
Business Administration

Erin Renee Weaver Business Administration

SETH YEACK Business Administration★

Melissa Yoder Business Administration

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION/ MASTER OF MINISTRY (DUAL DEGREE)

DILLON MICHAEL COLLINS
Business Administration/Practical Theology

Samantha Davis Business Administration/Practical Theology

HENRIETTA MIRIS DENY
Business Administration/Practical Theology

CHRIS J. SUMMERLIN
Business Administration/Practical Theology

MASTER OF MINISTRY

Jennifer D. Brake Practical Theology

Caroline M. Cólon-López Practical Theology

Jamey Lee Jackson Practical Theology

EMILY KAUBLE Practical Theology

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT

THOMAS CHENEY Management

Caroline M. Colón-López Management

Courtney Luke Management

Matthew John Manley Management

Samantha Marie Turner Management

Dimitri Walker Management

University Scripture Passage and Hymn

Introduction

The Mount Vernon Nazarene University community extends around the globe into classrooms, pulpits, hospitals, places of business, and human service organizations. Wherever the influence of MVNU extends, our vision persists — *To Change the World with the Love of Christ*. This is possible because we draw from the deep wells of Israel and Jesus Christ as expressed in the mission of the Church. When the University gathers to celebrate, mourn, and dream, we do so in the power of the Holy Spirit to offer a doxology of invitation and praise. While MVNU is a young institution, its roots go to the very creation of the world. The Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the Senior Leadership Team intends to call attention to the deep wells of the Christian tradition by designating a University Scripture passage and a University hymn. Both will frame Baccalaureate, Commencement, and other University events. The Scripture passage and hymn offer testimony to the faith which runs from the heart of God to our calling to Holiness Higher Education.

University Scripture Passage

The Scripture passage of II Corinthians 5:14-21 comes from the ministry of Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God. While Paul clearly addresses the "church of God which is at Corinth", he also addresses the Church of our time. According to Paul, "the love of Christ controls us because we are convinced that one has died for all . . . (v14a). The power of the resurrection makes it possible to live for something bigger than our own agenda. This passage reminds us that the MVNU community is a new creation. We do not wander amid the ashes of civilization; rather we look to the newness of the resurrection. Because of this, MVNU lives toward reconciliation, and just for this reason, we are ambassadors for Christ to a broken world. While sin, death, and evil surround this campus, during dark days and good days Christ calls us to a ministry of reconciliation. In fact, MVNU believes God makes his appeal through us. The appeal of the everlastingly triune God, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is reconciliation borne of righteousness. The promise of the passage is lived out through the vision to change the world through the love of Christ. John Wesley writes, "This is the word of reconciliation which we preach. This is the foundation which never can be moved. By faith we are built upon this foundation; and this faith also is the gift of God" [Wesley's Works, 1: 119].

The University Scripture Passage calls attention to the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition of MVNU. The Church of the Nazarene believes with Paul that righteousness comes through Christ in order to enable us to be ambassadors of heart holiness. Therefore, the ever-flowing love of God embraces the struggles with sin and in the power of the Spirit replaces fear and failure with the peace which passes all understanding. As for Paul, so with us, we reach toward a life characterized by reconciling holiness.

University Hymn

As we gather for various important events on campus, music and singing carry great significance in the life of the community. In those moments we will sing *Be Thou My Vision*. The very vision of a God who became like us so that we might become like him helps to frame our understanding. The Christ who hangs on the cross between earth and heaven utters words of hope, forgiveness, and reconciliation. We become ambassadors of this message through Christ. The hymn also affirms "Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise . . . High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art." This hymn addresses God who is Wisdom, Word, Shield, Sword, Dignity, Shelter, and Tower. The humble babe in a manger suffers death on a cross to rise victoriously. Paul proclaims, "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2: 9-11). The University Hymn reminds our community that our vision of a Christ-formed God expresses the fullness of what we intend to be in faithfulness to our mission. MVNU reaches toward a broken world with the prayer, "Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all."

The Christian tradition is populated by men and women who wrote, served, preached, and sang the vision of God. The thread of holy diligence blesses the church toward the mission of evangelism, worship, and education. What the church believes, teaches, and confesses compels this institution to sing the praises of God. MVNU exists in the vision of a holy God who loves everlastingly. Nothing we will ever do can rise higher than the God who is "heart of [our] own heart."

The words of *Be Thou My Vision* dating to the eighth century if not the fourth century, express a deep faith. The words of the hymn express a deep desire to share the good news of the gospel by Irish missionaries and indeed the entire church. Singing *Be Thou My Vision* causes the lives of this community to be intertwined with the richness of our common and historic faith. When this hymn is sung, it effectively links passionate faith with the mind illuminated by the vision of God.

Memory and Mission define the sentiments of the University Scripture passage and University Hymn. The purpose of both is to frame the good work of MVNU to engage the mind and heart in the grand purpose of education in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition.

Adopted March 4, 2011 Board of Trustees



President's Farewell to the Graduates

Today is a bittersweet day for the University. We have enjoyed the years you have spent with us at MVNU but understand that this is the day we have all been working toward. Your presence on our campus has graced us. During your time with us, you have defined the direction of your life. As a member of this community, you have put a stake or two in the ground. In the days that are ahead, you will find other goals that will bring fulfillment and extend your understanding of life. Paul writes,

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let those of us, then, who are mature think this way, and if you think differently about anything, this, too, God will reveal to you. ¹⁶ Only let us hold fast to what we have attained. (*Philippians 3:12-16*)

Paul offers advice to the Class of 2023. He reminds us that it is important to continue pressing toward our goals. In a not-so-subtle way, he reminds his readers that Christ must inform and inspire us as our goals are envisioned. You have certainly noticed that your professors who mentored you are on the same journey as their students. Ultimately, the University has sought to encourage your maturity in Christ. It is our hope that your life will be filled with the joy of taking on the image of Christ. After all, the University "exists to shape lives through educating the whole person and cultivating Christlikeness for lifelong learning and service." This is exactly what Paul is talking about, and it is what the University prays will take root in the lives of the Class of 2023.

Today as you receive your degree, remember all those who worked to establish and maintain this University. Think about your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and in some cases, children who supported you during these years. Remember your professors and staff who have assisted you on your journey. Cherish the friendships you have made along the way. This is a day of gratitude.

Finally, enjoy these moments as we joyfully place a diploma in your deserving hands. May this day be defined by our mutual pride in your work and our hope for a Christ-formed life as you press toward the goal.

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Henry W. Spaulding II, Ph.D. President

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME

Congratulations on your graduation! What an exciting day for you and your family. Completing a degree is a testimony of fortitude, sacrifice, and significance. Well done!

The time has come in your life to begin a fresh chapter with your acquired knowledge, passion, and purpose. As you leave the experiences and memories of MVNU, go in peace, live with purpose, and engage the world with the love of Christ. And always remember and embrace our motto, *To Seek to Learn is to Seek to Serve.*

We welcome you into the MVNU Alumni family. It is our hope to stay connected with you in the years to come. Connect with other alums and our University. Attend events, share updates, and engage in the life of this very special place. God bless you richly.

Mike Cheek Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Advancement

MVNU COMMENCEMENT WEBPAGE

Please visit the Commencement 2023 page on the MVNU website for more details about commencement weekend traditions, faculty, leadership teams, Board of Trustee members and MVNU Emeriti members. You can also read the history of Mount Vernon Nazarene University and the Lakeholm Farm.

A digital version of our Baccalaureate and Commencement programs is also available on the commencement webpage.



Mount Vernon Nazarene University ALMA MATER

Words by Arthur Seamans, 1971 Revised by Bruce and Peggy Oldham, 2002 Music by Virginia Cameron, 1971 Revised by Virginia Cameron and B. David Liles, 2002





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