

BACCALAUREATE



Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Friday, May 20, 2022
7:30 p.m.

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Prelude

6 Feet Beat

Call to Worship

“God of Cosmos and Quarks”

Gwen Thomas

One: God of cosmos and quarks,
God of rainbows and roly-polies,
God of electricity and enzymes—

All: you created the earth and proclaimed it good.

One: The galaxies and planets are known to you,
yet also the hairs on our heads.
You cradle all things in the palm of your hand,
supporting us with love.

**All: We magnify your name for our creation
and for the blessings of this life.**

One: Sustain in us a spirit of awe
for how you continue to be present in the world
and help us to act with love
for all that you have created.

All: Amen.

Land Acknowledgement

Elizabeth Speidel

Welcome

Jay Rundell, president

Song

“Gather Us In”

Scripture

Luke 9:1-6

Hank Osmundson

Sermon	“Embracing the Genuine”	Kati Glover
Song of Response	“For Everyone Born”	<i>Insert</i>
Presentation of Class Gift/Offering		Alycia Orcena
Charge to the Graduates		

“May God Bless You with a Restless Discomfort”

Reader: May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and love deep within your heart.

Graduates: We receive this blessing.

Reader: May God bless you with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

Graduates: We receive this blessing.

Reader: May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

Graduates: We receive this blessing.

Reader: May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really CAN make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God’s grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

Graduates: We receive this blessing.

Reader: And the blessing of God...our Creator, Jesus Christ the incarnate Word who is our [sibling] and Saviour, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide, be with you and remain with you, this day and forevermore.

Graduates: We receive this blessing.

All: AMEN.

Closing Song	“For Everyone Born”	<i>Insert</i>
Benediction		Kati Glover
Postlude		6 Feet Beat

PARTICIPANTS

* *indicates 2022 MTSO graduate*

Gwen Thomas *

Elizabeth Speidel *

Jay Rundell, president

Hank Osmundson *

Kati Glover *

Alycia Orcena *

Yvonne Zimmerman, acting dean

Tim Van Meter, associate professor of Christian education and youth ministry

Claudine Leary, director of development

April Casperson, director of enrollment management

6 Feet Beat: Greg Menssen, Victoria Lambert, Mackalyn Figgins and Jaylon Tasby

With special thanks to all who helped with planning, logistics and tech: Elisebeth Boyer, Kathy Dickson, Victoria Lambert, Greg Menssen, Jay Rundell and Danny Russell.

CREDITS

“God of Cosmos and Quarks” and “May God Bless You with a Restless Discomfort,” *Voices Together*, Harrisonburg, Virginia: MennoMedia, 2020.

“Gather Us In,” *The Faith We Sing*, Nashville, Abingdon Press, 2000.

“For Everyone Born,” Hope Publishing, 1998.

For Everyone Born

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray

MUSIC: Colin Gibson

For everyone born a place at the table
For everyone born clean water and bread
A shelter a space a safe place for growing
For everyone born a star overhead

Chorus

And God will delight when we are creators
Of justice and joy compassion and peace
Yes God will delight when we are creators
Of justice justice and joy

For woman and man a place at the table
Revising the roles deciding the share
With wisdom and grace dividing the power
For woman and man a system that's fair

Chorus

For young and for old a place at the table
A voice to be heard a part in the song
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled
For young and for old the right to belong

Chorus

For just and unjust a place at the table
Abuser abused with need to forgive
In anger in hurt a mindset of mercy
For just and unjust a new way to live

Chorus

For everyone born a place at the table
To live without fear and simply to be
To work to speak out to witness and worship
For everyone born the right to be free

Gather Us In

WORDS AND MUSIC: Marty Haugen

Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in the lost and forsaken, gather us in the
Blind and the lame; call to us now and we shall awaken
we shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young our lives are a myst'ry
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry
Called to be light to the whole human race

Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in the
Proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song

Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
Call us anew to be salt for the earth

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the
Bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven, light years away but
Here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the Kingdom, now is the day

Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and
Make us your own; gather us in all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.