**Blessing of the Seniors**  
Baccalaureate Service  
Sunday, May 24, 2020

**Prelude:** *Komm, heiliger Geist (Come, Holy Spirit)* ................. J.S. Bach  
Dr. Karen Black  
College Organist and  
Rudi Inselmann Endowed Professor in Organ

**Welcome** ................................... The Rev. Dr. Brian Beckstrom  
Dean of Spiritual Life and  
Herbert and Cora Moehlmann Chaplaincy Chair

**Greeting and Prayer of the Day** .............. Rebecca Baird, Pastoral Intern  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**First Reading** ................................................. Acts 1:6-14  
Daniel Volkmann ’20

6When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?”

7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.

8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.

11They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.

13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphæus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near, join me in glad adoration!
Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the almighty can do if with his love he befriend thee!
Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again; gladly for aye we adore Him!

Second Reading ........................................... I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
Annika Kreig ’20

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
13 But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.
14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.
56 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.
7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.
8 Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.
9 Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.
10 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.
11 To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Special Music: Nearer My God to Thee .................. arr. Herbert L. Clarke
Wartburg Wind Ensemble

The Holy Gospel ............................................. John 17:1-11
Micah Sieg ’20

1 After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,
2 since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.
3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
4 I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.
So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in
your presence before the world existed.

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world.
They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;
for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have
received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have
believed that you sent me.

I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on
behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am
coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given
me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Sermon: A letter to the Class of 2020 ....................... Pastor Beckstrom

The Prayers of the People ..................... Rebecca Baird, Pastoral Intern

Alana Harms ’20
Charmaine Denison-George ’20
Sierra Mastin ’20

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Choral Anthem: The Road Home ....................... Stephen Paulus

Tell me where is the road I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost, so long ago.
All these years I have wondered, oh when will I know,
There’s a way, there’s a road that will lead me home.

After wind, After rain, when the dark is done,
As I wake from a dream, in the gold of day,
Through the air there’s a calling from far away,
There’s a voice I can hear that will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, come away is the call
With (the) love in your heart as the only song
There is no such beauty as where you belong
Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.
Blessing of the Seniors ........................................... Pastor Beckstrom

The Benediction .............................................. Pastor Beckstrom
    Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
    Thanks be to God.

Postlude: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ....................... Charles Ore
    Dr. Black