



Academic Convocation

11:00 A.M.

Saturday, August 28, 2021

The asterisk () is an invitation for those who are able to stand, in body or in spirit.*

Prelude

"Largo"

George Frideric Handel

***Acknowledge the Land**

Rev. Dr. Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne
Visiting Assistant Professor of Worship & Preaching,
Director of Mast Chapel at NBTS

***Opening Prayer**

Grant us, O God, a vision of your world as your love would have it:
a world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;
a world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;
a world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect;
a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.
Give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Introductions

Rev. Dr. Micah L. McCreary
President ,NBTS

Litany of Hope

God of hope,
We give thanks for your Spirit
that seeks to refresh and renew.

Compassionate God of hope,
Show mercy to those depleted
by disappointment,
by bitterness,
by guilt.
Restore those drained
by grief,
by hunger,
by despair.

ALL: Come from the four winds,

O breath of God,
and breathe upon these
that they may live.

Suffering God of hope,
Bring help to those facing
persecution,
violation,
abandonment.
Provide clarity to those who feel
bewildered,
disillusioned,
apathetic.

ALL: Come from the four winds,
O breath of God,
and breathe upon these
that they may live.

Gentle God of hope,
Lift up those cut off
by age
by disability
by thoughtlessness . . .
Offer solace for those cut off
from family
from neighbors
from creation

ALL: Come from the four winds,
O breath of God,
and breathe upon these
that they may live.

Powerful God of hope,
restrain the hands and convert the hearts
of those who seek to do harm and
give us courage to be instruments of your peace;

We, the Faculty of New Brunswick Theological Seminary, trust in Jesus Christ and through him believe in one triune God.

We are guided by the Word of God, incarnate, written, and proclaimed.

We will be attentive to historical and contemporary confessions and expressions of Christian faith, and to the beauty and importance of diversity across traditions.

Relying upon the grace of God, we seek the peace, unity, and purity of the whole church and of creation.

We attest to the dignity of all people, affirming that all human beings are created in the image of God. In view of the person and ministry of Jesus Christ, Good News liberates the least among us, those who endure violence due to their religious beliefs, class, sexual orientation, gender, ethnicity, or race. We profess that Christ in the Spirit heals, sanctifies, and reconciles the pains and exploitations of people and nature.

We renounce and lament systems of oppression, and commit to speak truth to oppressive power structures, organize within our institutions, and agitate at every level of society in pursuit of justice.

Seeking the lead of the Spirit, we commit to extend pastoral care to our colleagues and students and to show the love and justice of Christ in our community and beyond.

With energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, we pledge to build up and equip the church for service throughout the world; to free the enslaved, to relieve the oppressed, to comfort the afflicted, and to walk humbly with God.

We will be faithful to the mission of New Brunswick Theological Seminary, practicing the highest standards of academic integrity and excellence and using our time and talents to advance the purposes of this seminary and our shared calling as long as we may serve.

We ask God, and ask you God's people, to help us so to do in the hope of that glorious day when, with joy and gratitude, we stand before God as witnesses of all things made new.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Voluntary on "Heaven"

arr. Thompson

Worship Notes & Acknowledgements

Organist: Hale B. Thompson III, Minister of Music at Hollis Presbyterian Church
Opening Prayer from “Engaging Our Faith: Prayers for Justice and Peace”
resources from the United Church of Christ.

Litany of Hope adapted by S.Duchesne from a prayer from Dr. Andrew Wymer.

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THINK CRITICALLY, ACT JUSTLY, LEAD FAITHFULLY.

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SINCE 1784