

The Commencement Service  
of  
Columbia Theological Seminary



Saturday, May 22, 2021  
10:00 a.m.

An Online Celebration of the 2021 Graduating Class

## THE COMMENCEMENT SERVICE

Prelude

Rylan André Harris

Welcome

Leanne Van Dyk

Call to Worship

La Ronda D. Barnes, Becca Leland, Julianna R. C. Whitson

Blessed be God,  
who creates out of divine imagination,  
who shapes beauty out of chaos,  
breathes life into dust,  
delights in designing difference  
and embodies in every one of us  
the image of our Maker.  
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed be God,  
who gives each person a purpose,  
equipping us with energy and wisdom;  
who refuses to discriminate,  
affirming sacred worth,  
identifying hidden potential,  
recognizing the gifts that each one brings.  
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed be God,  
who satisfies our needs in parched places,  
making our communities like watered gardens;  
who rebuilds foundations,  
guiding our steps for generations;  
who calls us outside of ourselves  
to be repairers of the breach  
and restorers of streets to live in.  
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed be the Maker,  
the Redeemer and the Spirit  
in our lives and our worship.  
**Amen.**

Hymn

“Sing a New Church”

Commencement Singers

Prayer for Illumination		William Yoo
Scripture Reading	John 5:1-9	William Yoo
Sermon	“Do You Want to Be Healed?”	Kwok Pui Lan
Sung Response	“Your Spirit”	Commencement Singers
Conferring of Degrees		Jane Fahey assisted by Brandon T. Maxwell Jeffery L. Tribble, Sr.
Announcement of Honors		Love L. Sechrest
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession		Melinda A. McGarrah Sharp
Blessing and Charge to Graduates		Caitlin Reeves Greenamyre for the Staff of Columbia Seminary  Faculty of Columbia Seminary
Hymn	“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”	Commencement Singers
Benediction		Leanne Van Dyk

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

Rylan André Harris, Interim Director of Chapel Music  
CTS Commencement Singers  
Leanne Van Dyk, President  
La Ronda D. Barnes, MAPT Student  
Becca Leland, MDiv and MAPT Student  
Julianna Rebecca Chen Whitson, MDiv Student  
William Yoo, Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History  
and Director of MDiv Program  
Kwok Pui Lan, Dean's Professor of Systematic Theology at Candler School of Theology  
Melinda A. McGarrah Sharp, Associate Professor of Practical Theology and Pastoral Care  
and Director of the MAPT Program  
Jane Fahey, Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Love L. Sechrest, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty  
Brandon T. Maxwell, Vice President for Enrollment & Student Affairs and Dean of Students  
Jeffery L. Tribble, Sr., Associate Professor of Ministry and  
Associate Dean for Advanced Professional Ministries  
Caitlin Reeves Greenamyre, Archivist and Staff Council Member  
Members of the Faculty

## **KWOK PUI LAN BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. Kwok Pui Lan rejoined the Candler faculty as Dean's Professor of Systematic Theology in 2020. She previously served as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Theology for the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 academic years, and was named Faculty Person of the Year by the student body both years. Dr. Kwok is the former William F. Cole Professor of Christian Theology and Spirituality at Episcopal Divinity School. She has also taught at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Auburn Theological Seminary, Union Theological Seminary, and Yale Divinity School.

Dr. Kwok's research focuses on Asian feminist theology and postcolonial theology. She has written or edited twenty-one books in English and Chinese, including *The Hong Kong Protests and Political Theology* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2021); *Occupy Religion: Theology of the Multitude* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2012, with Joerg Rieger); *Postcolonial Imagination and Feminist Theology* (Westminster John Knox, 2005); *Introducing Asian Feminist Theology* (Sheffield Academic Press, 2000); *Discovering the Bible in the Non-Biblical World* (Orbis Books, 1995); and *Chinese Women and Christianity, 1860–1927* (Scholars Press, 1992). Her current research focuses on the practice of postcolonial theology.

## SERVICE NOTES

Call to Worship adapted from *A Wee Worship Book*. By Graham Maule, John L. Bell, and the Wild Goose Resource Group. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Wild Goose Publications. 2015.

“Sing a New Church.” Text by Dolores Dufner. OCP Publications. 1991.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession written by Melinda A. McGarrah Sharp with wisdom from Simone Weil and Toni Cade Bambara.

“Your Spirit.” By Tasha Cobbs Leonard. *Heart. Passion. Pursuit. feat. Kierra Sheard*, Motown Gospel (EGS). 2017.

Staff Blessing composed by the Staff Council with input from the staff of Columbia Seminary.

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me.” Adapted Text and Tune by Paul M. Vasile.

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The Commencement Singers: Maggie Burgess, Paul Burgess, Alisa Castilla, Brittney Daniel, Sarah Erickson, Rhonda Johnson, Myungjin Kim, Carlene Knights, Ashley Lewis, Brandon Maxwell, Martha Moore-Keish, David Oyali, Cassandra Silverman, Jin-Sol Tark, Jeffrey Tribble, Byunghun Yoon.

Instrumentalists: Aaron Lackey, Jr. (drums), Edward Menifee (piano/organ), Jerome Stephens (bass guitar).

Commencement ceremony planned by Rebecca Spurrier, Associate Dean for Worship Life, and Rylan André Harris, Interim Director of Chapel Music.

Commencement celebration planning team: Julie Bailey, Lucy Baum, Corie Cox, Jennifer Cuthbertson, Ashley Lewis, Mike Medford, Rebecca Spurrier, Felicia Thimas, Jeff Vaughan, Karen Wishart-Christian.

Videography and film production by Sema Films with special thanks to Cassandra Henderson and Wes Browning.

## GRADUATES of the CLASS OF 2021

### Doctor of Educational Ministry

Leeanna Jackson\*  
Atlanta, Georgia  
*Faith Builders: Empowering Parents, Youth Leaders, and Mentors to Disciple Youth for Lasting Faith*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Kathy Dawson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: William Yoo  
BA, Luther Rice University  
MACS, Luther Rice University  
MATS, Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary

Jiyoung Kim  
Seoul, South Korea  
*Ecological Education for Christian Children Who Will Lead the Next Generation*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Kathy Dawson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: William P. Brown  
BA, Hanshin University  
MA, Hanshin University  
MTS, McCormick Theological Seminary

### Doctor of Ministry

Betty Lyn Angelini  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
*CONFLUENCE: An Adaptive Change Merging Camp and Conference and Emerging Adult Ministries*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Haruko Nawata Ward  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Rodger Yutaka Nishioka  
BS, Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
MDiv, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Laura Annette Bryant\*  
Atlanta, Georgia  
*Switching Stories: Scripture and Conversion in Adult Formation*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Martha Moore-Keish  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Stanley P. Saunders  
BA, Duke University  
MDiv, Candler School of Theology

Samuel Bradley Clayton  
Tallahassee, Florida  
*Planning for the Future: A Healthy Framework for a Financial Endowment in Congregational Ministry*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Mark Douglas  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Ralph C. Basui Watkins  
BA, The College of William and Mary  
MDiv, Columbia Theological Seminary

Adrian Neil Doll\*  
Henderson, Nevada  
*Guideposts in the Desert: How Benedictine Spirituality with a Focus on Set Hours of Prayer Can Revitalize the Spiritual Practices of Members of a Reformed Congregation within the Presbyterian Tradition in the Twenty-first Century*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Martha Moore-Keish  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Catherine Gunsalus Gonzalez  
BA, University of Illinois  
BS, National University of Health Sciences  
DC, National University of Health Sciences  
MDiv, Fuller Theological Seminary

Anna Fulmer Duke\*  
Mobile, Alabama  
*Be Still and Know: Youth and the Struggle to Reclaim Sabbath*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: William P. Brown  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Melinda A. McGarrah Sharp  
BA, Clemson University  
MDiv, Columbia Theological Seminary

Charlene Kay Seaborn Fuino  
Suwanee, Georgia  
*Satisfying Eucharist for Spiritual Hunger: From Julian of Norwich and Teresa of Avila to United Methodist Clergywomen in Parish Ministry*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Haruko Nawata Ward  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: William P. Brown  
BS, Auburn University at Montgomery  
MBA, Samford University  
MDiv, Candler School of Theology

John Lewis Jacobs III\*  
Gadsden, Alabama  
*An Exploration of the Preparedness of African Americans in Southern Region Hospices Who Are Facing Death*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Jeffery L. Tribble, Sr.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Marvin Simmers  
BA, Talladega College  
MDiv, Howard University School of Divinity

Brian James Lays\*  
Denver, Colorado  
*A Pastoral Approach to Preaching Difficult Texts*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: John William Harkins III  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Anna Carter Florence  
BA, Whitworth University  
MDiv, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
MTh, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Roy Anthony McPherson  
Miramar, Florida  
*The Socio-religious and Emotional Lived Experiences of Jamaican Immigrants in Miami, Florida, USA: A Case for a Pastoral Care Model*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Oral Thomas  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Marvin Simmers  
BA, University of the West Indies  
DipMin, United Theological College of the West Indies

John Lamar Odom\*  
Louisville, Kentucky  
*Beginning in Sin and Ending Rather Odd: An Appreciative Inquiry Case Study of the Effectiveness of the Synod of Living Waters in Supporting Mission and Ministry in the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Mark Douglas  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Charles A. Wiley  
AB, Davidson College  
MDiv, Union Theological Seminary, New York

Arlene Lillian Robie  
Lithonia, Georgia  
*Early Faith: How Children (K-2) Learn about the Gospel Using Interactive Tools that Engage Their Faith*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Kathy Dawson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Elizabeth F. Caldwell  
BA, Agnes Scott College  
MDiv, Candler School of Theology  
ThM, Harvard Divinity School

William McMullen Scott  
Dalton, Georgia  
*Place Forming Pastor: Imagination and Congregational Exegesis as Pastoral Spirituality*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Jacob D. Myers  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Christine J. Hong  
BA, Davidson College  
MDiv, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Peter Andrew Thompson  
Lynchburg, Virginia  
*Christian Worship and the Communal Practice of Sports: A Relationship for the Perspective of Families of First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Rebecca F. Spurrier  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Tim Hartman  
BS, Montreat College  
MDiv, Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education

Owen Lorenzo Wilson\*  
Portmore, St. Catherine, Jamaica  
*James Fowler's Faith Development Theory: Implications for Shaping Faith Formation of Millennials*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Oral Thomas  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Kathy Dawson  
BEEd, University of Technology  
MSc, University of Technology

## Master of Theology

Junghoon An  
Federal Way, Washington  
*Rhetorical Analysis of Isaiah 11:1-9: Comparing Metaphors in Ancient Near East Literature*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: William P. Brown  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Mark Douglas  
BA, Yonsei University  
MDiv, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary

Kellen Isaac Brooks  
Westland, Michigan  
*A Rubric for the Ongoing Development of Music in African American Pentecostal Churches*  
1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Rebecca F. Spurrier  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Mark Douglas  
BA, Michigan State University  
MDiv, Ashland Theological Seminary

Young Min Choi  
Gyeonggi-do, South Korea  
*How Time, Space, and Matter Function in a Digitally Mediated Worship*

1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Martha Moore-Keish

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Mark Douglas

ThB, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary

MDiv, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary

Dana Huggin Riley  
Jacksonville, Florida

*Story as Ritual*

1<sup>st</sup> Reader: John William Harkins III

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Mark Douglas

BS, University of Georgia

MDiv, Columbia Theological Seminary

### **Master of Divinity**

Christópher Abreu Rosario

New York, New York

BA, Webster University

MA, University of London, Royal Holloway and Bedford New College

*With Honors in the Biblical Area*

Evans Baah Mintah

Nkoranza, Ghana

BEd, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana

DipAdT, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana

Sarah Jane Barrán-Morrell

Austin, Texas

BA, University of Texas at Austin

Raushanah Nikon Butler

Kennesaw, Georgia

BS, South Carolina State University

MBA, Keller Graduate School of Management

MPM, Keller Graduate School of Management

Nicholas Joseph Carson

Laurel, Maryland

BS, North Carolina State University

Ashley Juhee Chung

Sugar Hill, Georgia

BS, Point University

Erica Noel Fluckus

Indianapolis, Indiana

BS, Tuskegee University

Sally Marie Foster

Dunwoody, Georgia

BA, University of Maryland

JD, Wake Forest University

MBA, DeVry University

Donnie Leroy Graves\*

Reidsville, North Carolina

BA, Shaw University

Nell McNeely Herring

Mooresville, North Carolina

BA, Furman University

Jinho Ko\*

Busan, South Korea

BA, Holy Angel University, Philippines

Patrick Fisher Lane

Greenville, Mississippi

BS, University of Mississippi

Rebecca Amy Leland

Arlington, Virginia

BA, George Mason University

Thomas Lee Miller

Whispering Pines, North Carolina

BS, Appalachian State University

Emily Marie Mooneyhan\*

West Columbia, South Carolina

BA, University of South Carolina

Emily Sarah Morrell

Greenville, Tennessee

BA, Centre College

*With Honors in the Historical Doctrinal Area*

Diana Rosa Ramos Garcia

Dunwoody, Georgia

BA, Instituto Superior Pedagógico Juan Marinello, Matanzas, Cuba

BA, Seminario Evangélico de Teología, Matanzas, Cuba

Cuba



Erin Nicole Rugh  
Aurora, Ohio  
BBA, Ohio University

Sarah McCall Ruple  
Lexington, South Carolina  
BFA, Winthrop University

Rachel Ann Sutphin  
Christiansburg, Virginia  
BA, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State  
University

Peter Lawrence Thornton\*  
McDonough, Georgia  
BS, University of Georgia

Jalani Akeem Traxler  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
BA, Morehouse College

Jacqueline L. Turner  
Loganville, Georgia  
BS, Troy University

Madison Nicole Vaughn\*  
Fairhope, Alabama  
BHES, University of Alabama

Mary Elizabeth Walker  
Atlanta, Georgia  
BS, Vanderbilt University  
MEd, Vanderbilt University

Alice Campbell Whitson  
Jefferson City, Missouri  
BA, University of Missouri

Julianna Rebecca Chen Whitson  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
BS, University of Arkansas in Fayetteville

Natalie Gray Wolf  
Durham, North Carolina  
BA, Appalachian State University

Joshua Bradley Woodsmith  
Columbia, South Carolina  
BA, Furman University

Grant Lawton Wright\*  
Teton Village, Wyoming  
BA, Middlebury College

## **Master of Arts in Practical Theology**

Christópher Abreu Rosario  
New York, New York  
BA, Webster University  
MA, University of London, Royal Holloway and  
Bedford New College

Ji Hyun Ahn\*  
Paju-si, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea  
BA, Seoul Women's University  
BA, Yonsei University

Oluwasimisola Oluwatoyosi Alonge  
Ibadan, Nigeria  
BS, University of Ibadan, Nigeria  
MS, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

La Ronda D. Barnes  
Atlanta, GA  
BA, University of Akron  
MA, University of Michigan  
JD, Yale Law School  
MDiv, Candler School of Theology  
ThM, Candler School of Theology

Rosmargretha A. Dunn\*  
Atlanta, Georgia  
BS, Point University

Nell McNeely Herring  
Mooresville, North Carolina  
BA, Furman University

Jinho Ko\*  
Busan, South Korea  
BA, Holy Angel University, Philippines

Rebecca Amy Leland  
Arlington, Virginia  
BA, George Mason University

Myles Kaleikini Markham\*  
Atlanta, Georgia  
BS, Columbia International University

Thomas Lee Miller  
Whispering Pines,  
North Carolina  
BS, Appalachian State University

Emily Sarah Morrell  
Greenville, Tennessee  
BA, Centre College

Erin Nicole Rugh  
Aurora, Ohio  
BBA, Ohio University

Sarah McCall Ruple  
Lexington, South  
Carolina  
BFA, Winthrop University

Alpha Omega Stacer III  
Lilburn, Georgia  
BA, University of North Carolina

Rachel Ann Sutphin  
Christiansburg, Virginia  
BA, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State  
University

Jalani Akeem Traxler  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
BA, Morehouse College

Madison Nicole Vaughn\*  
Fairhope, Alabama  
BHES, University of Alabama

Natalie Gray Wolf  
Durham, North Carolina  
BA, Appalachian State University

Joshua Bradley Woodsmith  
Columbia, South Carolina  
BA, Furman University

### **Master of Arts in Theological Studies**

David Mwirigi Manyara  
Nairobi, Kenya  
BD, St. Paul's University, Kenya  
MA, Newman University, United Kingdom

Lucas Waweru Mburu  
Kiambu, Kenya  
BTech, Moi University, Kenya  
BTh, Presbyterian University of East Africa,  
Kenya

Gloria K. Venuh  
Nagaland, India  
BTh, Jubilee Memorial Bible College, India  
BD, United Theological College, India

### **Certificate of Advanced Professional Studies in Religious Leadership**

Gerald Frank Arata

*\*Degree completed December 31, 2020 (Mid-year)*

## FELLOWSHIPS, PRIZES, AND AWARDS COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

### **Harvard A. Anderson Fellowship**

This fellowship was established in 1983 by the Rev. and Mrs. Harvard A. Anderson of Orlando, Florida. This fellowship is awarded to the graduate determined by the faculty to have the greatest potential for future academic achievement.

### **Columbia Graduate Fellowships**

The Columbia Graduate Fellowships were initiated by the class of 1941.

### **Emma Gaillard Boyce Graduate Fellowship**

This fellowship was established by the Rev. David Gaillard Boyce, an alumnus of the seminary, in honor of his mother. It is awarded to a graduating senior or clergy person who enrolls in a graduate program of music and/or worship.

### **Fannie Jordan Bryan Fellowships**

These fellowships were established through a generous legacy left to Columbia by the late Mrs. Fannie Jordan Bryan of Columbia, South Carolina.

### **Anna Church Whitner Fellowships**

These fellowships are given periodically from a legacy left to the seminary in 1928 by the late William C. Whitner of Rock Hill, South Carolina, in memory of his mother.

**James T. and Celeste M. Boyd Book Fund Award** *Eligibility: Basic Degree (MDiv, MA(PT), MA(TS)) Graduating Students*  
A cash award given each year to a basic degrees graduating student who in the judgment of the faculty would be a good steward of a theological library, and has demonstrated a desire through studies to build a personal theological library.

**Robert H. Ramey Christian Leadership Award** *Eligibility: MDiv Graduating Students*

A cash award to be used for books and/or continuing education that is given to a graduating MDiv senior who shows promise of providing outstanding leadership to the church. The recipient would have demonstrated unusual leadership qualities at Columbia, as well as spiritual depth and integrity.

**Wilds Book Prize** *Eligibility: MDiv Graduating Students*

A cash award given to the graduating student selected by the faculty for the highest distinction in academic work over the entire seminary program in the Master of Divinity degree program.

**William Dudley Fund Award** *Eligibility: MDiv Graduating Students*

Award(s) to graduating MDiv seniors who have evidenced achievement, interest, and commitment in evangelism and church growth, to be used within a five-year period for costs associated with continuing education or graduate study in evangelism and church growth at Columbia Theological Seminary. Faculty members may nominate persons to the Basic Degrees Committee who will nominate two persons for recommendation to the faculty.

**Abdullah Awards** *Eligibility: All Degree Students*

These awards of two types are made available each year by the late Rev. Gabriel Abdullah, an alumnus of the seminary. The first cash prize is for the best paper setting forth a plan for the teaching of Bible in the public schools; and the second is for the best paper designing a program for the development of moral and spiritual values.

**Julia Abdullah Award** *Eligibility: All Degree Students*

This award is made available each year by the late Rev. Gabriel Abdullah, an alumnus of the seminary. The cash prize is for the best paper on the subject, "How to make the church school hour the most interesting hour of the week."

**Paul T. Fuhrmann Book Prize in Church History** *Eligibility: Basic Degree (MDiv, MA(PT), MA(TS)) Students*

A cash award made annually to the basic degrees student who has shown the most outstanding achievement in church history. A judging committee of professors of church history nominates a person to the faculty for election.

**Ludwig Richard Max Dewitz Old Testament Studies Award** *Eligibility: Basic Degree (MDiv, MA(PT), MA(TS)) Students*

A cash award given to a basic degree student who prepared the best Old Testament exegesis during the academic year. A judging committee of professors of Old Testament nominates a person to the faculty for election.

**Harold J. Riddle Memorial Book Award** *Eligibility: Graduating Students*

A cash award given to a graduating student, selected by the faculty in consultation with the pastoral care faculty, who shows the highest distinction in the field of pastoral care, especially in the area of terminally ill patients.

**John Nelsen Award: The Bible and the Missional Church** *Eligibility: DMin or DEdMin Graduating Students*

This cash award is for the best Doctor of Ministry or Doctor of Educational Ministry project focusing on scripture in aiding the transformation of the student's congregation into a missional church. The award is given by Dan Winn, Jr. in honor of his friend and counselor, John Nelsen, MDiv, DMin, Princeton Theological Seminary and pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Sapulpa, Oklahoma, who for 25 years has devoted his ministry to challenging, sustaining, and transforming congregations. The missional church has been his primary focus for several years.

**George and Sally Telford Award** *Eligibility: DMin Graduating Students*

This cash award recognizes each year an outstanding graduate in the Doctor of Ministry program. The award is presented to the graduating DMin student who shows exceptional ability for congregational leadership with an emphasis on social justice issues and vision for the church.

**Florie S. Johnson Award** *Eligibility: Graduating Basic Degree (MDiv, MAPT, MA(TS)) Students*

This cash award was established by the family of Florie S. Johnson in memory of their mother, who was a devoted teacher committed to lay ministry through the Church of Jesus Christ. The award is given to a graduating basic degree student who presents the best paper setting forth a plan for pastoral care to the aging, and who shows promise of providing such ministry in a parish setting.

**William Rivers Waddey Award** *Eligibility: MDiv Graduating Students*

A cash award established by Walter and Cecilia Waddey in memory of their son, William, who was an active and vital part of the youth program and ministry at Peachtree Presbyterian Church. The fund is to support an award given to a graduating MDiv student who possesses extraordinary gifts for youth ministry and an intent to pursue such a call in the church.

**Buechner Award in Preaching** *Eligibility: Basic Degree (MDiv, MAPT, MA(TS)) Graduating Students*

A cash award presented annually to the basic degrees graduating student who has done outstanding work in chapel leadership and preaching courses throughout their entire seminary program. Nominations are made by faculty members in homiletics and worship to the Basic Degrees Committee.

**Buechner Award in Writing** *Eligibility: Graduating Students*

A cash award presented annually to the graduating student from any degree program who exemplifies care and craft in the skill of communicating the gospel in the written word, in both course assignments and in public and pastoral ministry settings throughout their entire seminary program. Nominations are made by faculty members and/or the Director of the Center for Academic Literacy to the Basic Degrees Committee.