Wartburg College

Baccalaureate and Commencement
Sunday, the Twelfth of December
Two Thousand Twenty-One

The Wartburg Chapel
**Baccalaureate and Commencement**

*December 12, 2021 • 10:30 a.m. • Wartburg Chapel*

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**Preludial Music**

Dr. Karen Black, College Organist, Cantor, and Rudi Inselmann Endowed Professor in Organ

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**Procesional Music:** *Trumpet Tune in D Major*.........................David Johnson

Dr. Black

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**Welcome**

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

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**Opening Hymn:** *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* ELW 242

(Words and music on page 8)

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**Greetings**

Pastor Beckstrom

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

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**Prayer of the Day**

Pastor Beckstrom

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**Readings**

**Isaiah 12:2-6**

Jonah Macejkovic ’24

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**Philippians 4:4-7**

Namleng Sina ’22

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**The Holy Gospel:** Luke 3:7-18

Ezra Andersen ’22

Response after the Gospel reading: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

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**Message**

Pastor Beckstrom

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**Hymn of the Day:** *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* ELW 256

( Words and music on page 9)

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**Prayers of the People**

Rebecca Baird ’18, Pastoral Intern

Each petition ends with:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy;

People: hear our prayer.

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* Congregation stands
Presentation of Wartburg Medals
Dr. Darrel Colson
Dr. Ann Henninger and Shirley Walker
President

Presentation of the Candidates for Degrees
Dr. Debora Johnson-Ross
Vice President for Academic Affairs
and Dean of the Faculty

Remarks
President Colson

Conferring of Degrees
President Colson
Dr. Johnson-Ross

Charge to the Class
President Colson

*Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers
ELW 244
(Words and music on page 10)

*Benediction
Rebecca Baird

*Recessional/Postlude
O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Robert Powell
Dr. Black

*Congregation stands
Dr. Ann Henninger

Dr. Ann Henninger is a professor emerita of biology and former registrar and director of special programming. During 33 years of service to Wartburg, she held several roles, including chair of the biology department, coordinator for the Cedar Valley Science Symposium and the Wartburg College Quiz Bowl, and member of numerous faculty committees. She wrote the proposal for Wartburg West, the College’s urban studies program in Denver, Colo. For her role as a teacher and mentor, Henninger was recognized with both the John O. Chellevold Award for Excellence in Teaching and Professional Service and the Outstanding Adviser Award. She retired in 2016.

A long-time champion of women’s issues, she plays an active role in the local and state American Association of University Women (AAUW) organization. In 2016, she was recognized by the Iowa AAUW with the Faculty Excellence Award. She was involved in the development of Wartburg’s interdisciplinary minor in women’s studies and actively supports women’s athletics.

A cancer survivor, Henninger co-founded the Bremer County Breast Cancer Education and Support Group. She has been active in many American Cancer Society initiatives, including Reach to Recovery and Relay for Life.

As an executive committee member of the Wartburg Scholarship Club, she has coordinated member preparation and delivery of treats for students, a project that has contributed thousands of dollars to scholarships over the years.

Her courses on aging, gender, and drugs were popular among students, and her Keep on Learning sessions are well attended. She currently serves on the Waverly Health Center board of trustees.

Henninger and her husband, Mark Trax, continue to be active in the life of the college and generously support a variety of initiatives and programs.
WARTBURG MEDAL RECIPIENTS

Shirley Walker

Shirley Walker’s connection with Wartburg began with her late husband, Dr. Richard “Dick” Walker. Dick served as the Knights’ wrestling coach and chair of the Department of Physical Education until his tragic death in the early 1990s.

Since coming to Waverly, Walker has embodied the values of Wartburg and served the institution in countless ways. She is a strong advocate for the college in the local community and actively sustains relationships with Wartburg alumni.

Walker served on the Campaign Steering Committee for Transforming Tomorrow and participated in the Commission on Mission strategic planning process. She has made generous contributions to numerous capital projects on campus.

Her scholarship fund honoring her late husband has helped to make a Wartburg education affordable for dozens of students, and through the years Walker was an active supporter of Knights athletics, the Artist Series, the Wartburg Community Symphony, Wartburg Women, and Keep on Learning. She also served as a Friendship Family for international students at Wartburg.

Walker is a member of the President’s Round Table, Heritage Society, and Booster Club. An active member of Trinity United Methodist Church, she served for many years on the Waverly Health Center board of trustees and was a strong advocate for the United Way, American Red Cross, and the Waverly Senior Center. She has four children: Matthew ’84, Steve ’91, Amy, and Ann. Steve and his wife, Jen, both work at the college. Their son, Luke, is a first-year student at Wartburg.

A list of past Wartburg Medal recipients can be found at www.wartburg.edu/president.
Bachelor of Music Education

Hugh Charles Brown
Regents Scholar
Music Education
Vocal
Iowa City, Iowa

Bachelor of Science

Jace William Moore
Regents Scholar
Engineering Science
Guttenberg, Iowa

Bachelor of Arts

Ezra P. Andersen
Regents Scholar
Religion
Atlantic, Iowa

Carina Lynn Collet
Regents Scholar
English
Verona, Illinois

Haley Marie Barkau
Regents Scholar
Biology
Denver, Iowa

Clare Ryanne Dunne
Regents Scholar
Biology
Coralville, Iowa

Omar Sayo Begic
Business Administration
Sport Management
Management
Waterloo, Iowa
In Absentia

Jared Hunter Ellingwood
Business Administration
Castle Rock, Colorado

Amanda Jane Ferry
Regents Scholar
Music
Church Music
Badger, Iowa
In Absentia

Kylie Lynn Bildstein
Regents Scholar
Business Administration
Marketing
Dyersville, Iowa
Emily Ann Fontana
Business Administration
Marketing
Ankeny, Iowa
In Absentia

Katelyn Elizabeth Foster
Regents Scholar
Public Health
Charles City, Iowa

Alexa Lea Ganzeveld
Journalism and Communication
Organizational and Public Relations
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Bennett Gene Goettsch
Exercise Science
Marengo, Iowa

Grace Kathryn Greving
Regents Scholar
Actuarial Science
Elk Horn, Iowa

Alexandra Deann Groe
Regents Scholar
Environmental Science and Studies
Environmental Studies
Public Health
Lake Mills, Iowa

Samara Kate Harms
Regents Scholar
Psychology
Tripoli, Iowa

Rachel Michelle Holst
Spanish
Secondary Education
Eagan, Minnesota

Justin Wyatt Hurd
Fitness Management
Washington, Illinois

Jose Trinidad Inocencio
Health and Fitness Studies
Fitness Management
Coaching
Marshalltown, Iowa

Lindsey Marie Jacobs
Regents Scholar
English
Secondary Education
Blue Earth, Minnesota

Ethan Frederick Lape
Business Administration
Sport Management
West Union, Iowa

Kayla Ann Marthaler
Regents Scholar
Journalism and Communication
Multimedia Journalism
Organizational and Public Relations
Isanti, Minnesota

Mary Catherine McDonough
Regents Scholar
Biology
Oelwein, Iowa

Kennedy Christene Meister
Business Administration
Management
Janesville, Iowa

William Davis Miller
Business Administration
Clermont, Iowa
Students graduating with honors will be notified after Fall Term grades have been calculated. Regents Scholar signifies students who have received Regents Scholarships for all four years.

Hailey Alexis Mills  
Regents Scholar  
Business Administration  
Watkins, Iowa

Carlos Anthony Montez  
Computer Information Systems  
Carson, California

Hailey Rachelle Osburn  
Biology  
Ankeny, Iowa

Josephene Rhea Ostenberg-Nichols  
History  
English  
Crystal, Minnesota

Jack Matthew Palen  
Regents Scholar  
Actuarial Science  
Norwalk, Iowa

Zaiah Marie Quirk  
Regents Scholar  
Mathematics  
Urbandale, Iowa

Brock Michael Rathbun  
Business Administration  
Marketing  
Central City, Iowa  
In Absentia

Jared Patrick Scherrman  
Regents Scholar  
Political Science  
History  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Namleung Sina  
Economics  
Business Administration  
Finance  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Samuel Thomas Thomann  
Business Administration  
Finance  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

1. Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.
   Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.

2. To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Em-man-u-el comes singing, his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ring-
   as the morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.

3. In darkest night his coming shall be, when angels herald its dawning. Sing out your joy, for angels herald its dawning.
   Sing out your joy, for angels herald its dawning.

4. Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless, the rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless.
   The Child of our longing.

Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts to music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving.
   Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless.

geth-er, he opens wide the heav’n-ly door and kindness, the thunder of his anthems roll to wonder, the weak be raised above the strong, and story; may God fill every day we share and lives now inside us forever.

shatter all hatred and blind-ness. weapons be broken a Sunder. bring us at last into glory.


Comfort, Comfort Now My People

1 “Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
2 For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.

Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load,
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.

To God’s people now proclaim that God’s pardon waits for them!
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,

Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior; hills, bow down in humble favor.
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.
1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
2 The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;
3 The saints, who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore,
4 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;

The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
Go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
Shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Arise, O Sun so longed for, o’er this nighted sphere.

The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
the day of earth’s redemption that sets your people free!

ELW 242 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn Text and music: Marty Haugen, 1950. Used by permission with licensure.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations and God’s lifelong blessings to this morning’s graduates. A warm Wartburg welcome to all family and friends of our graduates who worship with us today. You are invited to a reception in honor of our graduates immediately following the ceremony in the Bachman Fine Arts Center lobby.

Many thanks to the Rev. Dr. Brian Beckstrom, dean of spiritual life and Herbert and Cora Moehlmann Chaplaincy Chair, for sharing his message with us today. Pastor Beckstrom will be leaving Wartburg in January to become the assistant vice president for mission, church, and ministry at Valparaiso University.

Thanks to all who lead us in worship this morning:

Musicians: Dr. Karen Black, college organist and cantor
Readers: Jonah Macejkovic ’24, Namleng Sina ’22, Ezra Andersen ’22
Ushers: Halle Siegler ’23, Bailey Erickson ’24, Emma True ’25, Nathaniel Knutson ’25
Worship Leaders: Pastor Beckstrom and Rebecca Baird ’18, pastoral intern
Mace Bearer: Jonah Macejkovic ’24

A Blessed Holiday Season to All!

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.