



**The Robert E. Webber
Institute for Worship Studies**

Nineteenth Commencement

celebrating the graduating class of 2020

Opening Remarks

Dr. James R. Hart
President

Invocation

Dr. Nancy Nethercott
Chaplain

Scripture Presentation

Isaiah 6:1-8
Presented by the Class of 2020

Greeting

Dr. John Lindsay
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Presentation of Graduates

Dr. Dinelle Frankland

Academic Dean and MWS 501 Professor

Master of Worship Studies

David Thomas Belt

His Masters internship was completed at
Restoration Anglican Church, South Minneapolis, Minnesota

Supervisor: Rick Stawarz

Sheryl von Flue Betancourt

Her Masters internship was completed at
Kerman Covenant Church, Kerman, California

Supervisor: Paul De Pledge

Christopher Michael Deeves

His Masters internship was completed at
Lakeside Church, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Supervisor: Doug Thomson

Jesse Mwai Kamau

His Masters internship was completed at
Christ is the Answer Ministries (CITAM) Church, Nairobi, Kenya

Supervisor: Karita Mbagara

Lau Hiu Sze Carol

Her Masters internship was completed at
Scarborough Chinese Alliance Church, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

Supervisor: Matthew Chiu

Daphne June Lau

Her Masters internship was completed at
Eternal Life Assembly of God Church, Singapore

Supervisor: Robert Lum

Erika Grace Mine

Her Masters internship was completed at
Christian Life Center, Saitama Prefecture, Tokyo, Japan

Supervisor: Russell Board

Kasina Mutua

His Masters internship was completed at
Parklands Baptist Church, Nairobi, Kenya

Supervisor: John Mutua

Jonathan Paul Noël

His Masters internship was completed at
Church of the Apostles, Wake Forest, North Carolina

Supervisor: Eric Bolash

Kevin Lonnie Paxton

His Masters internship was completed at
The Lake of the Woods Church, Locust Grove, Virginia

Supervisor: Jordan Medas

Sally Anne Powell

Her Masters internship was completed at
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton, Tennessee

Supervisor: Kelly Stultz

Charles Nathan Sohm

His Masters internship was completed at
Argyle Church of Christ, Jacksonville, Florida

Supervisor: Joshua Jackson

Paul van der Bijl

His Masters internship was completed at
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Supervisor: Aaron Baker

Corinne Wong

Her Masters internship was completed at
Scarborough Chinese Alliance Church, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

Supervisor: Jones Lee

Wallace Tao Cheong Wong

His Masters internship was completed at
All Saints Chinese Anglican Church, Markham, Ontario, Canada

Supervisor: Kevin Wong

Tyler Bradford Wright

His Masters internship was completed at
Vintage Church North, Raleigh, North Carolina

Supervisor: Tanner Griffith

Advanced Graduate Certificate of Worship Studies:

Jean Chavez

Stephanie Richards Lawrence

Heidi I. Truitt

Doctor of Worship Studies:

Margaret Louise Baker

Developing an Understanding of God's Desire
for Intimacy with His People within the Community
of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Kensington, Maryland

Supervisor: Melody Kuphal

Meghan Allison Benson

Turn to God:
Discovering Reorientation through Study of the Psalms
at Living Savior Lutheran Church,
Fairfax Station, Virginia

Supervisor: Jack Van Marion

Emmanuel Bileya Saba (*posthumous*)

Promoting a Formative Post-Baptismal Discipleship Class
for Learning God's Word in the Christian Reformed Church, Nigeria

Supervisor: Jack Van Marion

Anthony Michael Bolkema

Enhancing the Missional Sending
at First Reformed Church of South Holland, Illinois

Supervisor: Jeffrey Allred

Choi Ho Heung Cazarria

Re-Envisioning Intercessory Prayer in Worship
at Shaukeiwan Swatow Baptist Church,
Hong Kong

Supervisor: Jeff Rogers

Vince Kenneth Godfrey

Developing a Seminar on Divine Revelation
at First United Methodist Church,
O'Fallon, Illinois

Supervisor: Jack Van Marion

Ku Tan Ching

Developing a Course about Music in Worship for the Musicians
at the Hong Kong Association of Christian Music Ministry,
Hong Kong

Supervisor: Jeff Rogers

Kwan Helon Hei Lun

Enhancing the Understanding of Congregational Singing as a Way to Proclaim God's Story
at Diamond Hill Baptist Church,
Hong Kong

Supervisor: Jeff Rogers

Timothy Yan Tim Li

Crafting Seasonally Relevant Eucharist
at Shatin Swatow Christian Church Shatin, New Territories
Hong Kong

Supervisor: Donna Hawk-Reinhard

John Alexander Markin

Formed by Worship:
Training Worship Leaders to Create Liturgy
at Northview Community Church, Abbotsford, British Columbia,
Canada

Supervisor: Vincent Zarletti

Kevin Michael Myers

Becoming Disciples:
Learning How to Love God, Love Others, and Love the World
at Notre Dame Roman Catholic Church
Denver, Colorado

Supervisor: Douglas Curry

Ann M. Renford

Developing a Discipleship Program
for Young Adults at Swallowfield Chapel
Kingston, Jamaica

Supervisor: Jack Van Marion

Michael Scott Waddey

Defining What It Means to Be Set Apart
at Maury City First Baptist Church,
Maury City, Tennessee

Supervisor: Samuel Horowitz

Kenneth LaVonne Wallace, Jr.

Contextualizing Indigenous Ceremonies with Kingdom Reflections
Multiethnic Worship Ministries
in Montreal, Quebec

Supervisor: Vincent Zarletti

Brent Donald Weaver

Introducing Story-Based Worship
to Worship Ministry Students of Johnson University
Knoxville, Tennessee

Supervisor: Kenneth Michell

Welcome

Dr. Kent Walters
Director of Alumni Activities

Benediction

Dr. Nancy Nethercott
Chaplain

Congratulations, Class of 2020!



A NOTE ON ACADEMIC REGALIA

Patterned from medieval university customs, modern-day academic regalia reflect the status, scholastic achievement, and study discipline of the wearer. Colors are associated with different disciplines as seen in the trimmings of doctoral gowns and the edging of their hoods.

The array of colors evident at IWS is traditional, including white for the arts and humanities, brown for the fine arts, light blue for education, red for theology and pink for music.

Masters gowns have long chiseled sleeves with a slit near the upper part of the arm. Doctoral gowns have three velvet stripes on the upper sleeves and velvet on the front panel.

Hoods are worn by those earning or holding graduate degrees. The doctoral hood is longer than the masters hood. The colors on the back inside of the hood are always the official colors of the school. In IWS's case, the colors are crimson and gold. The velvet edging on the hood is red, the color of the discipline of theology.

Faculty members holding degrees from other institutions of higher education will wear regalia with colors of their alma maters and their academic disciplines.

HISTORY OF THE ROBERT E. WEBBER INSTITUTE FOR WORSHIP STUDIES

The Institute for Worship Studies was conceived in the early 1990s by Robert Webber. The goal from the beginning was to offer academic courses to train pastors, music ministers, worship leaders, theologians, church leaders and lay people to understand and practice worship renewal.

In the mid-nineties, two programs were begun in conjunction with established seminaries. A program of studies leading toward the Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) was begun in connection with Northern Baptist Seminary in Lombard, Illinois. At the same time a Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) in worship studies was established at Tyndale Seminary in Toronto, Canada.

Numerous applications were made to Northern by music ministers and worship leaders who had completed their master's degrees in music, but wanted doctorates in worship studies. Because a Master of Divinity was required for entrance into the D.Min. program, these students were rejected for graduate study.

It was Robert Webber's conviction that there should be a doctoral program of worship study with wider admission standards. This degree should teach worship from a biblical, historical, theological and cultural perspective without requiring a theological master's degree or its equivalent.

James Hart, then Minister of Music at Grace Episcopal Church, Orange Park, Florida, in 1999 committed the use of their church campus for the school. Hart made the appropriate connections in the state of Florida, and the Institute for Worship Studies was established as an authorized non-profit school in the state of Florida with assistance through membership in the Florida Council of Private Colleges, a state-approved educational association.

The Institute for Worship Studies opened with its first class of twenty doctoral students in June of 1999. The Master of Worship Studies program began in 2002. Robert Webber died April 27, 2007, after an eight-month illness. In January 2007, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to change the name of IWS to the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in honor of the vision, accomplishments, and contributions of Robert Webber.

Since its founding, IWS has grown steadily and matriculates an average of fifty-seven new students a year. As a result of this growth, IWS moved to the campus of Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church in October of 2015.

The Institute embraces and serves the whole church in its many expressions and variations of the Christian faith. Students have come from nearly every state in the US and more than thirty other countries.

The Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools. IWS also holds accredited status with the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education.