



DENVER SEMINARY  
*Commencement*

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025 | 3:00PM

MISSION HILLS CHURCH

75  
YEARS  
DENVER  
SEMINARY

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*Commencement*

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MISSION HILLS CHURCH



# Commencement Service

PRESIDENT MARK HUSBANDS, PhD, PRESIDING

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## Prelude

**\*Processional** ..... *Pomp and Circumstance*  
by Sir Edward Elgar

**\*Invocation** ..... Patty Pell, PhD  
Associate Professor of Theology,  
Justice and Advocacy

**Recognition of Denver Seminary Community** ..... Mark Husbands, PhD  
President

**\*Worship Songs** ..... *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*  
*Be Thou My Vision*

**\*Scripture Reading: Micah 6:8** ..... Richard Hess, PhD  
Distinguished Professor of Old Testament  
and Semitic Languages

In-Kyung Chung, PhD  
Director of Korean Global Campus

Wilmer Ramirez, PhD  
Associate Dean for Diversity and Programming  
with Ethnic Communities

**Address: Grace, Calling, and the Middle Voice** ..... Mark Husbands, PhD

**Recognition of Black Church Program Students** ..... John Moreland, DMin  
Director of Black Church Programs

**Recognition of IDEAL and SETECA Students** ..... Wilmer Ramírez, PhD

**Conferring of Degrees**

**Presentation of Graduates** ..... Don J. Payne, PhD  
Vice President of Academic Affairs,  
Academic Dean

**Granting of Degrees** ..... Mark Husbands, PhD

**Presentation of Diplomas** ..... Elisa Morgan, MA  
Chair of the Board of Trustees

**Hooding of Doctoral Degree Graduates** ..... Angie Ward, PhD  
Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program

Eric Suddeath, PhD  
Director of the Doctor of Philosophy  
in Counselor Education and Supervision Program

**\*Worship Song** ..... *Our God Will Go Before Us*

**Prayer for Graduates** ..... Joey Dodson, PhD  
Dr. Craig L. Blomberg Endowed Chair of New Testament

**\*Benediction** ..... Elisa Morgan, MA

**Recessional**

**Postlude**

*\*Please stand*

*Musicians: Aaron Purdy, Naomi Toems, Sjöfn Brygger*

*Please silence mobile devices in the sanctuary.*

## **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;  
Praise Him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under his wing, and so gently sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging,  
Who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,  
Biddeth them cease, turneth their fury to peace;  
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

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,  
When with His love He befriends thee!

## **Be Thou My Vision**

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true one  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only, be first in my heart  
High King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art

High King of Heaven, the victory won  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

# *Praise Songs*

## **Our God Will Go Before Us**

Our God will go before us  
And guide us by His presence  
What confidence this promise is  
We will never walk alone

Through unknown paths, through shadows  
Our hearts fear not tomorrow  
For every step His faithfulness  
Is the truth that lights our way

Our God will go before us  
The Lord of Hosts is with us  
O praise the One who leads us on  
For His grace will bring us home

Now send us with Your presence  
And lead us on to heaven  
Where songs of sorrow strain no more  
And our every breath is praise  
O let our every breath be praise

Our God will go before us  
The Lord of Hosts is with us  
O praise the One who leads us on  
For His grace will bring us home

CCLI Lic. No. 89185

# Commencement Speaker



**DR. MARK HUSBANDS**

President

Dr. Mark Husbands serves as the eighth president of Denver Seminary, bringing a distinguished career in Christian higher education, theological scholarship, and institutional leadership. An accomplished theologian, he specializes in Christian doctrine, historical and moral theology, and the intersection of faith and public life.

Dr. Husbands earned his PhD in Christian Theology from the University of St. Michael's College (University of Toronto), where he studied under renowned theologian John Webster, focusing on Karl Barth's ethics of prayer. He also holds an MA in Theology from Wycliffe College (University of Toronto) and a BA in Religious Studies with a minor in Music Performance from York University.

Most recently, he was President and Vice-Chancellor of Trinity Western University, where he strengthened the university's global impact in Christian higher education, eliminated bank debt, raised \$55 million in philanthropy, increased enrollment, and developed a strategic vision centered on Christ-centered, student-focused education.

Prior to TWU, Dr. Husbands served as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Northwestern College, leading significant academic and institutional advancements. He also held the Leonard and Marjorie Maas Chair of Reformed Theology at Hope College, where he founded the Emmaus Scholars Program, fostering integral mission, racial reconciliation, and community development. He has taught theology at Wheaton College and Tyndale Seminary, where he also served as Director of Extension and Summer School.

Dr. Husbands has authored and edited multiple volumes and published numerous scholarly articles on theology, ethics, and World Christianity. His leadership is marked by an unwavering commitment to Christ, the authority of Scripture, and academic excellence. He is dedicated to equipping students to connect their faith with the world's deepest needs. He and his wife, Rebekah, have three adult children, Olivia, Elliott, and Ethan.

## **BLACK CHURCH PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

Denver Seminary serves the Black Church communities of Colorado and Washington D.C. through the Black Church Programs. This lay-level program is designed to equip adult men and women to serve more confidently in positions of leadership in their church, Christian organization, or place of work. The following students have satisfactorily completed the requirements for the Lay Ministry Certificate.

Patricia Badger Alston

Brian L. Pollard

## **IDEAL AND SETECA PARTICIPANTS**

Denver Seminary serves the Hispanic community around the United States and Latin America through the IDEAL Institute, Church Development program, Trauma Healing program, and the Central American Theological Seminary (SETECA) extension. These programs offer classes in Bible, theology, leadership, and other relevant topics in the metro Denver area and all around the Americas. The following students have satisfactorily completed their program.

### **IDEAL**

#### **Ministerial Program**

Josué Benjamín Campos Cubillo

Carlos Alfredo Montes de Oca Fernández

Juan Carlos García

Franklin Jeovanny Guzmán Ochoa

Andrés Reynoso Lucas

Sergio Daniel Szachniewicz

José Roldán Mejía Varela

### **SETECA**

#### **Diploma in Christian Studies**

Alam Eduardo Pedrero

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

### CANDIDATE

Joshua DeVere Brage

Kim Castleberry

Zachary Guillaume

John R. Knippa ^

Katrina Long

Rebecca E. Offner

Paul Pease

Anna E Schofield

Morgan P. Scully

Lauren Sullivan

Kristen Thayn

Elizabeth Villwock

Kathryne Winter ^

### EMPHASIS

Biblical and Theological Studies

Professional Chaplaincy

School Counseling

Biblical and Theological Studies

School Counseling

Professional Chaplaincy

Biblical and Theological Studies

Biblical and Theological Studies

School Counseling

School Counseling

School Counseling

School Counseling

Spiritual Direction

## MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE

### CANDIDATE

Charity Akampurira \*+

Allison Anderson \*+

Ryan Christopher Armstrong \*+

Anne Marie Atmar \*+

Quintin Baldwin \*

Marissa Jeane Barnier

Samantha Bartolome +

Barry Evan Brown

Claire Byrnes \*+

Richard Carvill \*

Mitchell Clevidence

Kelly Marie Cotten \*

Breanna Doran +

Michelle Kimberly Ballantine Emig \*

Tara Farrell \*+

Brooklyn Fernandez \*+

Crystal Ann Galloway \*+

Joshua David Glaser \*

Heather Grossman \*+

### DEGREE (MAJOR)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Leadership

MA (Christian Apologetics)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)

MA (Old Testament)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA (Old Testament)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)

MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)

David Patrick Hall *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Katherine Hampton +	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Joanna C. Hanlon *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Daniel Robert Harpole *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
James Craig Hartz Jr. *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Micah Roy Heath +^	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Micah Roy Heath +^	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Lauren Michelle Holland *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Jack Endre Huff +	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Joshua Edward Hulsey	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Jasmine Basma J. Inayat *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling)
Luke Isaacson *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Hance Ashley Jenkins *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
John David Kalisa +	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling)
Kirsten J. Kamm *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Grace Katherine Karls +	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Myung Jin Kim *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Kayla Marie Kingsley	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
John R. Knippa ^	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Jason Douglas Kratz *	MA (New Testament)
Rebecca Lalrimawi Lawrence *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Sarah Joy Lebovic *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Hyun Su Lee *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Linda Marie Lewin *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Carly Loos *	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Vivian Mabuni *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Joshua R. Macdonald	MA (New Testament)
Joshua S. Maggart *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling)
Allison Marks *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Rebecca Marsh *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Nicolas Martinez	MA (Christian Studies)
Tyler Marxer *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Joseph August Maschhoff *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)

Donna McDonnell *	MA in Counseling Ministries
Sheri Medina *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling)
Anastasha Menicucci *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Kelly Minter *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Gabriel Mitchell *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
John Mitchell *	MA (New Testament)
Georgia Gillette Moldrup +	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Hannah Ruth Mooi *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Seth Muller *	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Samina C. Nelson *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Lawrence Michael Nicastro *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Benjamin J Nugent *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Julia O'Halla *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Olivia Ostermiller *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
In Sun Park	MA in Counseling Ministries
Tessa Marie Pierantoni *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Lauren Platter *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Bethany Porter *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Makenna Porter *	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Nicole Rosen *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Caleb Sanburn *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Sydney Saucedo *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Alec Savig *	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Noah Smith *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Calden C. Scranton *	MA in Theology, Justice, and Social Advocacy
Reagan Smalley *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Mary Caroline Sonnier *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Jamie Taylor	MA in Theology, Justice, and Social Advocacy
Joanna Lynn Vannice *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Myldha Verdelus *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Shannon Vlasicak *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Benjamin Reid Wilking *	MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)
Austin Winter *	MA in Leadership
Nayab Witters *	MA in Counseling Ministries
Kendall Grace Woods *+	MA in Counseling (Clinical Mental Health)
Oscar Benito Zapata	MA (Christian Studies)

## MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE

### CANDIDATE

### CONCENTRATION

Caitlin Joy Banks *	Chaplaincy
Patricia Sue Barker	Chaplaincy
Kinnon Scott Dodson *	
Angela Elder *	Chaplaincy
Peter Stevens Ballantine Emig	Pastoral Care and Counseling
Ellise Nicole Engdahl *	
Stewart James Fowler	Christian Formation
Sungin Kim *	
Daniel Laakso	Chaplaincy
Charles Barron Lang *	
Ian Michael Laupa	Chaplaincy
Choonsok Gabriel Lee	Chaplaincy
Jacob Michael Long	
Hayden Dwight McCarty	Chaplaincy
Jessie Mulvaney *	Theology, Justice, and Social Advocacy
Gershon Ormeo	Chaplaincy
Tyler K. Peterson *	
Benjamin Pflederer *	
Mitchell Thomas Saad *	Theology
Christopher David Scott *	
Jael Shumaker *	Biblical Studies
Arik Stewart *	
Matthew Weaver	
Kathryne Winter *^	Christian Formation

## MASTER OF THEOLOGY DEGREE

### CANDIDATE

### CONCENTRATION

Tracey Lynn Lawrence	Old Testament
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# DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE

## **Yosep Baik**

Spiritual Formation Track

**Thesis:** *A Study on Strengthening Spirituality Through Understanding the Role of the Universal Missionary*

## **Luke Alexander Blaine**

Leadership Track

**Thesis:** *Creating and Implementing a Leadership Core Competencies Tool for Church Health and Alignment Among Calvary Family Churches*

## **Rosemary Flaaten**

Leadership Track

**Thesis:** *The Relationship Between Gender Bias and Turnover Intention for Female Employees at a Christian University*

## **Mark Richard Fuller**

Spiritual Formation Track

**Thesis:** *The Gratitude Adventure's Effect on Perceived Closeness to God and Subjective Well-Being Among Participants at Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian Church*

## **Micah Alan Henderson**

Spiritual Formation Track

**Thesis:** *The Effect of an Eight-Week Immersive Study on What it Means to Be a Dual Citizen in the Kingdom of Heaven and a Citizen in the United States with a Select Group of Residents of Franklin, Tennessee*

## **Douglas Benjamin Lasit**

Leadership Track

**Thesis:** *The Nature and Importance of Self-Care Protocols in the Lives of Lead Pastors in the Pearl Church Network*

## **Patricia Ann Lindsay**

Leadership Track

**Thesis:** *The Factors for Developing Successful English Language Ministries as an Effective Evangelistic Tool in Benin, West Africa*

## **Susan Roberts**

Spiritual Formation Track

**Thesis:** *Using the Lord's Prayer Paradigm With Small Groups at Arvada Covenant Church to Increase Individual Prayer Praxis Resulting in More Effective Spiritual Transformation and Ministry*

## **Rebecca Jean Sneller**

Leadership Track

**Thesis:** *An Integrated and Comprehensive Strategy for Developing Leaders within Cadence International*

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE

## (COUNSELOR EDUCATION AND SUPERVISION)

**Brooke Lynn Ewert**

**Dissertation:** *“Shooting Arrows into the Abyss:” A Phenomenological Study of the Professional Cyclist’s Transition to Life After Sport*

**Erica Marie Faulhaber**

**Dissertation:** *Treating Eating Disorders in Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse — A Narrative Investigation*

**Yana Katsura**

**Dissertation:** *The Relationship Between Strengths-Based Factors and Acculturative Stress Among Christian Ukrainian Immigrant Adolescents*

**Emily Kay Moore**

**Dissertation:** *Gender and Verbal Classroom Participation: The Effect of Personality, Gender Socialization, and Teaching Alliance on the Frequency and Duration of Verbal Student Engagement*

**Bobbie Ann Nelson +**

**Dissertation:** *Music Performance Anxiety: An Exploration Through the Lens of Attachment and Trauma*

**Joel A. Roberts**

**Dissertation:** *Wounded in the Sanctuary: The Impact of Spiritual Abuse on Mental Health in Western Populations*

**Gentry Turk**

**Dissertation:** *Supported or Not? A Phenomenological Study to Understand How Single, Never-Married Women Experience Support within the Evangelical Church in the Pacific Northwest*

*This program was accurate at the time it went to press. However, it is not intended to be an official list of graduates. Degree conferral is subject to the satisfactory completion of any remaining requirements.*

\* Master’s degree students with a minimum GPA of 3.7

^ Earning more than one degree

+ Chi Sigma Iota Counseling Honor Society

# AWARDS

## **Chaplain, Major General, Lorraine K. Potter Chaplaincy Award**

Awarded for excellence and potential in the field of chaplaincy. Lorraine Potter was the first woman selected as the chief of chaplains for any branch of the United States military.

Caitlin Joy Banks

Rebecca E. Offner

## **Dr. Scott A. Wenig Preaching Award**

In honor of Dr. Scott Wenig, Professor Emeritus of Applied Theology, this award is given to a graduate who has modeled an exceptional work ethic and commitment to the discipline of homiletics, while demonstrating the potential for excellence in preaching.

Tyler K. Peterson

## **Training and Mentoring Award**

Awarded by the Training and Mentoring faculty to a student mentee who has completed the Training and Mentoring curriculum and engaged the mentoring process with intentionality, self-direction, and reflection. This student has shown exemplary personal growth, received outstanding feedback from mentors, demonstrated a superior understanding of the importance and dynamics of mentoring, and displayed potential to mentor others based on their own Training and Mentoring experience.

Nayab Witters

### **Highest GPA Among MA Students**

Awarded to MA students with the highest grade point average. These students must have taken at least two-thirds of their degree work at Denver Seminary.

Daniel Robert Harpole

Gabriel Mitchell

James Craig Hartz Jr.

John Mitchell

Myung Jin Kim

Benjamin J. Nugent

Hyun Su Lee

Lauren Platter

Allison Marks

Noah Smith

Rebecca Marsh

Austin Winter

Kelly Minter

### **Highest GPA Among MDiv Students**

Awarded to the MDiv student with the highest grade point average. These students must have taken at least two-thirds of their degree work at Denver Seminary.

Mitchell Thomas Saad

Jael Shumaker

### **Vernon C. Grounds Outstanding Student Award**

Awarded by vote of both students and faculty to a graduating student who best emulates the character and convictions of Dr. Vernon C. Grounds. Dr. Grounds faithfully served Denver Seminary from 1951 until his death in 2010 in the offices of Dean, President, and Chancellor. He modeled Christ-like character, commitment to biblical truth and love, intellectual curiosity, academic excellence and strong sensitivities for the poor, the broken, and the doubting. He loved people deeply and was passionate to see them grow in alignment with God's purposes.

John David Kalisa

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Mr. Patrick Sobers

Mrs. Sarah Vander Neut

Rev. Bryan Wilkerson

Mrs. Patricia Wolf

# FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION

Debra Anderson, EdD

Kristy Ballard, MDiv

Eva Bleeker, EdD

Sung Wook Chung, DPhil

Krystal Clemons, PhD

Hélène Dallaire, PhD

Joey Dodson, PhD

Teri Elliott-Hart, PhD

Elodie Emig, MA

Elizabeth Harper, PhD

Knut Heim, PhD

Richard Hess, PhD

David Hionides, PhD

Mark Husbands, PhD

Chris Johnson, MBA

Debbie Kellar, MBA

Tim Koller, PhD

David Mathewson, PhD

Kathleen Mulhern, PhD

Dieumème Noëlliste, PhD

Don Payne, PhD

Patty Pell, PhD

Wilmer Ramirez, PhD

Loretta Sanchez, PhD

Nathan Scherrer, MA

Darlene Seal, PhD

Eric Suddeath, PhD

Ryan Tafilowski, PhD

Michell Temple, PhD

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Angie Ward, PhD

Adam Wilson, PhD

# PROFESSORS EMERITI

Howard Baker, DMin

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Monte Hasz, PsyD

William Klein, PhD

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Randy MacFarland, DMin

Janet McCormack, DMin

James Means, PhD

Sarah Miller, MA

Keith Wells, DMin

Scott Wenig, PhD

Bradley Widstrom, EdD

# CHANCELLOR

Mark Young, PhD

*Denver Seminary prepares men and women  
to engage the needs of the world  
with the redemptive power of the gospel  
and the life-changing truth of Scripture.  
Through our educational programs and mentoring process,  
the Seminary challenges students to grow spiritually,  
intellectually, and professionally in order  
to lead God's people in the accomplishment  
of His mission in the world.*



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