



OPENING CONVOCATION
ST. OLAF COLLEGE



THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020
11:10 A.M.

THE PROGRAM

President David R. Anderson '74, Presiding

Procession *Fanfare and Grand March*
by Timothy Mahr '78
The St. Olaf Band
Timothy Mahr '78, Conductor, Professor of Music

Invocation Katherine Fick, Associate College Pastor

Hymn *Lead, Kindly Light*
by John Henry Newman
Therees Hibbard, Soprano, Visiting Associate Professor of Music
Karen Wilkerson, Soprano, Visiting Instructor in Music
Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, Tenor, Assistant Professor of Music
Emery Stephens, Baritone, Assistant Professor of Music
James E. Bobb, Organist, Associate Professor of Music

Welcome Melie Ekunno '21, St. Olaf SGA President

The Address *Darshan: The Challenges of Seeing*
the Divine in All
Anantanand Rambachan, Professor of Religion

College Hymn *Fram! Fram! St. Olaf!*
by F. Melius Christiansen and Oscar Overby '61
Emery Stephens, Baritone, Assistant Professor of Music
Catherine Rodland '87, Organist, Artist in Residence

Benediction Matthew Marohl, College Pastor

Recession *Fanfare and Grand March*
by Timothy Mahr '78
The St. Olaf Band
Timothy Mahr '78, Conductor, Professor of Music

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Anantanand Rambachan

Professor of Religion, Philosophy, and Asian Studies

Anantanand Rambachan was born in the Caribbean, on the dual-island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. He earned his B.A. at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in theology from the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom in 1984. He also completed three years of traditional Hindu seminary studies in India. Rambachan joined the St. Olaf Religion Department in 1985. His wide-ranging courses include the Hindu tradition, comparative theology, theologies of religion, interreligious dialogue, and Asian philosophy. He also taught as a visiting professor at the Academy for World Religions at the University of Hamburg, Germany (2013–18).

Rambachan has been involved in the field of interreligious relations and dialogue for more than 30 years as a Hindu contributor and analyst. He is active in the dialogue programs of the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue at the Vatican. He recently participated as a Hindu theologian in a series of Ethics in Action conversations at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (2016–18). Rambachan continues to advise the Pluralism Project at Harvard University and serves on the advisory council for St. Olaf College's Lutheran Center For Faith, Values, and Community. In 2008, at the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, he delivered the distinguished Lambeth Interfaith Lecture at Lambeth Palace in London.

Among Rambachan's many publications, his major books include *Accomplishing the Accomplished: The Vedas as Source of Valid Knowledge in Śankara*, *The Limits of Scripture: Vivekananda's Reinterpretation of the Vedas*, *The Advaita Worldview: God, World and Humanity*, *A Hindu Theology of Liberation: Not-Two is Not-One*, and *Essays in Hindu Theology*. He has contributed chapters to numerous scholarly works, and his writings also appear in various journals, including *Philosophy East and West*, *Religious Studies*, *Religion*, *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, *Journal of Hindu Christian Studies*, *Journal of Hindu Studies*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* and *Current Dialogue*. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) also transmitted a series of 25 lectures on Hinduism by Rambachan to audiences around the world. Currently, Rambachan is working on a book-length manuscript dealing with Hindu-Christian relationships.

Among his many public roles, Rambachan is co-president of the global interfaith organization Religions for Peace and he sits on the advisory board of Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus. He also serves as a member of the Arigatou International Advisory Group, a global organization that both advocates for the rights of children and mobilizes the resources of religions to overcome violence against children.

1. Lead, kind - ly light, a - mid th'en - circ - ling gloom, lead thou me on;
 2. I was not ev - er thus, nor prayed that thou shouldst lead me on;
 3. So long thy pow'r hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on

the night is dark, and I am far from home; lead thou me on.
 I loved to choose and see my path: but now; lead thou me on.
 o'er moor and fen, o'er crag and tor - rent, till the night is gone,

Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see
 I loved the gar - ish day, and, spite of fears,
 and with the morn those an - gel fa - ces smile,

the dis - tant scene; one step e - nough for me.
 pride ruled my will: re - mem - ber not past years.
 which I have loved long since, and lost a - while!

Text: John Henry Newman (1801-1890)
 Music: Charles H. Purday (1799-1885)

SANDON

Fram! Fram! St. Olaf



1. Krist - menn, Kross - menn in mis - sion blessed,
2. Grant that spir - it to lead us still



Led by the spir - it of truth, Run - ning the race, pur -
on - ward as a - ges un - roll, Caught by the Kross - menn



su - ing our quest, Filled with the song of youth.
shrined on the hill, Steep - led to lift the soul.



Found - ed in faith to ren - der light,
Give us a - gain the heart a - glow,

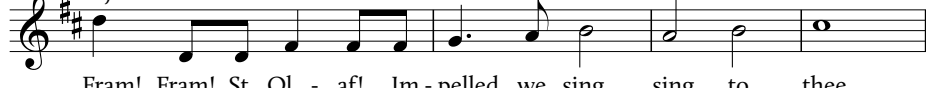


Ra - diant to - day it crowns the height,
Stirred by the songs of Ma - ni - tou.



Ris - ing glor - ious and, un - der God, vic - to - rious,
Ev - er glor - ious and, un - der God, vic - to - rious.

Refrain



Fram! Fram! St. Ol - af! Im - pelled we sing, sing to thee.



Fram! Fram! St. Ol - af! The hill - tops ring: Fram! Fram! Free!

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The traditional academic procession introduces many of the more formal and significant events at St. Olaf, as it does on most college and university campuses. Although the history of wearing distinctive apparel as an indication of scholarship and academic rank dates back to 1321, the practice was not adopted throughout the United States until about 1900.

The cap worn almost universally in academic processions is the Oxford cap, better known as the mortarboard. It is always black. A different style, called the Cambridge cap, resembles a large beret. The use of a dark robe in academic processions is thought to have arisen from the clerical practice of wearing a cape or mantle in religious processions in the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities arose from cathedral schools.

Traditionally, gowns are also black. However, a number of universities have adopted alternate gowns that use their traditional school color. The academic hoods, worn around the neck and down the back of the gown, are lined with the official colors of the college or university conferring the degree. The binding or edging of the hood is usually distinctive of the subject to which the degree pertains: economics, copper; education, light blue; fine arts, brown; humanities, white; law, purple; library science, lemon; medicine, green; music, pink; nursing, apricot; philosophy, dark blue; physical education, sage green; science, golden yellow; social science, cream; social work, citron; speech, silver gray; theology, scarlet.

