



# Presidential Selection

2009-2010



## desired qualifications for the next wheaton college president

The President of Wheaton College is the chief executive officer and reports to the Board of Trustees. The President will be expected to articulate and exemplify the mission of the College and the values of Christian higher education. The starting date is July 1, 2010.

### theological

- Trinitarian, Christocentric, with an unwavering commitment to the authority of Scripture
- Fully embraces the Statement of Faith, its Preamble, and the Community Covenant
- Firmly evangelical, affirming the historic theological commitments of the College
- Understands and values the legacy, history, ethos, and foundational core values of the College
- Theologically astute and able to engage the theological issues of the day
- Deals with nuance and complexity while holding fast to essentials
- Relates graciously and effectively to the entire evangelical spectrum, as well as to those in other theological traditions

### spiritual

- Mature in Christ with a vibrant and contagious faith
- A person of integrity, authenticity and transparency
- Marked by humility, possessing the heart of a servant
- Demonstrates the fruit of the Spirit
- Committed to the ministry of a local church
- Welcomes responsibility for the spiritual atmosphere on campus
- Models the integration of faith, life, and learning
- Secure in his or her calling and identity in Christ; accepts and responds to criticism in a godly way

### academic

- Has a passion to serve the faculty and students
- Respects the intellectual task and the life of the mind
- Is a lifelong learner with intellectual curiosity and vitality
- Has an earned doctorate from a respected academic institution
- Embodies the liberal arts ideal

### experience

- Demonstrated administrative experience, including working with an involved board
- Teaching experience at an institution of higher education
- Demonstrated ability to build a team and work effectively with people
- Has a working knowledge of finance
- Demonstrated fundraising ability; accepts responsibility for securing financial support

## leadership style

- Able to lead, inspire, and encourage
- Initiates fresh thinking and new ideas
- Able to shape and articulate a vision and rally the campus and constituency around it
- Delegates appropriately and effectively
- Approachable, a good listener
- Collaborates, values people and their giftedness
- Makes difficult decisions in a way that is firm, consistent, and fair
- Demonstrates pastoral qualities of empathy, discernment, counseling, and discretion
- Able to engage the world with confidence and to be a torch-bearer for Christ and His Kingdom
- Able to win hearts as well as arguments; has a firm center, but soft edges

## communication skills

- Thinks clearly, speaks effectively, and writes well
- Relates easily to a broad spectrum of people—especially students, faculty, and staff
- Able to appropriately represent Wheaton locally, nationally, and internationally
- Able to read people and audiences

## commitment

- To embrace and articulate the preeminence of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom in the life, spirit, and outcomes of the College
- To maintain excellence in the traditional liberal arts, theological and biblical studies, strategic applied fields, and the graduate school
- To foster an environment conducive to the holistic development of students
- To champion ethnic, economic, and gender diversity
- To prepare students for global engagement
- To strengthen Wheaton's focus as a teaching and mentoring institution, while encouraging solid scholarship
- Able to commit to 10-15 years of service
- A spouse and family fully supportive of the work and ministry

## application process

Candidates are encouraged to submit a letter of candidacy that responds to the opportunities and attributes presented in this profile, a complete resume or CV, and the names and contact information of five references (for future contact, after notifying candidate). All application materials are strictly confidential and should be sent electronically to [presidentialelection@wheaton.edu](mailto:presidentialelection@wheaton.edu) or mailed to PSC, Janet Snezek, P.O. Box 1265, Wheaton, IL 60187.





## campus profile

The Board of Trustees of Wheaton College invites nominations, expressions of interest, and applications for the position of President. Dr. Duane Litfin will be retiring from the position after 17 years of distinguished service to the College. With only seven presidents in its almost 150-year history, Wheaton College has now begun the selection for its eighth.

### about wheaton

Wheaton College (Wheaton, IL) is a Christian liberal arts college, committed to evangelical Christian faith and rigorous academic inquiry. Wheaton's mission statement expresses the stable and enduring identity of the College. All the purposes, goals, and activities of the College are guided by this mission: *Wheaton College exists to help build the church and improve society worldwide by promoting the development of whole and effective Christians through excellence in programs of Christian higher education. This mission expresses our commitment to do all things "For Christ and His Kingdom."*

### students

Our 2,400 undergraduate and 500 graduate students come from 50 states, 39 countries, and represent more than 55 church denominations. Forty-nine percent of the students are female, fifty-one percent of the students are male. Wheaton students are incredibly talented, capable and distinct in their desire to grow intellectually and to grow in Christ. They are serious about their commitment to Jesus Christ and demonstrate it by a high degree of involvement in ministry, and by participation in groups that foster spiritual growth. They have come to live in Wheaton's unique environment—a campus where intellectual stimulation and creativity coexist in an atmosphere focused on Christian community.

### trustees

The Board of Trustees is a self-perpetuating board of 20 persons. Without the dedicated leadership of our Trustees, Wheaton College would be a much different institution than it is today. Under the direction of these outstanding men and women, the College has preserved a solid spiritual, intellectual, and financial base for nearly 150 years.

### faculty

At the heart of Wheaton College lies a strong, dedicated faculty whose intellectual depth and Christian commitment challenge students to be wise stewards of their gifts. Professors mentor as well as teach, giving students tools to find truth and to work out their faith. Of the 194 full-time and 105 part-time professors, 93 percent hold earned doctorates. There are 20 endowed faculty chairs, allowing more than 10 percent of permanent faculty to hold endowed professorships. The student-faculty ratio is 12:1. Wheaton's faculty and staff are dedicated to honoring a Christian perspective and to modeling Christ's love to students. They are strongly committed to what they do as well as to those they teach, coach, mentor, and serve.

## staff

The College relies heavily on the 488 full-time and 133 part-time staff members to keep things running smoothly. From the Human Resources department to the Physical Plant, the staff members of Wheaton College are dedicated to their work and their faith. They care for students, are devoted to serve Jesus Christ, and work toward excellence in their daily pursuits.

## budget

Since its founding almost 150 years ago, Wheaton College has been both wise in the management of financial gifts as well as forthright in its accountability for those gifts. Wheaton operates on a budget of \$110.8 million and an endowment of \$239 million (as of December 2008). The annual fund now totals more than \$5.4 million. In addition to these resources, the College manages a portfolio of charitable annuity and trust funds valued at over \$117 million at the end of last fiscal year, which will provide future resources for Wheaton's programs. With all that has been entrusted to the College, we are dedicated to being wise stewards of these resources. The Board of Trustees maintains a Finance Committee, Audit Committee, and an Investment Committee that provide guidance and oversight over the financial resources that have been provided to us.

## facilities

Wheaton College's 80-acre campus is located in Wheaton, Illinois, a residential suburb 25 miles west of Chicago, with a population of more than 50,000. Other college-owned campuses include the 50-acre Black Hills Science Station near Rapid City, South Dakota, for field studies in geology, environmental science, and biology; and HoneyRock, a 280-acre youth counseling and leadership development laboratory in northern Wisconsin.

Also included on campus are: Buswell Memorial Library, the main library with more than 1.2 million items; three separate archives, the Wheaton College Archives and Special Collections, the Billy Graham Center Archives (focused on missions and evangelism), and Marion E. Wade Center (a collection of memorabilia and manuscripts from C. S. Lewis and six other prominent British writers); the Conservatory of Music; Media Resources, with TV and audio production studios; an observatory; a language laboratory; the Billy Graham Center Museum; and Arena Theater.

## statement of faith

The doctrinal statement of Wheaton College, reaffirmed annually by its Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff, provides a summary of biblical doctrine that is consonant with evangelical Christianity.

The statement accordingly reaffirms salient features of the historic Christian creeds, thereby identifying the College not only with the Scriptures, but also with the Reformers and the evangelical movement of recent years. The statement also defines the biblical perspective which informs a Wheaton education. These doctrines of the Church cast light on the study of nature and man, as well as on man's culture.

WE BELIEVE in one sovereign God, eternally existing in three persons: the everlasting Father, His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life; and we believe that God created the Heavens and the earth out of nothing by His spoken word, and for His own glory.

WE BELIEVE that God has revealed Himself and His truth in the created order, in the Scriptures, and supremely in Jesus Christ; and that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writing, so that they are fully trustworthy and of supreme and final authority in all they say.



WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, was true God and true man, existing in one person and without sin; and we believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven, and in His present life there for us as Lord of all, High Priest, and Advocate.

WE BELIEVE that God directly created Adam and Eve, the historical parents of the entire human race; and that they were created in His own image, distinct from all other living creatures, and in a state of original righteousness.

WE BELIEVE that our first parents sinned by rebelling against God's revealed will and thereby incurred both physical and spiritual death, and that as a result all human beings are born with a sinful nature that leads them to sin in thought, word, and deed.

WE BELIEVE in the existence of Satan, sin, and evil powers, and that all these have been defeated by God in the cross of Christ.

WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, triumphing over all evil; and that all who believe in Him are justified by His shed blood and forgiven of all their sins.

WE BELIEVE that all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God and are enabled to offer spiritual worship acceptable to God.

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit indwells and gives life to believers, enables them to understand the Scriptures, empowers them for godly living, and equips them for service and witness.

WE BELIEVE that the one, holy, universal Church is the body of Christ and is composed of the communities of Christ's people. The task of Christ's people in this world is to be God's redeemed community, embodying His love by worshipping God with confession, prayer, and praise; by proclaiming the gospel of God's redemptive love through our Lord Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth by word and deed; by caring for all of God's creation and actively seeking the good of everyone, especially the poor and needy.

WE BELIEVE in the blessed hope that Jesus Christ will soon return to this earth, personally, visibly, and unexpectedly, in power and great glory, to gather His elect, to raise the dead, to judge the nations, and to bring His Kingdom to fulfillment.

WE BELIEVE in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, the everlasting punishment of the lost, and the everlasting blessedness of the saved.





## community covenant

Wheaton College is an institution of higher learning, a rigorous academic community that takes seriously the life of the mind. But this description does not exhaust the College's understanding of itself. Wheaton College is also a largely residential community made up of Christians who, according to the College motto, are dedicated to the service of "Christ and His Kingdom."

These features in combination mean that Wheaton College is a complex Christian community of living, learning, and serving that cannot be reduced to a simple model. For example, while the College is not a Church, it is yet a community of Christians who seek to live according to biblical standards laid down by Jesus Christ for his body, the church. Or again, while the College is not a religious order, it yet demonstrates some features that are similar to religious orders, communities wherein, for the sake of fulfilling the community's purposes, its members voluntarily enter into a social compact. At Wheaton we call this social compact our community covenant.

For Wheaton's community covenant to serve its stated purpose, it is crucial that each member of the College family understands it clearly and embraces it sincerely. In joining this covenant we are, before the Lord, joining in a compact with other members of the Wheaton College community. If we do not wish to live under the provisions of this compact, we should not agree to it. But if we do agree to it, it should be with the full intention of living with integrity under its provisions.

### our community covenant

The goal of campus life at Wheaton College is to live, work, serve, and worship together as an educational community centered around the Lord Jesus Christ. Our mission as an academic community is not merely the transmission of information; it is the development of whole and effective Christians who will impact the church and society worldwide "For Christ and His Kingdom." Along with the privileges and blessings of membership in such a community come responsibilities. The members of the Wheaton College campus community take these responsibilities seriously.

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."*

— 2 Timothy 3:16

The biblical foundation of Christian community is expressed in Jesus' two great commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37-40). Jesus himself perfectly demonstrated the pattern: love for God, acted out in love for others, in obedience to God's Word. Acknowledging our dependence on the power and grace of God, the members of the Wheaton College campus community humbly covenant to live according to this ideal.

The purposes of this community covenant are as follows:

to cultivate a campus atmosphere that encourages spiritual, moral and intellectual growth.

to integrate our lives around Christian principles and devotion to Jesus Christ.

to remove whatever may hinder us from our calling as a Christ-centered academic community.

to encourage one another to see that living for Christ involves dependence on God's Spirit and obedience to his Word, rather than a passive acceptance of prevailing practices.

### **affirming biblical standards**

We desire to build this covenant on basic biblical standards for godly Christian character and behavior. We understand that our calling includes the following:

The call to acknowledge the Lordship of Christ over all of life and thought. This involves a wholehearted obedience to Jesus and careful stewardship in all dimensions of life: our time, our possessions, our God-given capacities, our opportunities (Deut. 6:5-6; 1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 1:18; 3:17);

The call to love God with our whole being, including our minds, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Christ-like love should be the motive in all decisions, actions, and relationships (Matt. 22:37-40; Rom. 13:8-10; 1 John 4:7-12);

The call to pursue holiness in every aspect of our thought and behavior (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Thess. 4:7; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:15-16);

The call to exercise our Christian freedom responsibly within the framework of God's Word, humbly submitting ourselves to one another (1 Pet. 5:5; Eph. 5:21) with loving regard for the needs of others (Phil. 2:3-11; Rom. 14:1-23; 1 Thess. 4:9);

The call to treat our own bodies, and those of others, with the honor due the very temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:17-20);

The call to participate in the worship and activities of the local church, which forms the basic biblically-mandated context for Christian living (Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:25; 1 Tim. 3:14-15).

### **living the christian life**

We believe these biblical standards will show themselves in a distinctly Christian way of life, an approach to living we expect of ourselves and of one another. This lifestyle involves practicing those attitudes and actions the Bible portrays as virtues and avoiding those the Bible portrays as sinful.

According to the Scriptures, followers of Jesus Christ will:

show evidence of the Holy Spirit who lives within them, such as "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal. 5:22-23);

"put on" compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and supremely, love (Col. 3:12-14);

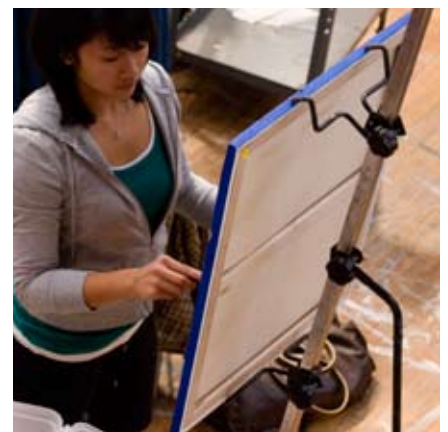
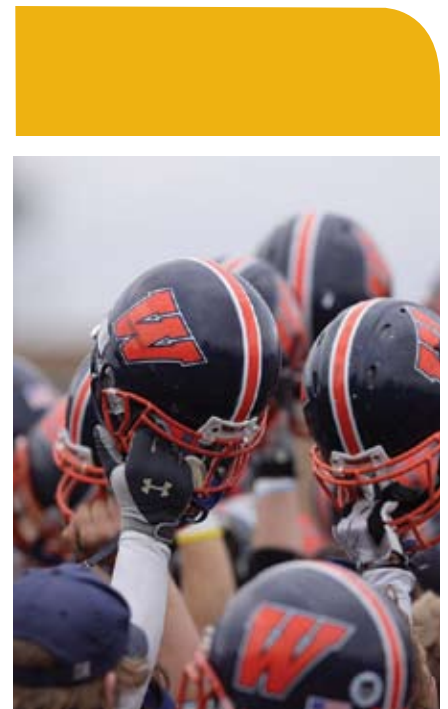
seek righteousness, mercy and justice, particularly for the helpless and oppressed (Prov. 21:3; 31:8-9; Micah 6:8; Matt. 23:23; Gal. 6:10);

love and side with what is good in God's eyes, and abhor what is evil in God's eyes (Amos 5:15; Rom. 12:9, 16:19);

uphold the God-given worth of human beings, from conception to death, as the unique image-bearers of God (Gen. 1:27; Psalm 8:3-8; 139:13-16);

uphold chastity among the unmarried (1 Cor. 6:18) and the sanctity of marriage between a man and woman (Heb. 13:4);

be people of integrity whose word can be fully trusted (Psalm 15:4; Matt. 5:33-37);



give faithful witness to the Gospel (Acts 1:8; 1 Pet. 3:15), practice good works toward all (Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:10; Heb. 10:24; 1 Pet. 2:11), and live lives of prayer and thanksgiving (1 Thess. 5:17-18; James 5:16; Titus 2:7-8).

By contrast, Scripture condemns the following:

pride, dishonesty (such as stealing and lying, of which plagiarism is one form), injustice, prejudice, immodesty in dress or behavior, slander, gossip, vulgar or obscene language, blasphemy, greed and materialism (which may manifest themselves in gambling), covetousness, the taking of innocent life, and illegal activities (Prov. 16:18; 1 Cor. 6:10; Exod. 20:7; Rom. 13:9; Col. 3:8-9; James 2:1-13; Gal. 3:26-29; Rom. 13:1-2; 1 Tim. 2:8-10; Heb. 13:5-6);

hypocrisy, self-righteousness, and legalism, understood as the imposition of extra-biblical standards of godliness by one person or group upon another (Acts 15:5-11; Matt. 16:6; 23:13-36);

sinful attitudes and behaviors such as “impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like” (Gal. 5:19-21);

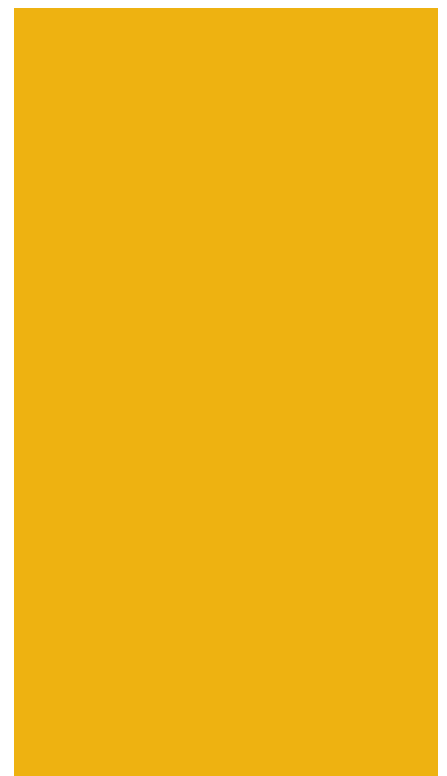
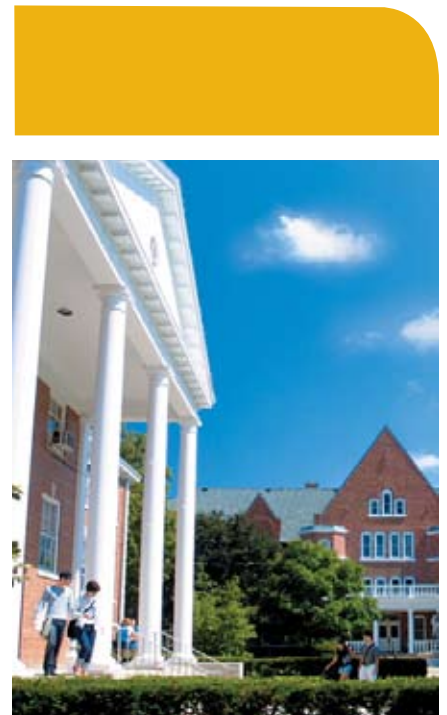
sexual immorality, such as the use of pornography (Matt. 5:27-28), pre-marital sex, adultery, homosexual behavior and all other sexual relations outside the bounds of marriage between a man and woman (Rom. 1:21-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:31).

### exercising responsible freedom

Beyond these explicit biblical issues, the Wheaton College community seeks to foster the practice of responsible Christian freedom (Gal. 5:13-14; 1 Pet. 2:16-17). This requires a wise stewardship of mind, body, time, abilities and resources on the part of every member of the community. Responsible freedom also requires thoughtful, biblically-guided choices in matters of behavior, entertainment, interpersonal relationships, and observance of the Lord’s Day.

*“You are not your own. You were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” — I Corinthians 6:20*

Of particular concern in a collegiate environment are those issues related to alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco. While the use of illegal drugs or the abuse of legal drugs is by definition illicit, and the use of tobacco in any form has been shown to be injurious to health, the situation regarding beverage alcohol is more complex. The Bible requires moderation in the use of alcohol, not abstinence. Yet the fact that alcohol is addictive to many, coupled with the biblical warnings against its dangers, also suggests the need for caution. The abuse of alcohol constitutes by far our society’s greatest substance abuse problem, not to mention the fact that many Christians avoid it as a matter of conscience. Thus the question of alcohol consumption represents a prime opportunity for Christians to exercise their freedom responsibly, carefully, and in Christ-like love. The Wheaton College community also encourages responsible freedom in matters of entertainment, including the places where members of the College community may seek it, such as television, movies, video, theater, concerts, dances and the Internet. The College assumes its members will be guided in their entertainment choices by the godly wisdom of Philippians 4:8: “Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things.”



## embracing college standards

To foster the kind of campus atmosphere most conducive to becoming the Christian community of living, learning, and serving that Wheaton College aspires to be, the College has adopted the following institutional standards. These standards embody such foundational principles as self-control, avoidance of harmful practices, the responsible use of freedom, sensitivity to the heritage and practices of other Christians, and honoring the name of Jesus Christ in all we do.

Wheaton College and all Wheaton College-related functions will be alcohol-free and tobacco-free. This means that the possession or consumption of alcohol or the use of tobacco in any form will be prohibited in, on, or around all campus properties, owned or leased. The same prohibition applies to all Wheaton College vehicles, whether on or off campus, and to all Wheaton College events or programs, wherever they may be held.

While enrolled in Wheaton College, undergraduate members of the community will refrain from the consumption of alcohol or the use of tobacco in all settings.

Other adult members of the College community will use careful and loving discretion in any use of alcohol. They will avoid the serving or consumption of alcohol in any situation in which undergraduate members of the Wheaton College family are or are likely to be present.

On-campus dances will take place only with official College sponsorship. All members of the Wheaton College community will take care to avoid any entertainment or behavior, on or off campus, which may be immodest, sinfully erotic, or harmfully violent (Eph. 4:1-2, 17-24; I Tim. 5:1-2; Gal. 5:22-23).

## conclusion

We, the Wheaton College community, desire to be a covenant community of Christians marked by integrity, responsible freedom, and dynamic, Christ-like love, a place where the name of Jesus Christ is honored in all we do. This requires that each of us keeps his or her word by taking the commitment to this covenant seriously as covenant keepers, whatever pressures we may face to do otherwise.

The issue of keeping one's word is for a Christian an important one. Being faithful to one's word is a matter of simple integrity and godliness. "Lord, who may live on your holy hill?" asks the Psalmist. "He who keeps his oath, even when it hurts" (15:4), comes the reply. Christian integrity dictates that if we have voluntarily placed ourselves under Wheaton's community covenant, we must make every effort to fulfill our commitment by living accordingly.

Keeping our covenant may also on occasion require that we take steps to hold one another accountable, confronting one another in love as we work together to live in faithfulness both to God's Word and to our own word. Such loving acts of confrontation are at times difficult, but when performed in the right spirit (Gal. 6:1), they serve to build godly character for both the individuals involved and the community as a whole (Matt. 18:15-17). Only in this way, as we are willing to speak the truth in love, will we "grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ" (Eph. 4:15).

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, . . . And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."  
— Colossians 3:16-17*

Scripture quotations are taken from the New International Version.

