

# Luther Seminary

## Application for **DOCTOR OF MINISTRY IN BIBLICAL PREACHING**

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Graduate Theological Education, Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108  
gte@luthersem.edu, 651-641-3203

### **Personal Information**

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**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Name Last Name

**CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

**CURRENT POSITION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WORK ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

**HOME PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **OFFICE PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL NAME OF YOUR DENOMINATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE OF YOUR ORDINATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Academic Background**

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Please give the following information for each degree you have earned:

| <b>Institution</b> | <b>Location</b> | <b>Degree Earned</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| _____              | _____           | _____                | _____       |
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Have you ever been denied admission to, been dismissed from, or been on disciplinary probation at any seminary or graduate school? If so, please attach an explanatory statement.

**Transcripts**

An official transcript sent directly from each of the institutions listed above is required. Please arrange to have them forwarded to the Luther Seminary Office of Graduate Theological Education. (This pertains to Luther Seminary graduates also.) Your transcripts must clearly show that you have received the Master of Divinity degree or its formal academic equivalent. If your seminary work was done Pass/Fail, please include the names, addresses and phone numbers of two faculty members who are familiar with your scholarship.

**Ministerial Experience**

All students are required to have been engaged at least three years in a full-time, church-recognized ministry such as a parish, a church administrative position, an educational, or a social or humanitarian position. Please list all such positions of ministry in which you have been employed, beginning with the most recent.

| Position | Congregation or Agency | Dates |
|----------|------------------------|-------|
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If ministry is a "second career," please attach a statement detailing your employment history outside of ministry.

**Letters of Reference**

Please have three letters of reference sent to the Luther Seminary Office of Graduate Theological Education. Given the practical orientation of the D.Min. degree, your most effective sources of reference will include your ministry supervisor (Bishop, etc.), a clergy colleague, and a lay person (e.g., the president of your congregation, agency, etc.) familiar with your current ministry. Please list below those persons from whom such references may be expected:

| Name | Position | Address |
|------|----------|---------|
|      |          |         |
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### **Assessment of Vocation and Ministry**

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Please reflect self-critically and theologically about the following questions. Each essay should be no more than three double-spaced pages in length, and will serve also as a writing sample. Therefore, please construct your responses so that they accurately reflect your ability to communicate clearly in written English.

1. Describe and reflect upon your practice of preaching, making explicit the theological themes, principles, and values that inform it.
2. Reflect upon how you hope this D.Min. program will help you to improve your preaching, describing what you see as your strengths and primary areas for growth.

### **Sermon Samples**

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You must include with your application the written text of one of your preached sermons.

### **Letter of Support**

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A letter of support by your congregation or other ecclesial community in the form supplied (page 4) is required. The requirement of such sponsorship highlights the practical and contextual nature of this program, as participants will view and use their congregational context as a primary locus of their learning and will rely upon the active participation of the members of their community to complete their degree.

### **Application Fee and Deadline**

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All applications together with a non-refundable application fee of \$50 must be postmarked to the Luther Seminary Office of Graduate Theological Education addressed as follows by February 15:

**Dr. Paul J. Lokken**  
**Associate Dean – Graduate Theological Education**  
**Luther Seminary**  
**2481 Como Avenue**  
**St. Paul, MN 55108**

If you believe that there are any special circumstances in your background, experience, or current situation bearing upon your candidacy not elsewhere reflected in your application, please feel free to include them in a covering letter.

### **Seminary Policies**

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Notification of results will normally be mailed to each applicant on or about April 1. Your application will be treated as confidential material. Luther Seminary admits students of any race, color, sex, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin.

### **Attestation and Signature**

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I acknowledge that all statements on this application and its attachments are true to the best of my knowledge.

**SIGNED** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Congregational Letter of Support**

### *Description of the Program*

Because Luther Seminary's Doctor of Ministry program in Biblical Preaching offers a course of advanced theological study that is practical and contextual, the support of a sponsoring ecclesial community (usually a local congregation) is critical to the success of each candidate.

In addition to preparing for and participating in three three-week summer residency courses of instruction, participants will:

- Preach two sermons in their ministry context as part of their post-residency work each year;
- Make use of a Parish Response Group both to shape and evaluate these sermons and to reflect more generally with the participant on his/her course of study; and
- Design and execute two projects related to their ministry context as well as a final thesis connecting this work to their primary area of interest.

### *Pledge of Support*

Understanding these components of the course of study, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of sponsoring community) pledges to support \_\_\_\_\_ (name of candidate) in his/her work in the following ways:

- Lift up the candidate in prayer;
- Encourage the candidate in his/her study;
- Allow adequate time for preparation for, and participation in, the summer residencies; and
- Support the candidate's post-residency work by forming a Parish Response Group and participating in the candidate's projects as appropriate.

**SIGNED** \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_