



2024 Bishop's Convocation

We are delighted to welcome Dr. Seth Dowland and the Rev. Dr. Rick Rouse as our presenters.



Dr. Seth Dowland

Seth teaches courses in Pacific Lutheran University's International Honors, First-Year Experience, Religion, and Gender, Sexuality, and Race Studies programs. His classes offer interdisciplinary perspectives on American religions, with particular emphasis on the ways religion interacts with gender, race, politics, and violence. His research focuses on the intersection of religion, gender, and American politics in the twentieth century. His book, **Family Values and the Rise of the Christian Right** was published in 2015 by the University of Pennsylvania Press. He is currently working on a project about the history of Christian masculinity in the United States, and is the author of several articles and book chapters on the history of American evangelicalism, including "**American Evangelicalism and the Politics of Whiteness**", published in *The Christian Century*, 2018.



Rev. Dr. Rick Rouse

Rick is a certified Spiritual Director and ordained Lutheran pastor for 50 years, having served congregations in Arizona, California, Oregon, and Washington. He has also taught seminary and university courses, was the PLU Executive Director of Church Relations and Theological Education, and served on the Grand Canyon Synod Staff as the Director of the Missional Leadership Academy. He currently lives in Washington and serves as a church consultant, speaker, and author of several books including **The World is About to Turn: Mending a Nation's Broken Faith** (2020).