

**THIRD ANNUAL MEETING
OF PAIDEIA**

“The Beauty of a God Who Is Among Us”

June 3 - June 6, 2025

Antiochian Village

Bolivar, PA

With thanks to our co-sponsors, whose assistance has helped make this conference possible:

**St. Basil Center for Orthodox Thought and Culture
Eastern University, Philadelphia, PA**

**Hagop S. Mekhjian, MD, Chair in
Medical Ethics and Professionalism
Ohio State University**

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

3:00

ARRIVAL and ROOM CHECK-IN BEGINS
(Pick up materials at front desk, Upper Chapel Lobby)

5:30 to 6:30

DINNER
Cedars Dining Room

6:30 to 7:00

VENDOR DISPLAY
Books and other materials available for sale or display
Chestnut Auditorium
(Note: these will remain on display throughout the conference)

7:00 to 7:15

WELCOME: BISHOP THOMAS (JOSEPH) OF CHARLESTON AND OAKLAND
Chestnut Auditorium

7:15 to 7:30

WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF CO-SPONSORS
Bruce Foltz and David Bradshaw
Chestnut Auditorium

7:30 to 8:45

PLENARY TEXT SEMINAR:
DOSTOEVSKY AND THE AWAKENING TO DIVINE BEAUTY:
Readings from *The Brothers Karamazov*
Chestnut Auditorium

8:45 to 10:30

RECEPTION
Upper Chapel Lobby and Patio

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

7:30-8:00

MORNING PRAYERS

Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel, beneath the Chapel Lobby

8:00 to 9:00

BREAKFAST

Cedars Dining Room

9:00 to 9:50

First Morning Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Fr. Thomas Colyandro, “Uncreated Silence and Orthodox Christian Eldership (and Fellowship)”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Robin Phillips, “The Metaphysics of the Machine and the Quest for Digital Transcendence”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Fr. Hans Jacobse, “God’s Immanence Displayed Through Prayer that Fosters Healing”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

David Wilmington, “Guroian’s Divinizing Culture: Squinted Beauty, Dusty Icons, and the Incarnational Ethics of Liturgy”

10:00 to 10:50

Second Morning Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Fr. Joseph Lucas, “Drawn to God: The Vision of Eternal Well-being in St. Maximus the Confessor”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

C. Clark Carlton, “Dogma as Grammatical Proposition”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Keith Buhler, “The Beauty of Moderation”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Masamichi Inoue, “An Ethnographic Exploration of the Orthodox Church of Japan: The Beauty of a ‘Changing Universal’ through Contextualization and Beyond”

11:00 to 11:50

Third Morning Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

John Burgess, “The Beauty of the Holy Elder”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Jesse Cone, “Mystery and Ignorance: Anscombe’s Philosophical Defense of the Mystical”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Pdn. Brian Patrick Mitchell, “Sanity and Fantasies of Church and State: Lessons Learned from the Byzantine Experience”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

William Weber, “The Beauty of Humility in St. Ignatius of Antioch”

12:00 to 1:00

LUNCH

Cedars Dining Room

1:30 to 2:20

First Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Dcn. Sampson (Ryan) Nash, “Acquiring the Eye to Behold Beauty”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Jennifer Lockhart, “For the Sake of the Beautiful: The Role of Beauty in Aristotle’s Ethics”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Timothy Bartel, “Aging Body, Christ’s Body: The Poetry of Mortality in Faltonia Proba and St. Gregory the Theologian”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Andrew Roushdy, “I Nicaea at the Crossroad of Soteriology and Anthropology: A Nicene Case for the Role of Human Synergy in the Divine Economy of Salvation”

2:30 to 3:20

Second Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Matthew Pietropaoli, “Tender, Compassionate Gaze: The Turn Toward Suffering and Contemplation of Divine Beauty”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Fr. Bogdan Bucur, “Beauty resplendent in the midst of ugliness: Christ and Christian Character in N. Steinhardt’s *Journal of Joy*”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

David Ford, “Male and Female in the Writings of St. John Chrysostom”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Chad Whitacre, “The Synaxis of the Gospels and the Twelve Faithful Servants”

3:30 to 4:20

Third Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Fr. Ignatius Green, “Beauty False and True in the Theological Vision of Saint Gregory of Nyssa”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Daniel Hinshaw, “Beauty as Divine Hospitality”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Fr. Abraham Inslow, “Transforming Personal Pain into All-Embracing Love according to St. Sophrony of Essex”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Amir Azarvan, “AI, an Unlikely Apologist: Socratic Dialogues for the 21st Century”

4:30 to 5:20

Fourth Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Fr. Alexander Earl, “As Far as East is From the West: Theophanic Realism and Orthodox Culture”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Fr. Chad Hatfield, “Roland Allen: A Forgotten Missiological Model”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Rico Vitz, “Beauty beyond Words: Reflections on Humean Atheology and Christian Apophaticism”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Sister Sidonia, “Persons at Prayer in Paradise: Light from Georgian Sources on the Reality of Paradise in the Church and in Every Human Heart”

5:30 to 6:30

DINNER

Cedars Dining Room

7:00 to 8:30

PLENARY KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Andrew Gould,

Lord, it is Good to be Here: Building Orthodox Culture in America

Ajar Amphitheatre

8:45 to 10:30

RECEPTION

Main Lobby and Patio

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

7:30-8:00

MORNING PRAYERS

Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel, beneath the Chapel Lobby

8:00 to 9:00

BREAKFAST

Cedars Dining Room

9:00 to 9:50

First Morning Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:

Fr. Paul Siewers, “Tarkovsky, Dostoevsky, and Frank: Are ‘Existentialist’ and ‘Panentheist’ Helpful Terms in Articulating ‘the Beauty of a God Who is Among Us’ in Orthodox Apologetics in the West Today?”

• Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:

Fr. Anthony Gilbert, “Defamiliarizing Death: The Aesthetics of Martyria”

• Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:

Stoyan Tanev, “Fr. Sergius Bulgakov on the Holy Spirit as Love: A Critical Reflection”

• White Pine Meeting Room 5:

Ralph (Zosimas) Sidway, “Photography, Stillness, and Beauty”

10:00 to 10:50

Second Morning Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Metropolitan Jonah (Paffhausen), “Carnal, Psychic, Spiritual: The Orthodox Psychology of Spiritual Maturity”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Nicolas Laliberté, “Love and the Holy Spirit in Dumitru Staniloae: The Incarnation of Christ and our Adoption”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

David Gilbert, “Transcendence in Film, the Marx Brothers, and Incarnational Aesthetics”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Jordan Henderson, “The God Who Made Him High Priest: Josephus, Alexander the Great, and the Iconoclastic Controversy”

11:00 to 11:50

Third Morning Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Michael Garten, “Image and Incarnation: Holy Images of Christ in the Pre-Nicene Church”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Fr. Joseph Thornburg, “Zoe and Bios: An Orthodox Christian Assessment of Genetic Engineering”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Mary Ford, “‘Let Us Attend’: Beauty, Attention, and Liturgy”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Samuel (Cole) Busby, “The Beauty of a God within Us: Appropriating Aristotle’s *Nous* through the Light of the Incarnation”

12:00 to 1:00

LUNCH

Cedars Dining Room

1:30 to 2:20

First Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Seraphim (Bruce) Foltz, “The World a Burning Bush: Notes toward a Symbolic Ontology of Creation”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Daniel Manzuk, “The Impropriety of the ‘Double-Eagle’ as a Symbol of Orthodoxy, especially in North America”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Xuan Jang, “Neoplatonism’s Solution to the Problem of Evil and a Necessary Turn towards Byzantine Philosophical Discourse”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Mka. Wendy Cwiklinski, “The Beauty of a God among Us: Learning from Different Perceptions”

2:30 to 3:20

Second Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Cyril (Gary) Jenkins, “Why Can’t We Have Imperators Like This Anymore? Emperor St. Justinian’s Navigation between Severus of Antioch and Vigilius of Rome”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Matthew Stripling, “God’s Presence in Signs, Symbols, and Images”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

Michael Kurian, “Under No Tree Does Wisdom Reveal Her Beauty: Orthodox Sophiology in the Book of Susanna”

• **White Pine Meeting Room 5:**

Mary Lowell, “Depicting the Invisible: The Appeal and Dread of Imagery”

3:30 to 4:20

Third Afternoon Sessions (Presented Concurrently)

• **Scarlet Oak-Yellow Oak Meeting Room 1/2:**

Caden Clements, “Unveiling the Psalms: Harnessing Technology to Reveal the Beauty of the Orthodox Christian Faith”

• **Laurel Oak Meeting Room 3:**

Caitlin Gilbert, “Praying and Thinking about Beauty: On Spiritual Contemplation and the Philosophical Act”

• **Aspen Pine Meeting Room 4:**

David Bradshaw, “Orthodoxy and the Transformation of Marriage”

4:20 to 5:30
**** BREAK ****

5:30 to 6:30
DINNER
Cedars Dining Room

7:00 to 8:30
PLENARY KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
**Edith Humphrey, "The Beauty of God with Humanity:
The Trinity and Theological Anthropology"**
Ajar Amphitheatre

8:45 to 10:30
RECEPTION
Main Lobby and Patio

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

8:30 Orthros/Matins
Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel, beneath the Chapel Lobby

9:30 Divine Liturgy
Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel, beneath the Chapel Lobby

11:00
BRUNCH
Cedars Dining Room