



The *Word & World* Lecture Series

A year ago, *Word & World* proposed hosting an annual lecture at Luther Northwestern Seminary as a sign of the close tie between the seminary and the journal.

The seminary curriculum, we say, is designed to prepare graduates to work as messengers of the gospel in a world of many cultures. That sounds very much like the concerns of *Word and World*. The work of the curriculum, we say, is mission oriented. That sounds very much like the journal's subtitle: Theology for Christian Ministry. The close tie between the work of the journal and the work of the seminary is becoming clearer to us all the time.

Thus, it is no accident that the first *Word & World* lecture addresses an issue of such pressing interest to both church and world: "A Case for Sexual Fidelity." The *Word & World* lecturer is chosen by the editorial board of the journal and the academic program committee of the seminary, seeking a speaker who can and will address heart-of-the-matter issues, issues that concern a seminary of the church in conversation with the world.

An institution like Luther Northwestern Seminary is subject to suspicion from two sides. On the one hand, a secular culture sometimes suspicious of confessional commitment wonders about our academic rigor. On the other hand, an ecclesiastical culture sometimes suspicious of learning wonders about our faith. This seminary and this journal will continue to insist on the compatibility of confessional commitment and public accountability, of learning and faith. The *Word & World* lecture will be a way to highlight our concern.

We are delighted to have been able to begin this lecture series on February 17, 1994, with Patricia Beattie Jung's "Case for Sexual Fidelity."

F.J.G.