

# PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

## 2023 REPORT TO THE SYNODS OF REGION 1, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



### A MESSAGE FROM ALLAN BELTON, 14TH PRESIDENT OF PLU

Greetings to the Oregon Synod from Pacific Lutheran University! As we continue to recover from the pandemic, I have taken some time to reflect on where we've been, what we've learned over the past few years, and where we are headed in the years to come.

Throughout my time at PLU, I have been drawn to the many ways the PLU community offers care: to ourselves, each other, and the world around us. One of the distinguishing attributes of a PLU education is our faithful commitment to transformative care. This year we continue to lean into this commitment. This is what grounds our pedagogy and student experience. We also feel called to extend this care beyond our classrooms and across our campus.

At PLU, we have a long history of transformative care and community impact inspired by our faculty, staff, students and alumni. This commitment to care continues to motivate us to question paradigms and explore new connections.

We encourage our students to embrace the complexity of the world's most difficult challenges. Together we ask tough questions, and together we listen closely for unexpected answers.

We are making bold commitments to expanding access to a PLU education, providing new channels to wellness, nurturing creativity, and reimagining our systems and practices to better reflect our commitment to diversity, justice and sustainability.

I am grateful for our committed and engaged alumni and friends who continue to join us in building networks of care, offering opportunities for experiential learning and mentorship, and joining in the advancement of our mission through their gifts and actions.

I am proud of our campus community for continuing to persist through the uncertainty of the pandemic, managing individual and community health alongside the rigors of academic coursework. Our faculty continue to show up in innovative and creative ways for our students. Our staff continue to invest in the

transformative PLU experience. Our students continue to draw on their collective resilience to thrive in their studies, at work, and within their various communities.

PLU continues to be a university that lives, learns, and serves from the heart. We continue to lean into our commitment to transformative care. It truly is fundamental to how we approach everything we do. PLU will continue to be a place where students are challenged and stretched academically, where they grow and mature personally, and where they are supported and looked after by a tight-knit community that cares for them deeply.

Thank you for your prayerful support and partnership in our shared mission.



**Office of Congregational  
Engagement**

[plu.edu/congregations](http://plu.edu/congregations)