

## ALTON POLLARD BIO (OFFICIAL)

The Rev. Dr. Alton B. Pollard III is Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary's tenth president. He began his service with Louisville Seminary in 2018. A scholar, author, consultant and speaker on the subject of African American and U.S. religion and culture, Pollard was previously dean of the School of Divinity and professor of religion and culture at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Prior to his years at Howard University, Pollard served as director of black church studies and chair of American religious cultures at Emory University, and taught at Wake Forest University and St. Olaf College.

Pollard is the author of *Mysticism and Social Change: The Social Witness of Howard Thurman* (1992) and a new edition of W.E.B. DuBois's *The Negro Church* (2011) as well as coauthor of *Helpers for a Healing Community: A Pastoral Care Manual for HIV/AIDS* (2006). Other volumes he has edited and co-edited include *How Long This Road: Race, Religion and the Legacy of C. Eric Lincoln* (2003); *The Papers of Howard Washington Thurman Volumes I and II* (2009); and *The Black Church Studies Reader* (2016). He has also written dozens of book chapters, journal articles, and op-eds.

He serves on the Board of Directors for In Trust Center for Theological Schools, and chairs the Louisville Institute Advisory Board, among others. Pollard served on the Board of Commissioners for the Association of Theological Schools from 2010-2016 and was chair from 2014-2016. He is an active member of the Society for the Study of Black Religion and the American Academy of Religion.

Pollard earned his doctorate from Duke University, his Master of Divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School, and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Fisk University.

A native of St. Paul, Minnesota, Pollard and his wife Jessica have two adult children and three grandchildren.

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