

Preface

Practical Wisdom in the Living Web of the Anthropocene is the fourth free open access digital volume of the International Academy of Practical Theology (IAPT) and joins the ranks of all previous publications—print and digital—which followed the Academy’s biennial conferences dating back to 1997. The IAPT’s Conference Series is dedicated space for wider sharing of juried papers presented at a given biennial conference. This volume brings together a selection of papers presented at the 2023 biennial conference held in Seoul, Korea. The Seoul conference represented a significant moment in the evolving discourse of practical theology, particularly in its endeavor to engage meaningfully with the complex exigencies of the contemporary world. The conference was hosted by Yonsei University and organized by a local committee comprised of faculty from multiple universities in Seoul and beyond. In addition to keynotes, plenary panels, and paper sessions, there were introductions to local religious communities and elective immersive experiences, including a peace tour of Korea’s DMZ (De-Militarized Zone), a historical tour of the city of Seoul, and a visit to the environmental justice activism

in Hongcheon. The conference was featured in Korea’s newsmedia, including CBS, the very first Christian TV station in South Korea, and GoodTV.

The IAPT Conference Series is a labor of academic calling, generous collaboration, and scholarly love. As editors, we extend sincere gratitude to all contributing authors for their arduous work, to the peer reviewers for their insightful support, to copy-editors who lent their keen eyes, and to creative designers and production technicians who organized academic words into beautiful form. We are especially grateful to Birgit Weyel, Hans Probst, Francesco Punzo, Henry Carrigan, Min Kyu Hong, the library staff of the University of Tübingen, among others, for their expertise and dedication to the development of this project.

It is our hope that this volume will serve as a meaningful platform for constructive and imaginative engagement with the multifaceted challenges of the Anthropocene.

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