



HOUGHTON UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE

Excellence for the Glory of God

Friday, May 9, 2025

6:30 PM - John & Charles Wesley Chapel

BACCALAUREATE 2025

WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE GOD'S GOODNESS

PROCESSIONAL

Praeludium in C major, BuxWV 137

Timothy E. Smith, organ

Dieterich Buxtehude

WELCOME

J. L. Miller

Interim Dean of Spiritual Life

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV)

Leader: This is what the Lord says:

All: Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths;

Leader: Ask where the good way is, and walk in it,

All: And you will find rest for your souls.

*Chorus

Gratitude (see lyrics on back)

Amanda (Young '01) Cox, piano & vocals

Jonathan Hutmire '24, '26 (M.A.), vocals

Alison Young Reusser '07, guitar & vocals

Eli Rhoda '25, cajón

*INVOCATION

Charles Howard '90

Parent of Graduate

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Laudate Dominum" from *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, K.339

W. A. Mozart

Evelyn Simanowski '25, soprano

Ryan Nickelsen '21, '25 (M.M.), piano

WE GATHER TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD

STUDENT REFLECTION

Sara Carter '25

*Hymnal #357

Be Thou My Vision

STUDENT REFLECTION

Evelyn Simanowski '25

HOUGHTON CHOIR

Be Thou a Smooth Way

Ralph M. Johnson

Incorporating ST. COLUMBA

The Plans I Have For You

Jonathan Adams

Alexandria Leary '24, '26 (M.M.), piano

Daniel David Black '08 (M.M.), conductor

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (UNISON)

Let us rejoice in your blessing, O Christ—the blessing of those who have never seen you yet have come to trust in your love. By the same power of the Holy Spirit that enables us to trust in your love, grant that we may serve faithfully as those who have life in Christ's name.

*SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:11-22 (NRSV)

Colin O'Mara '25

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Madison Tadasz '25

BACCALAUREATE SERMON

"The Death of Hostility"

J. Michael Jordan '99

Associate Professor of Theology

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND ARE COMMISSIONED FOR GOD'S SERVICE

COMMISSIONING AND SENDING FORTH

Wayne D. Lewis, Jr.

President

PRAYER FOR THE GRADUATES

Holly Gartley '97

Parent of Graduate

CALLED TO BE A SCHOLAR-SERVANT

David Davies '01

Provost

*Hymnal #655

The Doxology

*BENEDICTION

J. L. Miller

RECESSIONAL

Final from Symphony No. 1, Op. 42

Timothy E. Smith, organ

Alexandre Guilmant

During the recessional, members of the Houghton University 50 Year Reunion Class will present each graduate with a towel, symbolizing their calling to use their education in service of others.

*PLEASE STAND IF ABLE

Junior Class Marshals: Clancey Cockle '26 and Thomas McGlynn '26

Pipers: Alastair Hutton '10 and Andrew Hutton '18

Gratitude

All my words fall short
I've got nothing new
How could I express
All my gratitude?
I could sing these songs
As I often do
But every song must end
And You never do

So I throw up my hands
And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah,
Hallelujah
And I know it's not much
But I've nothing else fit for a King
Except for a heart singing hallelujah,
Hallelujah

I've got one response
I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide
I will worship You

So I throw up my hands
And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah,
Hallelujah
And I know it's not much
But I've nothing else fit for a King
Except for a heart singing hallelujah,
Hallelujah

Come on, my soul
Oh, don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song
'Cause you've got a lion inside of
those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord
(3x)

So I throw up my hands
Praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah,
Hallelujah
And I know it's not much
But I've nothing else fit for a King
Except for a heart singing hallelujah,
Hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah

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