



HOUGHTON UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE

Excellence for the Glory of God

Friday, May 8, 2026

7:00 PM - John & Charles Wesley Chapel

BACCALAUREATE 2026

WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE GOD'S GOODNESS

PROCESSIONAL

Processional on "Praise to the Lord"

Judy Congdon, organ

Martin Shaw

WELCOME

Scott Hallman

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.

*HYMN

How Great Thou Art (see music on back)

*INVOCATION

Heather (Ayers '98) Templeton

Parent of Graduate

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Heaven Full of Angels"

Emily Hanes '26

Emily Hanes '26, voice

Kyra Binney '26, violin

Aylah Stevens '28, cello

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

WE GATHER TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD

STUDENT REFLECTION

Hannah Farley '26

*HYMN #43

Great is Thy Faithfulness

STUDENT REFLECTION

Susannah Denham '26

HOUGHTON CHOIR

Is He Worthy?

Andrew Peterson (b. 1974) and Ben Shive (b. 1979)

arr. Dan Forrest

Hialeah Bakalik '25 and William Roth Allen '24, '26 (M.M.), soloists
Rachel Huchthausen '23, '26 (M.M., M.A.) and Hannah Cuthbertson '28, violins

Ernest Lipscomb '28, viola

Samuel Cornwell '27, cello

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

Lift Up My Eyes (Psalm 121)

Daniel David Black '08, conductor

Jocelyn Hagen (b. 1980)

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

Philippians 2:1-11 (RSV)

Anna Lloyd '26

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Emma Dainty '26

BACCALAUREATE SERMON

"The Foundation of All the Other Virtues"

Douglas Gaerte
Professor of Communication

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

Steven Dunmire '01
Parent of Graduate

CALLED TO BE A SCHOLAR-SERVANT

Jill (Brautigam '99) Jordan
Interim Provost

*HYMN #655

Doxology

*BENEDICTION

Scott Hallman

RECESSIONAL

Processional on "Lift High the Cross"

Judy Congdon, organ

Donald Busarow

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: Ryan Kullander '27 and Grace Stickels '27
Piper: Andrew Hutton '18

How Great Thou Art

(as published by *Singspiration, Inc.*)

Words by
Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

Music By
Swedish Folk Melody

1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2. When thru the woods and for - est glades I wan - der and hear the
3. And when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, sent Him to
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me

all the *worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, when I look down from loft - y
die, I scarce can take it in - That on the cross, my bur - den
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble

*roll - ing thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the un - i - verse dis - played! Then sings my
moun - tain gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.
glad - ly bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin!
ad - o - ra - tion and there pro - claim, my God, how great Thou art!

CHORUS

soul, my Sav - iour God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my

soul, my Sav - iour God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!