WILLIAMS COLLEGE
BACCALAUREATE

June 1, 2024
Order of Service

Please stand as the degree candidates enter the hall.

BELL RINGING

Class Bell Ringers
Paige Anna Busse
Paul Kim
Sara N. Stebbins

PROCISIONAL

Music by Jay Corey

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Cello Shots
Rachel K. Broweleit, Michael Anthony Fallon,
Ondine Jevremov, Tasan Ajani Smith-Gandy

OPENING BLESSING

The Rev. Dr. Valerie D. Bailey Fischer
Chaplain to the College and
Protestant Chaplain

READINGS AND REFLECTIONS

Lea Jane Elton and Kazi Raleh

Michael Anthony Fallon and Leilani Fuentes

Dover June Gingold Sikes
and Semra Vignaux

CONCERT CHOIR

“Crossing the Bar” by Rani Arbo

Concert Choir Senior Ensemble
Anna Lenti, Conductor
Molly Kathryn Arts, Samuel E. Boyce,
Paige Anna Busse, Katharine Ann Cook,
Petra Helena Garban Hinds,
Zachary Houlton, Leo J. Marburg,
Sarah G. McGinn, Peter Daniel Miles,
Leah Elizabeth Rosenman, Asha Marisa
Claudia Sandler, Sara N. Stebbins,
Lucas Araujo Weissman,
Charles William Yang
READINGS AND REFLECTIONS
Paige Anna Busse, Sarah Putnam Ling and Sean Morrisey
Abdullah Seha Karabacak, Shizah Kashif and Ollie Saleh
Devika Goel and Ria Kedia

GOSPEL CHOIR SENIOR ENSEMBLE
Accompanied by Abe Sanchez
Justin Byun, Mercy J. Lagat ’27, Sarah Putnam Ling, Bemnet Getachew Mengistu, Berenize García Nueva, Michael N. Okpoti ’27, Angelica Peña, Divine Uwimana ’27

BACCALAUREATE SPEAKER
Siddhartha Mukherjee
Introduced by Ashrita Anjali Iyengar

CHARGE TO THE CLASS OF 2024
Maud S. Mandel
President and Professor of History

PRAYERS
Sidra Mahmood
Muslim Chaplain
Bridget E. Power
Catholic Chaplain
Rabbi Seth M. Wax
Jewish Chaplain

CLOSING BLESSING
The Rev. Dr. Valerie D. Bailey Fischer
Chaplain to the College and Protestant Chaplain

RECESSIONAL
Zambezi Ensemble
Tendai Muparutsa
Artist in Residence in African Music Performance, Lecturer in Music, Director of Zambezi, Co-director of Kusika

All readers and performers are members of the senior class unless otherwise noted.
ABOUT THIS SERVICE
The word Baccalaureate refers not only to the degree that will be conferred tomorrow upon the Class of 2024 but also to an occasion of reflective and prayerful remembrance steeped in gratitude for the opportunity to learn and the inspiration to serve. This is also a celebration of the academic accomplishments that we will honor at Commencement exercises tomorrow and for the lessons learned and the wisdom acquired during these college years.

During this year’s service, you will hear readings from some of the world’s religious, spiritual and humanist traditions. The year’s readings are reflections on the theme of trust. Trust is a question not of belief but about whether or not you can rely on someone, something, or yourself, friends, and community. At a time when there is minimal trust in institutions, we take this moment to slow down on the eve of one of the most important events of your lives and invite you to reflect on the role trust has played in this journey. Please join us in collectively reflecting on—and celebrating—not just reaching this destination but also beginning new journeys.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
We respectfully acknowledge that Williams College stands on the ancestral homelands of the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohicans, who are the Indigenous peoples of the region now called Williamstown. Following tremendous hardship after being forced from their valued homelands, they continued as a sovereign Tribal Nation in Wisconsin, which is where they reside today. We pay honor and respect to their ancestors past and present as we commit to building a more inclusive and equitable space for all.

For more information about the program, including text from the readings and notes about the Baccalaureate speaker, scan the QR code or visit: commencement.williams.edu/baccalaureate-2024