

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

PROCESSIONAL

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,
Bennet Getachew Mengistu,
Berenize Garcia 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*

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