



PRELUDE

Kenneth R. Borrmann, MMus
Dean, School of Music

PROCESSIONAL

“Pomp and Circumstance”
(March No. 1), Elgar
Mr. Borrmann

MARSHALS

Kendrick Thiessen,
President, Student Government Association
Ethan Wambold,
Vice President, Student Government Association

WELCOME

Todd J. Williams, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

OPENING PRAYER

Mr. Edward Stillman
Board Chair, Board of Trustees

MUSIC SELECTION

“Walk with me,”
Wm. Rhode
Dr. David Shockey, DMA
Part-time Faculty
Accompanied by Eleanor Shockey

SCRIPTURE READING

Naomi Rose Edele
Candidate for Bachelor of Science in Bible

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS & DEGREES

Adam J. Porcella, EdD
Sr. Vice President and Provost
Dr. Williams

CHARGE TO GRADUATES

Dr. Williams

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Keith W. Plummer, PhD
Dean, School of Divinity

***SENIOR HYMN**

“In Christ Alone”
Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

CHALLENGE TO GRADUATES

Dr. Williams

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & AWARDING OF
HONORS & AWARDS**

Dr. Williams
Dr. Porcella

***UNIVERSITY HYMN**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”
T.O. Chisholm/W.M. Runyan

RECESSIONAL

“Te Deum”
M. Charpentier
Mr. Borrmann

CHARGE TO GRADUATES

President:

“I charge you as graduates of this institution and followers of Jesus Christ to commit yourselves to being faithful stewards of that which you have received here, to cultivate and keep active the life of the mind, to attend to your continual study of holy scripture and to the disciplines of the spiritual life that you may grow in faith and in the knowledge and grace of God, and to give of yourselves in sacrificial service to your Lord, which is your spiritual act of worship. Will you here now commit to the pursuit of an intentional and integrated Christian life; will you purpose to expend your energies and talents in service to Christ in the church, society, and the world and for the glory of God? If so, please respond by saying, ‘I will, by God’s grace.’”

Graduates’ Response:

“I will, by God’s grace.”

SENIOR CLASS HYMN

IN CHRIST ALONE

written by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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UNIVERSITY HYMN

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"

Thomas O. Cbisbolm/William M. Runyan

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

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*This program does not constitute the official record of
Cairn University's Fall 2024 graduates,
though the listing was as accurate
as possible at the time of publication.
Official proof of graduation from the University
may only be obtained from the
University's Registrar's Office.*

*Undergraduate students who have completed
all academic work in an exemplary manner
are distinguished with Latin Honors
as evidenced by their wearing a medallion
with a colored ribbon. The ribbon colors represent
the following levels of achievement:*

SUMMA CUM LAUDE—GOLD RIBBON
(3.90 and higher)

MAGNA CUM LAUDE—WHITE RIBBON
(3.75-3.89)

CUM LAUDE—RED/WHITE RIBBON
(3.50-3.74)

TODD J. WILLIAMS, PhD

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Dr. Todd J. Williams is president and chief executive officer of Cairn University. Prior to his appointment as president of Cairn University in 2008, Dr. Williams served as senior vice president and provost for the University. From 2001 until 2005 he served as headmaster and CEO of Trinity Christian School of Fairfax. While in northern Virginia, he also served as visiting lecturer for the Witherspoon Fellowship in Washington D.C.

From 1999–2001 Dr. Williams served as vice president and academic dean for undergraduate education at Cairn, where he began his educational career as a faculty member teaching social sciences in the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

He holds a BS in Bible degree from Cairn University and an MEd and a PhD from Temple University in Philadelphia. He is a regular contributor to online and print publications and serves as a visiting lecturer and speaker on cultural and professional issues. He is the chairman of the Board of Governors of The John Jay Institute in Pennsylvania and a member of the Board of Directors of Gospel Volunteers Inc.

Dr. Williams and his wife, Dawn, have two grown children, Connor and Caitlin.

IN MEMORIAM

DR. CLINTON FORAKER '66

Dr. Clinton Foraker went home to be with the Lord on September 13, 2024, at 82 years of age. After graduating from the pastoral studies program, he later returned to the University to serve as a professor and chairman of the pastoral studies department. His life is marked by his 50 years of pastoral ministry; his 59 years of marriage with his wife, Olga; and his three children and five grandchildren.

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COMMENCEMENT NOTES

The academic procession is a continuing medieval tradition in modern university life. The somber gowns and colorful hoods are similar to those worn by scholars and churchmen as early as the twelfth century. The garb in those times had an element of utility. The robes were warm; the hoods could be drawn up to protect against drafts in unheated buildings.

Traditionally, the hood's silken lining has been in the color of the wearer's university, and the color of the bordering velvet indicates the special area of study. White velvet represents arts, letters and humanities; red, theology; dark blue, philosophy; light blue, education; yellow, science; brown, fine arts; mustard, business; purple, law; dark green, medicine; lilac, dentistry; olive, pharmacy; pink, music; orange, engineering; citron, social work; blue-violet, architecture.

Gowns representing the bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees vary in style. The bachelor's gown has long pointed sleeves; the master's gown, longer, narrow closed sleeves which extend below the knees; and the doctor's gown, full bell-shaped sleeves with three bars of velvet and a front opening faced with wide velvet bands in either black or the color indicating the area of study.

The traditional cap is a mortarboard, although the tam and the Elizabethan are seen on some of the faculty. The tassel is often black, although it is frequently gold for the doctorate. There is no general rule for the position of the tassel on a mortarboard. However, it has become customary for candidates for degrees to wear the tassels on the right side before the degrees are conferred and to shift them to the left at the moment the degrees are awarded to them.

Red gowns signify members of the Board of Trustees, though not all members are wearing them today.