

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



THURSDAY & FRIDAY
MAY 8 - 9, 2025

GO. SERVE. LEAD.

BACCALAUREATE

Maranatha Baptist University

Thursday, May 8, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Matthew Davis, Chief Executive Officer & Dr. David Anderson, President

Presiding

PRELUDE Pamela Loggans, BS
Faculty, Music

✦ PROCESSIONAL “Our Great Savior”
(J. Wilbur Chapman/Rowland H. Prichard) Pamela Loggans

✦ HYMN “How Firm a Foundation”
(Rippon's Selection of Hymns/Traditional)

✦ INVOCATION David Anderson, DMin
President

SPECIAL MUSIC “It is Well”
(Horatio G. Spafford/arr. Benjamin David Knoedler) Heritage Singers

WELCOME..... Matthew Davis, JD
Chief Executive Officer

OFFERTORY “Onward, Christian Soldiers”
(Arthur Sullivan/arr. Rebecca Bonam) Joseph Rincon, Pianist

AWARD PRESENTATIONS Thomas Graham, EdD
Vice President, Academic Affairs

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 17:5-10..... David Saxon, PhD
*Assistant Dean, College of Bible and Church Ministries
Faculty, Maranatha Baptist Seminary*

SPECIAL MUSIC..... “Here Am I Lord, Send Me”
*(Ron Hamilton/arr. K. Allen and K. Campbell) Charis Dwire, Violinist
Alissa Foerster, Accompanist*

BACCALAUREATE SERMON..... Douglas Jackson, DD
Pastor, Community Baptist Church, Saginaw, MI

✦ RECESSIONAL “For the Sake of His Name”
(Chris Anderson/Greg Habegger)

✦ BENEDICTION S. Martin Marriot, DD
Chancellor

✦ Please stand.

CONVOCATION

Maranatha Baptist University

Friday, May 9, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Matthew Davis, Chief Executive Officer & Dr. David Anderson, President

Presiding

PRELUDE Peter Wright, MA
Faculty, Music

✦ PROCESSIONAL “Who Is on the Lord’s Side?”
(Frances R. Havergal/C. Luise Reichardt) Peter Wright

✦ HYMN..... “Rejoice, the Lord is King”
(Charles Wesley/John Darwall)

WELCOME AND INVOCATION Matthew Davis, JD
Chief Executive Officer

SCRIPTURE READING – 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 .. S. Martin Marriott, DD
Chancellor

SPECIAL MUSIC “In Faith I Follow”
(Matt Herbster and Josh Sparkman/arr. Sparkman) Joseph Greene, Vocalist
Emma Bateman, Accompanist

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS David Anderson, DMin
President

OFFERTORY “Great is Thy Faithfulness”
(William Runyan/arr. Gina Sprunger) Timothy De Leon, Pianist

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS David Anderson, DMin
President

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES Thomas Graham, EdD
Vice President, Academic Affairs

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES Matthew Davis, JD
Chief Executive Officer

SPECIAL MUSIC..... “Prayer to Jehovah”
(W. Williams, trans. Peter Williams/arr. Molly Ijames) Heritage Singers

PRAYER OF DEDICATION David Anderson, DMin
President

✦ RECESSIONAL “To the Praise of His Glory”
(Thelma M. Cedarholm)

✦ BENEDICTION Robert Loggans, DMin
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Watertown, WI

✦ Please stand.

UNDERGRADUATE

DEGREE CANDIDATES

MARANATHA BAPTIST BIBLE INSTITUTE

Kenneth Butler, MDiv, Director

Bible and Church Ministries Certificate

Sofia Fiocchi
Lydia Greenfield
Elizabeth Mitchell

Bethany Roscizewski
Vladimir Savchenko
Reagan Schopf

COLLEGE OF BIBLE AND CHURCH MINISTRIES

David Anderson, DMin, Dean

AA Christian Ministry

Hope Beals
Abel Brower
Micah Foerster
Aaron Joyner
Ella Malmanger
Matthew Poole
Tristen Sexton
Hannah Veschak

BA Biblical Counseling

Heath Holmes

BA Biblical Studies

Brad Brock
Philip Holloway
Andrew Wright

BA Biblical Studies: Youth/ Children's Ministry

Nathan Leslie

BA Church Ministries: Missions

Kara Nelson

BA Church Ministries: Pastoral Studies

Luke Nason

BA Pastoral Studies

Nathaniel Harris
Daniel Sample, Jr.
Stephen Seest

BS Bible

Wyatt Arterberry
Noah Cupery
Joseph Greene
Matthew Silver
Heather Taylor

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Thomas Graham, EdD, Dean

Lane Hansel, EdD, Chair, Department of Applied Science

Angela Morris, MS, Chair, Department of Humanities

Douglas Bachorik, PhD, Chair, Department of Music

Jonathan Coleman, MEd, Co-Chair, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies

AA Humanities

Hannah Glass (posthumous)

Benjamin Trueblood

AS Criminal Justice

Naomi Holland

AS Digital Media

Cassidy Boehl

Lindsey Cardot

Caitlin Francis

Elyana Leitner

Janessa Mossman

AS Interdisciplinary Studies

Lindsay Byrd

David Gingery

Emily Lodwick

BA Communication Arts

Danelle Habegger

Daniel Says

Daniel Zwolanek

BA English

Alyssa Uksas

BA Humanities

Cassandra Bachmann

Chloe Hockema

Carrigan Hoyle

Andrea Lestina

Emily Wilson

BA Music

Timothy De Leon

Charis Dwire

Alissa Foerster

BS Biology

Reagan Bill

BS Exercise Science: Fitness

David Dorothy

Arielle Henkel

BS Exercise Science: Kinesiology

Chelsea Graham

BS Exercise Science: Pre-Athletic Training

Isaac Schmidt

BS Interdisciplinary Studies

Anthony Bradshaw

Jonathan Fuller

Joseph Gibbs

Lauren Gregory

Hannah Hartfelder

Amanda Hoyle

Maria Jewson

Grant Kirchner

Emily Lloyd

Jacob Newman

Mikaela Pawlowski

Daniel Piranian

Matthew Waller

SongSu Wright

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Tracy Foster, DBA, Dean

AAS Computer Technology

Roger Cardot
Daniel Zwolanek

AS Business

Stephen De Leon
Malary Diaz
Michael Doese
Isaac Garner
Wesley Hoff
Seth Letzring
Spencer Smith
Crystal Stanley

BBA Accounting (CPA)

Joseph Gingery

BBA Business Management

Azriel Counteraman
Michael Davis
Joseph Rincon
Timothy Nickels

BBA Marketing Management

Hannah Shore

BS Accounting CPA

Reese Borton
Ignacio Hernandez

BS Business

Kseniya Hassenplug
Daniel Hay
Annie Lee Keller
Simeon Keller

BS Business Administration: Accounting

Justus Morrison

BS Business Administration: Management

Emily Dempsey
Collin Pittsenbarger

BS Business Administration: Sport Management

Lindsay Mikkelson

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Tad Nuce, EdD, Dean

BS Early Childhood Education

Cherith Bulfer
Hannah Sharpe

BS Educational Studies

Tabitha Ameen
Caryssa Berger
Dannah Bottrell
Mary deQuina
Kathryn Schmidt
Katelyn Smith
Hannah Tulloch

BS Elementary Education

Faith Dargy
Jonni Decker
Camille Fink

Adelaine Jaffrey
Megan MacDonald
Alexa Moser
Emily Parent
Amber Regnerus
Lauren Schmidt
Kyria Teachout
Sarah Weiss
Olivia Wilger
Erin Woodfin

BS Physical Education and Health

Sara Herrera

BS Science Education

Theresa Wilger

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Elizabeth Stille, MSN, Director

BSN Nursing

Ian Balyo
Kate Brock
Emma Carlson
Abby Gilliam
Makayla Gonzalez
Anne Herbster

Joanna Jacob
Melanie Juarez-Montas
Miriam Madsen
Racquelle Melville
Megan Miller
Laura Pfau

GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

William Licht, EdD, Dean of Graduate Studies
Jeff Drost, PhD, Program Coordinator

Master of Organizational Leadership

Reese Borton
Anthony Bradshaw
Keturah Brown

Michael Davis
Jacob Doser
Rebekah D'Oyley
Hannah Hartfelder
Aubrey Secor

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

William Licht, EdD, Dean of Graduate Studies

Master of Arts in Teaching

Daniel Borton
Heather Brenenstuhl
Judith Clark
Lindsay Hittner
Laura Humphreys
Jason Mucha
Kathryn Schmidt
Suleika Soto
Kolette Thompson

Paula Frischknecht

Amanda Goar
Elizabeth Hank
Jeremy Ingalls
Kimberly Julian
Christiana Jung
Meredith Mayes
Robert Nordgren
Robert Nutzhorn
Terra Pries
Christina Riley
Michael Runk
Sean Shiroma
Rachel Smith
Vanessa Torres
Fang Wang
Taylor Warner
Alice Webber
Amanda Womack

Master of Education in Teaching and Learning

Caryssa Berger
Craig Castle
Keva Christie-Bien
Jenna DeLoach
Mary deQuina
Matthew Elliott

MARANATHA BAPTIST SEMINARY

David Anderson, DMin, President

Master of Arts in Bible

Amanda Baker
Micah Burdett
Benjamin Clore
Timothy De Leon
Daniel Kroll
Donald McMenamin
Matthew McPhillips
Joshua Pierce
Christopher Roberts
Troy Shoaf
Matthew Silver
Joseph Stewart
Benjamin Vahle

Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling

Kiernan Bickel
Bezaleel Cummings
Caleb Custer
Kylee Davis
William Dillon
Jeremiah Doak
Sreeraj Kumar
Raymond Parris
Alicia Reagan
Danny Reyes

Michal Wagner

Master of Arts in Biblical Studies

Justin Bachmann
Nathan Herbster
Luke Nason

Master of Divinity

Collin Bond
Josiah Dennis
Jeremy Fopma
Evan Kernaghan
Justin Noethlich
Joshua Zollers

Doctor of Ministry

Anthony Applegate
Michael Ascher
Keith Betry
Timothy Bower
Joel Eastwood
Caleb Stein
Douglas Wright
Gregory Wright

ACADEMIC HONORS

CRITERIA

Academic honors are given to graduating seniors based upon their cumulative grade point average. Students receiving such honors are identified by an honor cord around their neck. Academic honors criteria are as follows:

HONOR	GRADE POINT AVERAGE	CORD COLOR
Associate Degree w/ Honors	3.50-4.00	White
Cum Laude	3.50-3.74	Blue/Blue
Magna Cum Laude	3.75-3.90	Blue/Gold
Summa Cum Laude	3.91-4.00	Gold/Gold

ACADEMIC REGALIA

SIGNIFICANCE

THE CAP is the mortar board for undergraduate and master's degree candidates; doctoral degree candidates may wear a tam. The tassel color indicates the field of study for the degree being awarded.

Blue and Gold - Bible Institute	Apricot - Nursing
Drab - Business	Light Blue - Education
Pink - Music	White - Humanities
Yellow Gold - Applied Science	Scarlet - Theology or Divinity
Gold - Interdisciplinary	Gold - Doctorate

THE GOWN is traditionally black. Bachelor's or master's degree gowns are untrimmed. Doctoral gowns are faced down the front with velvet, either black or the color that symbolizes the subject field in which the degree was earned. Maranatha's gowns are all black.

THE HOOD is worn by master's and doctoral degree candidates and varies in length for each degree. Its lining represents the school's academic colors, and the velvet trim varies in width for master's and doctoral degrees. The border color represents the field of study in which the degree was awarded.

The president and members of the governing body of a college or university are entitled to wear doctoral gowns, even if they do not hold the degree; their hoods represent their earned degrees.

THE CEREMONIAL MACE, carried by an honored faculty member or professor emeritus before the presidential entourage, is a symbol of authority in colleges and universities around the world. The seals of Maranatha Baptist University and Maranatha Baptist Bible College adorn the head of the mace.

MARANATHA TODAY

David Anderson, DMin, President

2024-2025

We praise God for the impact MBU graduates are consistently making for the cause of Christ at home and around the world! Ever since the founding of Maranatha, the world has grown darker, and the case for higher Christian education that our founder Dr. B. Myron Cedarholm so faithfully taught has never been greater.

MBU provides a Christ-centered, biblically based liberal arts education and ministry training in an environment rich in academic opportunity and spiritual investment. The university currently offers 26 bachelor's degree programs and eight associate programs. Beyond the bachelor's level, MBU offers four graduate programs in Business and Education. Additionally, Maranatha Baptist Seminary offers six graduate degrees, including the Master of Divinity and the Doctor of Ministry. Dual degree pathways allow students the possibility of completing both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree simultaneously.

We continue to rejoice with the ministry mindedness in the student body and College of Bible and Church Ministries. Seventy-one percent of Bible and Seminary graduates remain in full-time ministry after 10 years or more. This year alone, current students have participated in 5,000+ different ministry opportunities, demonstrating their passion to serve the Lord.

In January 2019, Maranatha unveiled Maranatha Baptist Bible Institute, which is specifically geared for the student who is not presently interested in pursuing a college degree, but who desires to gain solid, comprehensive Bible knowledge and practical ministry experience. The institute offers two very affordable tracks: a one-year diploma program or a two-year certificate program. We now have a gateway from the Bible Institute to the Associate's Degree in Christian Ministry. This year six graduates completed the two-year cycle and are receiving their certificates. Additionally, one student has completed the requirements for the one-year diploma program.

Maranatha's recent graduates have excelled in their major field and licensure examinations. The School of Nursing completed the NCLEX exam with a 100% pass rate. The School of Business graduates ranked in the top 4% of senior business majors nationwide, while the Department of Music graduates scored in the top 1% among their peers.

In December, the Music Department presented a Christmas Festival Concert titled "God With Us," featuring works from the new MBU recording. In the fall, the Humanities Department captivated audiences with Agatha Christie's mystery *The Mousetrap* and in the spring took us on an adventure to the Wild West with *M'liss My Western Miss* by Virginia Mitchell.

Throughout the school year, the Music Department programmed 11 student recitals, the Great Lakes Music Festival, Music on Mondays, Chamber Music Series, Artist Series, in addition to studio recitals and performing group concerts. The band and orchestra's Classical Kids Concert provided entertainment and musical education for over 900 students and sponsors from Watertown and the surrounding communities. Chorale and Chamber Strings ministered in area churches, Chamber Singers and Madrigal Choir took week-long tours, and the Symphonic Band traveled to Ohio and Michigan for their Fall tour. Each of the traveling groups conducted a high school music festival while on tour. This spring, student and faculty musicians recorded a new album featuring music composed or arranged by MBU students, alumni, and faculty. This summer

finds our vocal ensemble, the Heritage Singers, ministering to churches through the southeast. Of course, a major part of student-musicians' lives is ministry in campus chapels and in local churches.

Maranatha Online continues to extend the reach of MBU by providing Christ-centered educational opportunities to students located around the globe. Over 200 undergraduate and graduate courses are offered throughout the year in both online and virtual formats, and more than twenty degree programs are now offered entirely online. Each semester, students from across the country and around the world participate in MBU campus courses through the use of video-conferencing software.

Over the last 10 years, hundreds of high school students have benefited from the MBU High School Scholarship to earn college credit through online and virtual courses. In addition, MBU partners with Christian high schools to offer dual credit through the Advance to College program.

MBU is committed to offering affordable online options to high school, undergraduate, and graduate students. The Ignite Scholarship is awarded to adult learners with financial need who are enrolled in one of MBU's 15 100% online undergraduate degree programs. The Teaching and Leading Scholarship is awarded to graduate students who are in full-time Christian ministry and home educators.

In the spring of 2024, MBU launched MaranathaPlus, a learning platform for non-degree seeking adults. MaranathaPlus is designed to provide low-cost, professional, spiritual, and personal growth opportunities in a self-paced format. The catalog offers courses such as Christian Worldview, Expository Teaching for Women, By Faith Abraham, Christian Educators Seminar, Hymnplaying, Baptist Distinctives, Old Testament and New Testament Survey courses. Many of the classes are offered in both an individual format and in a format designed for churches to use in classroom settings. Additional course offerings are in development.

The Sabercats sent one team to the NCCAA DII National Championships during the 2024-25 season. The Men's Cross Country Team qualified for the National Championship while the Women's Cross Country Team sent two runners who qualified as individuals. The Sabercats put it all together just when it mattered most at the National Championships, as every single runner set a season- or personal-best time in the race. Junior Shem Abdnour led the efforts with a PR time of 28:27 in the men's 8K - good enough for an All-American selection and a program-top-five time in Maranatha Men's Cross Country program history. The Maranatha Women's Soccer Team also had a successful season, led by first-year head coach Jarid Lawson. Despite finishing runner-up in the NCCAA Midwest Regional Championship, the team finished their season above .500 (9-8) for the first time since their 2020 National championship season. Maranatha had 16 student-athletes named to NCCAA All-Region teams, one student-athlete earning NCCAA All-American, and 25 NCCAA Scholar Athlete honors in 2024-25. First-year baseball head coach, Jodi Faithfull, earned an early win in the season during the Sabercats' opening series against Principia and Teddy Haugen pitched a no-hitter against Viterbo.

As we reflect on what the Lord has allowed us to accomplish this year, we press forward to greater impact for His glory. We look forward to new programs, new ministries, and new opportunities that lead each of us to greater likeness to Him.

Maranatha! He is coming! May we be faithful until He comes.

TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY

UNIVERSITY HYMN

Blest be God and the Father, Creator, Whose Son,
Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and Spirit, Three in One,
Before word was spoken, chose us that we should be
TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY! Praise Him eternally!

To the praise of His glory--accepted in Him
(Beloved of the Father God), redeemed from ev'ry sin,
Forgiven according to the riches of His grace,
TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY, we soon behold His face.

Word of truth, everlasting salvation have we,
God the Father through His Son provided full and free,
And, sealed by the Spirit, His promise that we
TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY His own shall ever be!

"Maranatha" He cometh! Behold in the sky
A SHOUT! a VOICE! the TRUMP OF GOD! Our Lord is drawing nigh!
Believe Him, receive Him, look up and thou shalt be
TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY with Him eternally!

- Thelma M. Cedarholm



COMMENCEMENT WEEK PHOTOS

Scan the QR code to view/purchase/download commencement photos from
photos.mbu.edu. Every purchase helps support MBU's Communication Arts program.

VIDEO RECORDING AVAILABLE

A video recording of the Commencement ceremony may be viewed online
at mbu.edu/live.

For more information about Maranatha Baptist University,
please visit our website at mbu.edu.