

Gettysburg College

A stylized, monochromatic illustration of Christ Chapel at Gettysburg College. The building features a prominent balcony with a railing, an American flag flying from a tall pole on the balcony, and a series of arched windows and columns on the main facade. The entire illustration is rendered in a light orange color against a darker orange background.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE
191ST COMMENCEMENT
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026, 4:30 P.M.
CHRIST CHAPEL



#Gburg2026

In the spirit of global citizenship and community, Gettysburg College welcomes you in each language currently offered for study:



أهلاً وسهلاً

Arabic

欢迎

Chinese

Welcome

English

Bienvenue

French

Willkommen

German

χαίρετε

Greek

Benvenuti

Italian

ようこそ

Japanese

Salvete

Latin

Bem-vindos

Portuguese

Bienvenidos

Spanish

Gettysburg College was founded on April 7, 1832, by anti-slavery theologian Samuel Simon Schmucker. Five years later, the institution (then known as Pennsylvania College) moved into Pennsylvania Hall, built on land provided by Thaddeus Stevens, whose illustrious career in Congress included authorship of the 14th Amendment, which guaranteed full civil rights to citizens of all states.

When the Civil War erupted, the College stood in its midst. Elements of two great armies swept through campus on July 1, 1863, the first day of the decisive Battle of Gettysburg. Pennsylvania Hall became a hospital for hundreds of soldiers from both North and South.

On November 19, 1863, townspeople, students, and faculty marched to hear President Abraham Lincoln hallow the National Cemetery with his *Gettysburg Address*. David Wills, an 1851 graduate, invited Lincoln to deliver “a few appropriate remarks.”

Almost a century later, President Dwight D. Eisenhower settled in Gettysburg after leaving the White House in 1961 and served on the College’s Board of Trustees. He wrote his memoirs in what is today the College’s Admissions Office.

Today, Gettysburg College is a vibrant learning community that has produced prominent graduates in a wide variety of fields, including former White House Counsel Fred Fielding ’61, U.S. Congressman Ron Paul ’57, Nobel Prize-winning cancer researcher Michael Bishop ’57, former NAACP President and CEO Bruce Gordon ’68, five-time Oscar-nominated cinematographer Owen Roizman ’58, Chair of the Global Partnership for Education Carol Bellamy ’63, Newbery Medal-winning *Maniac Magee* author Jerry Spinelli ’63, leading sleep researcher Mary Carskadon ’69, McKnight Foundation President Kathryn Wolford ’79, and Emmy-award winning actor, stylist, author, and fashion guru Carson Kressley ’91.

Pre-Music (playlist)

PRELUDE

“My Heart Ever Faithful” - J.S. Bach, arr. Kohlmann
Christian Keller '27, *organist*
Jack Francis Basham Chamblee '28, *pianist*

PROCESSIONAL

“Fanfare” – Noel Rawsthorne
“Moderato” – Hugh Livingston
Christian Keller '27, *organist*

PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

Robert W. Iuliano
President

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chaplain Bright
Director of Religious and Spiritual Life/College Chaplain

INVOCATION AND SERVICE OF FIRE AND WATER

Chaplain Bright
Director of Religious and Spiritual Life/College Chaplain
Denae Destyn Bowen '26 & Rajan Aparicio '26

OPENING HYMN

Let the Streams of Living Justice, (ELW) #710
Composer: Gustav Holst (1874–1924)
Lyricist: William Whitla (1989–)
Christian Keller '27, *organist*

MARSHAL’S ADDRESS

Michael J. Birkner '72, P'10
Professor of History

FIRST SENIOR ADDRESS

Colin Patrick Hughes '25

SECOND SENIOR ADDRESS

Obaapa Danquah Smith '26

THIRD SENIOR ADDRESS

Phong Vu Pham '26

MUSICAL SOLO

“As the Wind Goes”
By Wynton Marsalis (1961–)
Josie Marie Ngoa Eteme '26, *violinist*

POEM

Somewhere Between Hello and Goodbye...
Tawah Trophic Tamba '26

QURANIC RECITATION

Abu Hurira '26

Surah Al-Fatiha (The Opening)

Arabic:

مِ يَحْرُلَا نَنْمُحْرُلَا قَلَلَا مُسَبِّ
نَ يَمَلَا عَلَا اَبْرَ طَلْ دَمَّحْرُلَا
مِ يَحْرُلَا نَنْمُحْرُلَا
نَ يَدَلَا جُوي اَفَلَا ام
نُ يَعْتَمُنْ نَ كَافِي اَوْ دُبْغُنْ كَافِي اِ
مِ يَقْتَمُنْ طَلَا طَارِصَلَا اِنْ ذَمَا
مُ يَدَلَا عَسَمُغُنَا نَ يَدَلَا طَارِص
نَ يَدَلَا اضَلَا اَلُو مُدَيَدَلَا عَبُوضُ عَجَلَا رِيغ

Transliteration:

Bismillāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm
Al-ḥamdu lillāhi rabbi l-'ālamīn
Ar-raḥmāni r-raḥīm
Māliki yawmi d-dīn
Iyyāka na'budu wa iyyāka nasta'īn
Ihdina ṣ-ṣirāṭa l-mustaqīm
Ṣirāṭa l-ladhīna an'amta 'alayhim
Ghayri l-maghḏūbi 'alayhim wa la d-ḏāllīn

Translation:

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.
All praise is for Allah—Lord of all worlds,
The Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,
Master of the Day of Judgment.
You alone we worship, and You alone we ask for help.
Guide us on the Straight Path,
The path of those You have blessed—
Not those who have earned Your anger,
nor those who go astray.

Surah Al-Kafirun

Arabic:

مِ يَحْرُلَا نَنْمُحْرُلَا قَلَلَا مُسَبِّ
نُورِفَا قَلَلَا اَفِيَا اَي لَق
نُ وُدْبَعَتْ اَم دُبْعَا اَل
دُبْعَا اَم نُ وُدْبَعَا مُتَنَا اَلُو
مُتَدْبَعَا اَم دِبَاعَا اِنَا اَلُو
دُبْعَا اَم نُ وُدْبَعَا مُتَنَا اَلُو
نَ يَدَلَا يَلُو مُكُنْ يَدَلَا مُكَل

Transliteration:

Bismillāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm
Qul yā ayyuhā l-kāfirūn
Lā a'budu mā ta'budūn
Wa lā antum 'ābidūna mā a'budu
Wa lā anā 'ābidun mā 'abadtum
Wa lā antum 'ābidūna mā a'budu
Lakum dīnukum wa liya dīn

Translation:

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.
Say, "O disbelievers,
I do not worship what you worship,
Nor are you worshippers of what I worship,
Nor will I be a worshipper of what you worship,
Nor will you be worshippers of what I worship.
For you is your religion, and for me is my religion."

Surah Al-Ikhlās (Qul Huwa Allāhu Aḥad)

Arabic:

مِ يَحْرُلِ اِنْ مَحْرُلِ اَللّٰهُ اِحْسَبُ
دَحْ اَللّٰهُ وُه لِق
نَمَّصَلِ اَللّٰهُ
كَلُوِيْ مَلُو دَلِيْ مَل
دَحْ اَوْفَكَ هَلْ نَكْتِيْ مَلُو

Transliteration:

Bismillāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm
Qul huwa llāhu aḥad
Allāhu ṣ-ṣamad
Lam yalid wa lam yūlad
Wa lam yakun lahu kufuwan aḥad

Translation:

Say: He is Allāh, the One.
Allāh, the Eternal Refuge.
He neither begets nor is born,
Nor is there to Him any equivalent.

Surah Al-Falaq (Qul A'ūdhu bi Rabbil-Falaq)

Arabic:

مِ يَحْرُلِ اِنْ مَحْرُلِ اَللّٰهُ اِحْسَبُ
قَلَّ فَلَ اَبْرَبْ دُوْعَ اَلْق
قَلَّ حِ اِمْرَشْ نَم
نَبَقُوْ اَذِ اِقْصَا عَرَشْ نَمُو
دَقَّ عِ اَلِ يَفِ بَاتِ اَفْئَلِ اَرَشْ نَمُو
نَسَّ حِ اَذِ اِيسْ اِحْرَشْ نَمُو

Transliteration:

Bismillāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm
Qul a'ūdhu bi rabbi l-falaq
Min sharri mā khalaq
Wa min sharri ghāsiqin idhā waqab
Wa min sharri n-naffāthāti fi l-'uqad
Wa min sharri ḥāsidiṅ idhā ḥasad

Translation:

Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of daybreak,
From the evil of what He has created,
And from the evil of darkness when it settles,
And from the evil of those who blow on knots,
And from the evil of an envier when he envies.

Surah An-Nas (Qul A`ūdhu bi Rabbin-Nās)

Arabic:

مِ يَحْزِلْ اِنْ تَحْزِلْ اِلَّا مَسْبُوبٌ
سِ اِنْ لَّا يَدْعُوْا لِق
سِ اِنْ لَّا اَقْلَمُ
سِ اِنْ لَّا اِيْلَ اِلَّا
سِ اِنْ خَلَّ اِسْ اَوْ سَوَّلَ اِرْشَ نَمِ
سِ اِنْ لَّا رُوْضُ يَفْ اَسْ وَاَسْ وَاِيْ يَدْ اَلَا
سِ اِنْ لَّا اَوْ رُوْضُ جَلَّ اَنْ مِ

Transliteration:

Bismillāhi r-rahmāni r-rahīm
Qul a`ūdhu bi rabbi n-nās
Maliki n-nās
Ilāhi n-nās
Min sharri l-waswāsi l-khannās
Alladhī yuwaswisu fī ṣudūri n-nās
Mina l-jinnati wa n-nās

Translation:

Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of mankind,
The King of mankind,
The God of mankind,
From the evil of the whisperer who withdraws,
Who whispers in the hearts of mankind,
From among jinn and mankind.

DHARMIC READING

Dr. Patturaja Selvaraj*
Associate Professor of Management

Saraswathy Mantra:

Saraswati Namasthubhyam, Varadey Kaamarupinee
Vidhyarambham Karishyami, Sidhir bhavathu mey sada.

Meaning:

“O, Goddess Saraswati, my humble prostrations unto Thee. You are the fulfiller of all wishes.
As I start my work (new chapter), I request you to bestow your blessings on me so I may succeed.” [1]

Sri Hayagriva Stotram

Jñānānandamayam devam nirmala-sphaṭikākṛtim |
Ādhāraṃ sarvavidyānām Hayagrīvam upāśmahe || Om Śrī Lakṣmī Hayagrīvāya Namaḥ |

Meaning:

“I meditate upon Lord Hayagriva, who is the embodiment of knowledge and bliss, who is pure and crystal-like in appearance, and who is the foundation of all branches of learning.”

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Meditation” from “Thais”

Jules Massenet (1842–1912)

Christian Keller '27, *organist*

Jack Francis Basham Chamblee '28, *pianist*

HOMILY

“A Sacred Toil”

Chaplain Bright

Director of Religious and Spiritual Life/College Chaplain

MEDITATION

“Adoration”

Florence Beatrice Price (1887–1953)

Christian Keller '27, *organist*

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS & BENEDICTION

Chaplain Bright

Director of Religious and Spiritual Life/College Chaplain

RECESSIONAL

“Fanfare Toccata on A Mighty Fortress” arr. Perks

Christian Keller '27, *organist*

* Faculty

ORGANIST

Christian Keller '27

VIOLINIST

Josie Marie Ngoa Eteme '26

PIANIST

Jack Francis Basham Chamblee '28

Today, as we celebrate together, we remember these family members
and friends in our prayers and hold them in our hearts.

Angel Acevedo	James McKenna
Henry D. Allen Jr.	Maryann Muhammad
Michael G. Beecham	Irvin Naphy
Joel Beidleman	Joan V. Nelson
Marie Berg	Leonard Delano Nelson
William Berg II	Thuy Thi Nguyen
Edward Bernstein	Adonis Nina
Raymond N. Boudreau	William Olsen
Maria D. Casimiro Diaz	Jessica Perez-Diaz
Armando Chavez	Loc Pham
Maria T. Chavez	Joe Checchi
Joe Checchi	Jeremy Coleman
Jeremy Coleman	David Crowner
David Crowner	John Dawson
John Dawson	Dick Dougherty
Dick Dougherty	Jasmila Etienne
Jasmila Etienne	Helen Fackler
Helen Fackler	Robert Fackler
Robert Fackler	Emalie Feerick
Emalie Feerick	Arthur Ferguson
Arthur Ferguson	Lucy Ferguson
Lucy Ferguson	William J. Ferraro
William J. Ferraro	Gino Frank
Gino Frank	Cassandra Wallace
Cassandra Wallace	Thuy Ha
Thuy Ha	Mason Hill
Mason Hill	Fred Kreamer
Fred Kreamer	Tien Thuy Tong
Tien Thuy Tong	Cuong Tran
Cuong Tran	Janet M. Johnson
Janet M. Johnson	Terral Jordan
Terral Jordan	Jennifer Vega Lamoni
Jennifer Vega Lamoni	Pepper Lamoni
Pepper Lamoni	Donald Markey Larkin Sr.
Donald Markey Larkin Sr.	Bert Lloyd
Bert Lloyd	

IN MEMORIAM

Gettysburg College remembers the following individuals of our College community who have touched the lives of many through their service to others.

J. Michael Bishop '57

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (1989)

Gabor S. Boritt

*Founder of The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College
Professor of History Emeritus*

Dian Cramer

*Administrative Assistant to the Director
Gettysburg College Health Center*

David Crowner

Professor of German Studies Emeritus

Margaret Blanchard Curtis '52

Trustee Emerita

Sydney S. Ehrhart '50

Established the Ehrhart Family Scholarship Fund and instrumental in supporting renovations to Paul Recital Hall

Shirley A. Golden

Student Dining Services

Nancy C. Locher

Dean Emerita

Dean of Women and Associate Dean of Students

Major General (Ret.) William M. Matz Jr. '61

Eisenhower Institute National Advisory Council

Bruce Packard

Assistant Professor of Education Emeritus

William Rosenbach

Evans Professor of Eisenhower Leadership Studies and Professor of Management Emeritus

We mark the passing of

Rev. Jesse Jackson

American civil rights leader, Baptist minister, and presidential candidate.

Gettysburg College

CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL LIFE

A house of hospitality, a place of inspiring and inquisitive conversation across boundaries, and the site of interfaith friendship and spiritual growth.

Campus Box 2962
75 West Stevens Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1400

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717-337-6280

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