

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ANN ARBOR

COMMENCEMENT



DECEMBER 15TH, 2024

MISSION

Concordia University Ann Arbor is a Lutheran higher education community committed to helping students develop in mind, body, and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and the world.

OUR HISTORY

Concordia University stands on 150 acres overlooking the Huron River. Once a home to people of the Chippewa, Ottawa, Potawatomi, Huron and Miami nations, the campus is bisected by Geddes Road, formerly the Potawatomi Trail, an old Indian highway. In the spring of 1680, the French explorer LaSalle became the first European to view the campus site. The earliest settler of the land was Elnathan Botsford, one of the first residents of Ann Arbor, who arrived in 1825. In 1917, Harry Boyd Earhart purchased the property.

As a philanthropist, Mr. Earhart's interests focused on education, religion and charity. In the late 1950s, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod began a search for a site to build a college. The Earhart estate was purchased in the early 1960s and construction commenced. On September 30, 1962, Lutherans from across Michigan gathered on the grounds to install the cornerstone of a building that would soon become the centerpiece of a new college. The motto inscribed on the cornerstone, "That in All Things Christ Might Have Preeminence," set the tone and function for the Chapel of the Holy Trinity and the surrounding buildings that would embody the college.

Concordia College, Ann Arbor was dedicated in 1963 as a junior college. That year, Concordia was granted the right to award the Associate of Arts degree by the State of Michigan. The expansion of the college to a four-year institution with the right to award the Bachelor of Arts degree was approved by the State in 1976. In 2000, the State approved the graduate program and awarding of a Master of Science degree. In July 2001 the name was officially changed to Concordia University. In July 2013, a merger between Concordia University Ann Arbor and Concordia University Wisconsin became official.

In 2015, the university purchased a former law school building located just over two miles north of the main campus. The 84,5000-square-foot "North Building" now houses various health-care focused academic programs including nursing, physician assistant studies, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

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NOTES

Photography: *Call Photography will photograph graduates during the commencement ceremonies and will contact them with information about how to purchase photos.*

Call Photography Contact Info

800.997.4890 | info@callphotography.com | callphotography.com



COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES CLASS OF 2024

December 15th, 2024

The Prelude

John W. Boonenberg, DMA

Please stand

The Processional

“Pomp and Circumstance”
Edgar Elgar

[Gentlemen please remove caps now and throughout the Service]

The Invocation

Rev. Randall S. Duncan, EdD

The Reading

1 Samuel 2:1-2
2024-25 Theme Verses

The Hymn

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”
Lutheran Service Book 341, verses 1, 4, 5

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.
4. Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav’n’s employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov’reign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!
5. Redeemer, come and open wide My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine; Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

Please be seated

The Welcome

Erin K. Laverick, PhD
AVP of Academics & Student Success

The Student Address

Luke Bentz
*Bachelor of Arts
Social Studies
Fort Wayne, IN*

The Commencement Address

Rev. Aaron Roggow, '05
*Associate Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church
Ann Arbor, MI*

The Academic Excellence Awards

Erin K. Laverick, PhD

The Presentation of the Candidates

Michael P. Duffy, MS
Interim Campus Executive

Kendra F. Ernst
Assistant Registrar

The Conferring of Degrees

Erin K. Laverick, PhD

The Choral Anthem

The Concordia Choir
"E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"
Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be
sing Holy, Holy to our Lord
The Lord, Almighty God
Who was, and is, and is to come
Sing Holy, Holy Lord
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell within
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below
For Christ is coming, is coming soon
For Christ is coming soon
E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come
And night shall be no more
They need no light nor lamp nor sun
For Christ will be their All!

Please stand

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Benediction

Rev. Randall S. Duncan, EdD

The Recessional

John W. Boonenberg, DMA

ASSISTING WITH TODAY'S SERVICE

The Interim Campus Executive	Michael P. Duffy, MS
The AVP of Academics & Student Success	Erin K. Laverick, PhD
The Campus Pastor	Rev. Randall S. Duncan, EdD
The Assistant Registrar	Kendra F. Ernst
The Commencement Speaker	Rev. Aaron Roggow
The Student Speaker	Luke Bentz
The Marshals	Steve Hendrix, EdD Reggie Kehoe, OTD Jennifer Engja, OTD Kristin M. Shuman, EdD
The Crucifer	Scott O. Chappuis, PhD
The Organist	John W. Boonenberg, DMA
The Concordia Choir	John W. Boonenberg, DMA
Concordia Brass Ensemble	William M. Perrine, PhD

THE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES DECEMBER 2024

Graduation Honors

An undergraduate candidate who achieves a cumulative grade point average of 3.90 or better will graduate SUMMA CUM LAUDE; one who achieves a cumulative grade point average of 3.80 or better will graduate MAGNA CUM LAUDE; and one who achieves a cumulative grade point average of 3.60 or better will graduate CUM LAUDE.

Key: *** = Summa Cum Laude ** = Magna Cum Laude * = Cum Laude

Master of Business Administration

Meghan Couture

Sustainability Management & Analytics

Andrew Fleming

Sport & Entertainment Management

Tyson Kleinfelter

Business Leadership

Lauren Martin

Business Management

Master of Science

Jennifer Bennett

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Elizabeth Caterino

Child Life

Haley Collin

Child Life

Samantha Conway

Special Education Learning Disabilities

Brandon Crayne

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Jessica Zahm

Curriculum & Instruction - ESL

Alexis Faber

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Whitney Gardner

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Jared Gates

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Kassandra Gilbert

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Nancy Gill

Special Education Learning Disabilities

Ashley Gross

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Danielle Haag

Special Education Learning Disabilities

Mary Hagley

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Elliott Holliday

Computer Science Information Systems

Matthew Hollinger

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Dylan Jergens

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Catherine Kalafus

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Halle Kallsen

Child Life

Therese Kasper

Child Life

Jill Kinsey

Curriculum & Instruction - ESL

Gwyneth Labine

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Jessica LaCombe

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Kristen Machuk

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Grace Mead

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Susan Osterhart

Curriculum & Instruction - ESL

Maureen Pulte

Curriculum & Instruction - ESL

Kayla Reimann

Special Education Learning Disabilities

David Rock

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Arielle Serrano

Child Life

Jaxon Smith

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Noemi Szailer

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Cecilia Valdivieso

Curriculum & Instruction - ESL

Emilia Vega

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Julianna Welling

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Kathryn Winter

Elementary Education Teacher Certification

Christine Wolf

Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Associate of Arts**Adam Bassil**

General Business

Alanna Bull

Arts & Sciences

Mia Kornacki

Arts & Sciences

Layne Pries

General Business

Jean Richemond

General Business

Leah Troyer

Arts & Sciences

Bachelor of Arts**Isabelle Arnold***

Digital Media Design: Social Media

Abigail Austin**

Elementary Education Early Childhood Education

Luke Bentz***

Social Studies

Andrea Foster

Psychology

Elijah Harns

Individualized Communications

Lilly Hovarter***

Elementary Education

Hayley Jacobson

Exercise Science

Juan Jimenez

Communication & Leadership

Maurice Kado

Psychology

Brooklyn Keele*

Secondary Education - English

Colby Kohmescher*

Exercise Science

Gabriella McLain

Elementary Education - Language Arts

Lincoln Schmitz***

Psychology

Patrick Schrock

Secondary Education - Social Studies

Jarod Segal

Exercise Science

Laura Starnes

Educational Studies

Sarah Tyrrell*

Secondary Education - Social Studies

Isabelle Viau

Elementary Education - Social Studies

Bachelor of Science**Quinn Bieniek**

General Business

Tyler Bieniek

General Business

James Carpenter

Biomedical Sciences

Nicholas Corona

Entrepreneurship

Cameron Dixon*

General Business

Jacob Gizinski

General Business

Grace Hedtke

Rehabilitation Science

Neil Heinlein

Health Care Management

Rachel Holmes

General Business

Zachary Janis

Sport & Entertainment Business

Jack MacLeod

Marketing

Richard Miller**

General Business

Logan Nahrwold-Settle*

Management

Eric Regan*

Accounting

Ryleigh Rollins*

Biomedical Sciences

Jarod Segal

General Business

Alexander Valencia

Marketing

Gabriel Whitmore

General Business

**Bachelor of Science
in Nursing****Lauren Armbruster***

Nursing

Claudia Grepke*

Nursing

Jadyn Hackmann

Nursing

Ethan Hiltz*

Nursing

Anna Hutchison*

Nursing

Breann June*

Nursing

Jessalyn Peavyhouse*

Nursing

Rebecca Ries

Nursing

Grace Ritchie**

Nursing

Abigail Szostek*

Nursing

Taylor Vitale

Nursing

Jadan Vizina*

Nursing

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Rev. Aaron Roggow

Rev. Aaron Roggow, BA '05, earned his degree from CUAA in Religious studies. Prepared by his Uncommon education, Aaron entered Concordia Seminary in St Louis, MO, where he pursued a Master of Divinity ('10) and a Master of Sacred Theology ('18). Aaron has served in the ministry for 13 years, beginning as a Pastor of Youth and

Children's Ministry in the Chicago area and now acting as Discipleship Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Ann Arbor, MI. With a passion for mentoring the next generation in following Jesus, he volunteers regularly as a teen counselor at Camp Arcadia in northern Michigan and has spoken at various youth events across the state. Living in the area and giving back to his Alma Mater, he loves that he gets to serve as an adjunct professor at Concordia, teaching Religion and Greek courses.

While originally from Hemlock, MI, Aaron currently lives in Ann Arbor with his wife, Mandy, and their four sons. Their close proximity to the CUAA campus has allowed him to mentor Concordia fieldwork students, participate in the annual Boar's Head Festival with his family, and preach for services in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity. His own Concordia years still shape his life, ministry, and a few niche interests, like his love of the Office of Compline, the occasional ultimate frisbee pickup game, and his unintentional but impressive collection of CCAA and CUAA swag - his favorite being a wooden model airplane from the years of Concordia's Aviation program. (Ask him about it sometime; he'd love to tell you.)

Aaron is honored to be a part of this milestone for Concordia's graduating class and is thankful to his Savior for the assurance that Christ is—and will remain—preeminent in everything.

Academic Apparel

One of the most colorful features of an academic procession is the appearance of the faculty, members of the governing board, and guests of the University in full academic regalia. These caps, gowns, and hoods have long histories dating back to the Middle Ages. American universities and colleges have adopted a standard code of academic garb.

The design of the gown, the color of the tassel, and the pattern, length, and colors of the hood all have special significance. The bachelor's gown is closed at the throat and has long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, tapering at the back in a square cut which ends in an arc cutaway. The doctor's gown is faced with velvet and has bell-shaped sleeves, each with three bars of velvet or chevrons. The colored tassel of the cap signifies the college granting the degree.

The most colorful part of the costume, however, is the hood. The color of the velvet trim indicates the faculty or department of learning in which the degree was granted. The width corresponds to the level of the degree. The colors associated with the different subjects are as follows:

Velvet Colors

Apricot – nursing

Brown – fine arts

Citron – social work

Copper – economics

Crimson – communications, journalism

Dark blue – philosophy

Drab – accounting, business

Gold – computer science, healthcare administration, mathematics, psychology, science

Lemon – library science

Light blue – education

Midnight blue – criminal justice

Orange – engineering

Pink – music

Peacock – public policy

Purple – law

Sage – athletic training, exercise physiology, occupational therapy, physical education

Scarlet – theology

White – counseling, English, history, humanities, liberal arts, mathematics, sociology, student personnel administration

THE UNIVERSITY

Concordia University is one of six colleges and universities in the Concordia University System, which is owned and operated by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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The Reverend Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

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Vice President of Advancement

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CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Ann Arbor, Michigan