Roanoke College

One Hundred Sixty-sixth Year

Baccalaureate Program

Friday, the Second of May
Two Thousand and Eight
ORDER OF BACCALAUREATE SERVICE
C. HOMER BAST PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION CENTER
May 2, 2008
4:30 p.m.
The Seventh Week of Easter 2008

THE PRELUDE:  “Prelude in C Major”
“Come Thou Font Of Every Blessing”
“Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer”

THE PROCESSIONAL:  “Trumpet Tune in D Major”

(Please stand when the academic procession enters and remain standing through The Prayer of the Day.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Haec Dies (Psalm 118, v. 24)

Haec dies quam fecit Dominus:
exultemus et laetemur in ea, alleluya.
This is the day the Lord hath made, (the hours are all God's own.)
let us rejoice, let earth be glad (and praise surround the throne.)
Alleluia.

THE INVOCATION

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

THE HYMN:  “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you:
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with his love he befriend you.

Praise to the Lord!  Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Tune: Ernewerten Gesaughbuch, Stralsund, 1665

LOBE DEN HERREN
DIALOGUE

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

Whose work alone holds true and endures forever.
Everyone who is thirsty, come to the water. You who have no money, come, receive bread and eat:

Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near.
Do not spend your money for that which is not bread, and do not work for that which does not satisfy.

Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near.
The Lord says, “Incline your ear, and come to me, hear that you might live.”

For your word alone holds true and endures forever.

THE CREED

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you,

and also with you.

Let us pray…

(Please be seated.)

ANTHEM: “Sing Unto God” (based on Psalm 68: 32-34)

Sing unto God, Sing, ye kingdoms of the earth:
O sing praises unto the Lord:
Sing to him that rideth upon the heavens which are of old;
Lo, he uttereth his voice, and that a mighty voice.
Ascribe ye strength unto God:
His excellency is over Israel, and his strength is in the skies.

WELCOME

THE FIRST LESSON:  Isaiah 49: 13-16
PSALM 23 (read in unison)  Dr. Day

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
You have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

THE SECOND LESSON:  Philippians 4: 4-9  Dr. Day

THE GOSPEL:  John 1: 1-14  Rev. Henrickson

THE SERMON:  “Somewhere Around 127,000 Words”  Rev. Henrickson

THE HYMN:  “I was there to hear your borning cry”  John Ylvisaker

Soloist:  I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.

All:  When you heard the wonder of the word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
To whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time
And you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
From dusk 'til rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
Not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
Complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
And you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
With just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.
THE PRAYER

(Please stand.)

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

THE LORD’S PRAYER  (ALL)

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 HYMN:  “A Mighty Fortress”

A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has shown to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God’s only son adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat’ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpow’r us.
Let this world’s tyrant rage; in battle we’ll engage!
His might is doomed to fail; God’s judgment will prevail!
One little word subdues him.

God’s Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
The Kingdom’s ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr: Hymnal Version, 1978
Tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546  Ein Feste Burg

THE BENEDICTION:  Rev. Henrickson

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

THE POSTLUDE AND RECESSIONAL:  “A Mighty Fortress”  arr. Aaron Garber

(Please remain standing until the academic procession has departed.)

Organist – Aaron Garber
     Director of Music, College Lutheran Church
     Lecturer, Fine Arts

Torchbearers – Ms. Joanna Hertzog, Class of ‘08
                Ms. Haley Vay Poynter, Class of ‘08
The Roanoke College Seal

The seal of the College was redesigned by Guy A. Ritter, Jr., Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion Emeritus. It was approved by the Board of Trustees in April of 1964. It features a shield in national blue emblazoned with a mandarin yellow cross, representing Roanoke College’s relationship with the Lutheran Church. The cross symbolizes the Christian values inherent in our culture, and above it is the lamp of knowledge. The white dogwood flower on the shield symbolizes the State of Virginia. The motto, “PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT,” means “Let him who earns the palm wear it.” The palm is symbolic of the palm leaf that was given in honor of excellence in ancient Greece.

Roanoke College History

In the spring of 1835, Pennsylvania College (now Gettysburg College) graduated eight young men – three of whom would become college presidents: Ezra Keller of Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio; Theophilus Stork of Newberry College, Newberry, South Carolina; and David Bittle of Virginia Institute (Roanoke College), Salem, Virginia.

In the fall of 1837, David Bittle was called to be the pastor at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Middlebrook, Virginia. Five years later Christopher Baughman began his ministry in Staunton, Virginia. These men soon became keenly aware of two problems: 1) the shortage of new ministers for the growing number of churches in Virginia and 2) the increasing need for young people in their parishes to receive more than a primary school education.

In the fall of 1842, with “twelve or fifteen” students meeting in David Bittle’s home, the Virginia Institute began with Rev. Bittle teaching mathematics and Rev. Baughman teaching languages. So began Roanoke College – the nation’s second oldest Lutheran college, behind Gettysburg College. With its heritage deeply rooted in the Lutheran Church, Roanoke College continues to honor this heritage as it enters its 166th year.