

UNIVERSITY SEAL

The university seal provides a formal representation of the attributes of Arizona Christian University. The Trinity triangle is in the center of the seal and is intended to display and promote key brand philosophies such as faith, influence, relationship, and excellence. The ribbon concept is an interpretation of the commonly used feature found in university branding. It balances modern, yet formal, Christian symbolism and contains a guiding Scripture reference that is outlined in the circular border. The inner circle of the seal features Romans 12:2 in ancient Greek text. This verse speaks to the transformation of believers that happens through the renewing of their minds.

UNIVERSITY MACE

The ceremonial mace is traditionally used to signify the academic procession that opens the commencement ceremony. Arizona Christian University’s ceremonial mace was designed and personally handcrafted by Dr. Jerry Burnett, faculty emeritus. The mace is made of walnut and features the university seal.

CHAIN OF OFFICE

Chains of office are one of the oldest symbols of authority. The chain of office tradition was passed down through the Middle Ages with the rise of the university system in Europe. When American universities began to establish themselves in the 17th century, they adopted the tradition. The ACU president’s chain of office features the university seal and the Trinity triangle, as well as the names of each ACU president and their years of service.

STOLE OF GRATITUDE

The ACU Stole of Gratitude is worn with the regalia during the commencement ceremony. After the ceremony, the new graduate presents the stole to someone who provided extraordinary help or support, like a parent, relative, pastor, coach, faculty member, or mentor who has helped the graduate with wisdom, words of support, or financial assistance.

MASTER’S HOOD

Master’s hoods are distinctive ceremonial garments that indicate both the wearer’s field of study and the institution that granted his or her degree. These hoods are worn draped around the neck and hanging down the back of the academic gown. The hood’s lining displays the official colors of the graduate’s university – ACU’s colors are red and gold – while the velvet trim around the edge of the hood indicates the graduate’s specific academic discipline – light blue for the Master of Arts in Education, red for the Master of Arts in Christian Leadership, or white for the Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy. During the commencement ceremony, it is traditional for a faculty member to formally “hood” the graduate, symbolically welcoming him or her into the academic field.

SOULSTICE VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Brinnlee Bailey  
Andrew Fort  
Kellen Jones  
Maggie Leitch  
Jayna Rardin\*  
Statler Rardin  
Jaymisen Sillyman\*  
Macy Spangler\*  
Dr. Eunmi Oh, Director

\*Seniors

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Dr. Larry Anderson – Vice Chair  
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Mr. Andrew Unkefer  
Mr. Brent Veach  
Mr. Len Munsil, President – Ex Officio

MISSION

Arizona Christian University provides a biblically integrated, liberal arts education equipping graduates to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in all aspects of life, as leaders of influence and excellence.

VISION

Arizona Christian University exists to educate and equip followers of Christ to transform culture with the truth.

1 W. Firestorm Way  
Glendale, AZ 85306  
(602) 489-5300

WWW.ARIZONACHRISTIAN.EDU



ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

63RD ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT



Friday, May 2, 2025

ACU Football Field  
1 W. Firestorm Way  
Glendale, AZ 85306



# 2024-2025 Commencement Program

Prelude	Soulstice Vocal Ensemble <i>Directed by Eunmi Oh, D.M.A.</i>
Processional	Music Faculty <i>Corey Hirsch, Assistant Professor, and Hyewon Kim, Adjunct Instructor</i>
Welcome	Jeffrey Green, Ph.D. <i>Vice President of Academic Affairs</i>
Invocation	Caleb Doerksen <i>B.A. Political Science, Class of 2025</i>
Scripture Reading from the New Testament	Kaitlyn Walker <i>B.A. Biblical and Theological Studies, Class of 2025</i>
National Anthem (arr. Corey Hirsch)	ACU Music Department Seniors <i>Directed by Eunmi Oh, D.M.A.</i>
Pledge of Allegiance	Martin Fontenot IV <i>B.A. Political Science, Veteran, Class of 2025</i>
Congregational Hymn - “Be Thou My Vision”	Soulstice Vocal Ensemble <i>Directed by Eunmi Oh, D.M.A.</i>
Presentation of the Candidates	Jeffrey Green, Ph.D. <i>Vice President of Academic Affairs</i>
Conferral of Degrees	Brent Veach, B.B.A., C.P.A. <i>Board of Trustees</i>
Awarding of Master’s Degrees	Len Munsil, B.S., J.D. <i>President</i>
Awarding of Undergraduate Degrees	Len Munsil, B.S., J.D. <i>President</i>
Prayer of Dedication	Travis Turner <i>Campus Pastor</i>
Charge to the Graduating Class	Len Munsil, B.S., J.D. <i>President</i>
Benediction	Joelle Dowdy <i>B.A. Biblical and Theological Studies, Class of 2025</i>
Recessional	Music Faculty <i>Corey Hirsch, Assistant Professor, and Hyewon Kim, Adjunct Instructor</i>

# Degree Candidates

The College of Arts & Humanities		Graduating with Honors †	Double Major ∑	Active Military/Veteran μ
<i>M.A. in Christian Leadership</i> Donavan Joseph Christian Rodriguez	<i>Biblical &amp; Theological Studies</i> Matthew Aguirre Joshua Brady John DeLamare † Jeffrey Diaz Kohlsen Dooley Joelle Dowdy † Shea Giblin † Jared Gwozdz † Timothy Harjo Sophia Higuera † Ansah Jingsi Magdaleno Perez Kathryn Van Zee Kaitlyn Walker † Sean Wiese	Jordan Francis Joseph Anthony Garza Alyssandra Gonzales Brandi Heighes Carlos Hernandez Jackson Hohensee Trent Hudgens Matthew Jordan Abbey Lair Emileigh Lara Nikole Lunsford Chase McGihon † Semisi Mikaele Shayla Mobo Nikolaus Morton Holley Nichols Jackson Ortiz Seth Paris Raoul Perales Nicholas Pieper Sariah Robinson Paul Rolland Korben Shuler Treyton Tarver † Unathi Thango Marcella Torres Aguilar Taylor Uene Jackson Van Eyk	Josiah Ward Julia Wilkens †  <i>Music</i> Victoria Brasfield † Nicolao Busse † Landon Ginn-Forsberg † Trent Jones Jonathan Lehmann † Hannah Martin † Stefan Mihailov Ckicsia Navarrete Mckenzie Omoruyi Liam Pluntke † Jayna Rardin † Manatap Sianturi Jaymisen Sillyman † Macy Spangler † ∑  <i>Political Science</i> Aiden Abbitt Marlon Arce Spenser Badenhuizen Garrett Diem Caleb Doerksen † Tully Farmer Taylor Fogleman † Martin Fontenot IV † μ	Allena Fugatt † Erick Ibochwa Trinity Lawson † Marcus Lema Esteban Levario Jyden Miles † Madeline Monroy † Mikaela Orr † Brionah Weitzel ∑  <i>Associate of Arts</i> Nathan Humphrey Brent Nelson Megan Opp  <i>Associate of Science</i> Shamar Baines Rodrick Griffin Brayden Petersen Jacob Pickering Alex Schippert
The Shelly Roden School of Education & Professional Studies		Trey Janssen † D'Marcus Jones Emily Katzer † Kane Kiaunis † Luke Killinger † Rocky King Eliana Kobaly Jonathan Koch Mason Langhans Jonah Leon Christian Lucero Ashley Madrid Matthew Martin † Miland Martin Isaiah Martinez Nicklaus McCaffrey Cameron Mercado Carlos Gustavo Montoya Michael Moreno Hector Nevarez Jaylen Patterson-Farah Dylan Petersen † Jake Petrus † Nicholas Pine Colter Praus † Vittoria Quadri Jace Reed Lucy Rekasch Kylie Rhodes Sabrina Rivera Jonathan Robbins Kyle Roberts † Payton Robertson Martin Rodriguez Alexi Roman Jake Romero † Logan Sanders	Caleb Schaapveld Justin Sherer Ben Strawn Bladen Stubbs † Joseph Thomas Cameron Tibbetts † Korbin Torres Joseph Valenzuela † Mauricio Valles μ Kadin van der Lingen † Jordan Vickers † Brionah Weitzel ∑ Edward Joseph Wells III Lukas Wiener Frank Wierman Lorenzo Wright Miriam Zabibu  <i>Child Development</i> Emma Butler Kate Macpherson MaryAlice Van Treese †  <i>Elementary Education</i> Sarah Anderson † Melisa Barrick Emma Coccimiglio † Isabelle Cruz Maya Eberhard † Kendra Farrell † Paige Hummel Brooklynn Mays † Celeste Navarro † Ruth Reichenberger Halle Stork † Kaitlin Terzakos †	<i>Family Studies</i> Tymen Henry Ashtyn Michaels † Halle Payne † Allyssa Perry Sebastian Pippins Natasha Threat † Hannah Trimble Sophia Wall Kristin Wyatt †  <i>Psychology</i> Macy Spangler † ∑  <i>Secondary Education</i> Kaapuwaiokeawehakuaahuula Alfiche James Benbrook Caitlin Chan Travis Combs † Abigail Covalt † Chay Esqueda Caleb Frey † μ Sean Garcia Matthew Haeger Ryan Harness Zachary Holland James Maheras Madelyne McClain Erin Oellerich Brecken Roberts Faith Schmidt † Jillian Tims † Cristian Villegas
<i>M.A. in Education</i> Claire Buckley Abigail Burnell Thomas Francis Vanessa Frisinger Heather Hendrickson Nestor Higuera Rodriguez Caelan Merryman Laura Shorb Jason Williams	James Berry Timothy Aaron Borders † Tyler Brantner Sydney Brown Baylee Bushlack † Daniel Butler Matthew Campbell † William Chambers † Kayla Clark † Jacob Cooke Samuel Cox Spencer Cox † Eastyn Culp Geno D'Ambrosio Noah DeLuca Carter DeRosier Derek Diaz Dezmen Diles Tatum Dowell Haley Duncan Ryan Eastham William Joshua Eberhard † Tyler Elbracht Joseph Ellis † Cristhian Flores Ruiz Anthony Garcia Brian Garcia Jose Gonzalez Kristen Goodwin † Matthew Grout Kyle Grozav † Santiago Gutiérrez Reyes † Ryan Heinz † Brenna Henry † Lilyann Horner Kayla Hourigan † Trent Janssen †			
<i>Biology</i> Brianna Boeckman † Eliana Cho Kylor Dunlap Eva Garraux Lauren Gunn † Johnny Herrera † Richard Kevin Irakiza † Kaylee Logan † Eutimio Pena † Krysta Petersen Levi Plummer Graciela Roybal † Dylan Shillington † Trinity Weidinger Bryce Wetzel				
<i>Business Administration</i> Jacob Anderson † Jared Anderson † Noemie Antoine † Kiersten Baca Brianna Beckler Matthew Beckworth Joseph Bell †				

# Be Thou My Vision

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Traditional Irish Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day or by night;  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always.  
Thou and thou only first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.