KALAMAZOO COLLEGE

Founded 1833

RITUAL OF RECOGNITION

FOR

NEW STUDENTS

A FELLOWSHIP IN LEARNING

Sept. 21, 1927
A FELLOWSHIP IN LEARNING

Faculty Processional _____________________________ Hymn Number 64

Praise the Lord, ye heav'ns, adore Him, Praise the Lord, for He is glorious;
Praise Him, angels, in the height; Never shall His promise fail;
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him; God hath made His saints victorious;
Praise Him, all ye stars of light. Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the Lord, for He hath spoken; Praise the God of our salvation;
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed; Hosts on high, His power proclaim;
Laws which never shall be broken Heaven and earth, and all creation,
For their guidance He hath made. Laud and magnify His name.

The Lord's Prayer.

President's statement:

"KALAMAZOO College is a Fellowship in Learning. It is not land and buildings. These are but the shell of a congenial group life that has persisted for almost a century. Out of interplay with minds both past and present and in friendly contact with faculty members, the student evolves his best self and therefore his charter of service to mankind.

To this fellowship, this self-discovery, with its attendant joy of purposeful living, Kalamazoo College welcomes succeeding generations of students and in due course sends them out into the 'wide, wide world' possessing something of the likeness and life of their Alma Mater—the scholar's spirit dedicated to human welfare."

Will those who seek admission to this company please rise.

"As potential partners in this trust and members in this age-long fellowship of learning, we welcome today these students whose scholarship has served as passport at the outer door of College Life. They have been formally admitted to Kalamazoo College in the confident hope that they will espouse her ideals, enrich her traditions, and honor her name. This college therefore greets them with the respect due young men and young women whose childhood is outgrown and whose good purpose and ability suffice for self-government, and commits to them at this time the joys and perils of a larger freedom.

"In addition to exact scholarship the College aims to develop religious faith, social living, courtesy, and deportment becoming to gentlemen and gentlewomen. To these ends all who serve in this place are sincerely dedicated and as teachers and friends of youth declare as follows:
(Faculty rise and join with the president, saying:)

"WE, the faculty of Kalamazoo College,
Having engaged to serve youth as comrades in quest of truth,
And as friends of higher learning,
Do heartily promise to share our knowledge with all who earnestly seek it,
To advance constantly in our several disciplines the better to lead and serve,
To guard with rigor the standards of exact scholarship,
And of sound appreciation for the good, the true, and the beautiful.

"WE gladly offer ourselves for converse with students
On all matters which they may deem important,
And we pledge ourselves to frank and fair dealing in all the relationships of college life,
In this spirit and purpose we welcome all matriculants
To that mutual effort whereby college days glow with charm and revelation,
Whereby life itself is enriched with imperishable goods,
And with loyalties that last forever."

President: "Do the new students in Kalamazoo College accept this faculty as their faculty according to the declaration made?"

RESPONSE OF NEW STUDENTS

"WE who seek admission to this fellowship of learning,
Acknowledge with gratitude, the good fortune that has brought us to Kalamazoo College.
We pledge to this faculty our full co-operation in achieving scholarship for ourselves.
We gratefully accept their proffered friendship
And promise to rely upon the same for counsel and direction in our studies,
Inspiration in our aims and purposes,
And for help in all that affects our lives.
We further pledge ourselves to fair and frank dealing
And to scrupulous honesty in all of our prospective relationships."

Hymn Number 200

Strong Son of God, immortal Love,
Whom we, that have not seen Thy face,
By faith, and faith alone, embrace,
Believing where we cannot prove.

Thou seemest human and divine,
The highest, holiest manhood, Thou;
Our wills are ours, we know not how;
Our wills are ours, to make them Thine
Our little systems have their day;
They have their day and cease to be:
They are but broken lights of Thee;
And Thou, O Lord, art more than they.

We have but faith: we cannot know;
For knowledge is of things we see;
And yet we trust it comes from Thee:
A beam in darkness: Let it grow.

Let knowledge grow from more to more,
But more of reverence in us dwell;
That mind and soul, according well,
May make one music as before.

(New students remain standing)

President: "The properties of the College, representing private gifts accumulated during almost a century and designed to serve for the enlightenment and refinement of youth, are in the keeping of trustees who guard and augment this growing trust for generations of students as they come and go. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees will commit to the new students this legacy for their use."

Chairman of the Board of Trustees:

"The charter of this College was granted by the Territorial Council of Michigan, April 20, 1833, and the self-perpetuating Board of Trustees then authorized has served continuously under that charter to the present time. The record has been one of honor, integrity and devotion. Earnest people have reposed in this Board by direct gift and by last will and testament their hard-earned means with the pure purpose of enriching youth for the service of mankind.

The property thus accumulated in the form of endowment, land, buildings, and equipment, constitutes therefore a very sacred trust. You now come into the use of these resources—endowment funds that carry more than half of the cost of your college education; library, classrooms and laboratories—all offered as an expression of faith in you and for your highest good. To know this and to appreciate the effort involved in the upkeep and enlargement of these facilities makes every student in honor bound a custodian of the property and interests of Kalamazoo College. To waste or damage these resources is to work against the Alma Mater that you have chosen. Therefore the Trustees expect of you complete co-operation in protecting and improving this property, our common inheritance."

RESPONSE OF NEW STUDENTS

"We who accept the hospitality of these college halls,
Solemnly pledge our respect for the same,
Engaging to protect at all times the property and interests of Kalamazoo College,
And to add to the resources of our Alma Mater as God shall prosper us."
President: “It seems altogether fitting that these new students who have already pledged their co-operation with the faculty and trustees should also receive and acknowledge membership in the Student Body. The President of the Student Body will define this relationship and give recognition to those who have come to merge their interests in the collective life of Kalamazoo College.”

President of the Student Body:

“THE most significant trait of this student body is its democracy. We are not divided into self-seeking groups. We are above all one group seeking always the success and honor of our college. Whatever subordinate groups exist, whether for literary, forensic, musical, athletic or other immediate purposes, are in spirit and practice at one with this Student Body. It is only by this inclusive loyalty that we are able to achieve success in our manifold undertakings. “Therefore having made this our college we invite you to full participation according to your several abilities, to protect its good name, to strengthen our common endeavor, to support the plans adopted by this Student Body, to commend this college by the quality of your work and by your deportment on the campus and wherever you may be, to allow no misrepresentation of the College in your presence without protest, and to give your best effort during college days for the glory of Alma Mater.”

RESPONSE OF NEW STUDENTS

“IN the presence of these witnesses and on our individual honor,
We pledge to the Student Body of Kalamazoo College
Our best endeavor for the common cause,
Faithful performance of the tasks entrusted to us,
And sacred regard for the honor and welfare of our Alma Mater.
We engage to carry on her traditions of democracy, unity, scholarship and service to mankind,
And to be in all ways worthy members of this Student Body.”

(New students remain standing)

President: “In the wide, wide world are more than a thousand men and women bearing the degree of Kalamazoo College. They will be found in every country on the globe. In days past they sang, ’Tho we may wander far and wide our hearts will be bound to thee;’ and this is true.
“The President of the Alumni Association will present to these initiates the claims of the organized graduates of Kalamazoo College.”

President of the Alumni Association:

“WE who feel an ever-growing gratitude to this old college and who have made some test of the value of her training and the worth of her ideals greet you, the new recruits, with affection and pride. As our days here were great and wonderful, so will yours be; as we
fought for the glory of Alma Mater, so will you; as we were won to complete loyalty, so will you be won; as we resolved to live at and for our best, so will you resolve. We appreciate now as we could not in college days the devotion of our teachers to learning and their enthusiasm for sharing it with us. We appreciate now as we could not then their purpose to serve the world through us. Many of us have found them present in our thought in times of testing and crisis and have been thereby better able to meet the issues of life. We never knew at what cost they served the ideals of scholarship and spent themselves for us nor did we realize fully the vast investment that the College made in us.

"REMEMBER that their reward can only be the measure of success they reach in you. If they awaken your ability let them know your gratitude. If your torch is lighted here in Kalamazoo College, let this place be to you forever as a shrine. If prosperity should come your way resolve to share it with Alma Mater who shares all she has with you. It is in the love of her sons and daughters that this school is great and by that same love she must go from strength to strength in our time.

"IN this spirit the alumni give you fond welcome to their places in these college halls. Let the quiet and sincerity, the friendship and scholarly taste, the soul of this choice group possess you. So will these precious years pass all too soon and you, with us, will look back upon them wistfully as the golden days of youth."

RESPONSE OF NEW STUDENTS

"WE pledge to the alumni whose places we take in Kalamazoo College
Our valiant support of all fine traditions,
Our unity with them in serving the school,
Our full response to those who teach,
And our loyalty to Alma Mater through all the years to come.

(New students will be seated)

President: "The College Chaplain will lead us in prayer."

Responsive Reading ____________Selection Number 10, Psalm 103
Bless the Lord, O my Soul;
And all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And forget not all his benefits:
Who forgiveth all thine iniquities;
Who healeth all thy diseases;
Who redeemeth thy life from destruction;
Who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies;
So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle."
The Lord executeth righteous acts, and judgments for all that are oppressed.

He hath made known his ways unto Moses, his doings unto the children of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger for ever.
He hath not dealt with us after our sins,
Nor rewarded us after our iniquities.
For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him.
As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.
Like as a father pitieth his children,
So the Lord pitieth them that fear him.
For he knoweth our frame;
He remembereth that we are dust.
As for man, his days are as grass;
As a flower of the field, so he flourisheth,
For the wind passeth over it and it is gone;
And the place thereof shall know it no more.
But the loving kindness of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him,
And his righteousness unto children's children;
To such as keep His covenant,
And to those that remember his precepts to do them.
The Lord hath established his throne in the heavens;
And his kingdom ruleth over all.
Bless the Lord, ye angels of His, ye mighty in strength, that fulfill His word,
Hearkening unto the voice of his word.
Bless ye the Lord, all ye His hosts;
Ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.
Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in all places of His dominion;
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Hymn Number 88
Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:
Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame, From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.
O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while life shall last, And our eternal home.
President:

"INASMUCH as you young men and young women have of your own will sought and entered this fellowship of learning and have solemnly promised to live true to the claims and ideals of Kalamazoo College, I declare you to be in full membership with us and in behalf of the Trustees, Faculty, Student Body, and Alumni, I give you hearty welcome into this group. Let the seal of the College be the seal of our mutual vows. Hold high the sacred torch of learning, let the light of knowledge shine in and through you for the benefit of mankind.

"May the Lord bless you and keep you,
May the Lord cause His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you,
May the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you
And grant you peace."

Faculty Recessional -----------------------------Hymn Number 1

"Rejoice, ye pure in heart,
Rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high,—
The cross of Christ your king:

Ref. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice,
Give thanks and sing."

"Bright youth and snow-crowned age,
Strong men and maidens fair,
Raise high your free, exalting song,
God's wondrous praise declare." Ref.

"With voice as full and strong,
As ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the hymns our fathers loved,
The psalms of ancient days." Ref.

"Still lift your standard high,
Still march in firm array,
As warriors through the darkness toil,
Till dawns the golden day." Ref.