A Litany of Thanksgiving and Commemoration 2016

Dean Powery—Almighty and eternal God, in whom our mothers and fathers have trusted, we their children, at this time of remembrance, offer to You our prayers of thanksgiving:

Congregation—Hear us, O Lord.

President Brodhead—For the members of the Duke family—father, daughter, sons and their spouses, grandchildren, and all others in continuing generations until this very day—who, with concern and compassion, devotion and dedication, and by their generosity, built on a solid foundation, continued a worthy school, and provided for education and service beyond even their dreams and expectations:

Congregation—We give You thanks and praise.

Family Representative—For the pioneering and persevering men and women connected with this University—Methodists and Quakers, farmers and merchants, teachers and administrators—who, in days gone by, believed in education and made their beliefs prevail:

Congregation—We give You thanks and praise.

Dean Powery—For the embodiment of their dreams—from private school to academy to college to great university and founded in hope, continued with sacrifice, growing in outreach, and serving with commitment:

Congregation—We give You thanks and praise.

President Brodhead—For faculty and staff whose vision was bolstered by their courage, whose patience was tested and found true, and whose idealism was implanted in the hearts and minds of others:

Congregation—We give You thanks and praise.

Family Representative—For the ongoing presence of noble ideas—the blessing of eruditio et religio; the freedom for responsible academic research and teaching; the ongoing respect for both the body and the spirit; the pursuit of knowledge in the sciences and the humanities; and the realization that the old order changes and new times bring new opportunities:

Congregation—We give You thanks and praise.

Dean Powery—For the future of Duke University, established for Your glory and for the enlightenment of the human mind and spirit; for consecration to learning by the young; for the best use of the wisdom of those in later years; for the commitment to growth and enhancement of all persons; for a sense of humor, a spirit of cooperation, and a desire for understanding among all within our community and the world:

Congregation—We give You thanks and praise. And to You, O God, we will ascribe, as is most due, all praise and glory, world without end. Amen.
Whenever they take place, worship services have some kind of internal order and structure. Some worship is called “high church” (formal); some is called “low church” (informal). Some worship services are labeled “traditional,” while others are labeled “contemporary.” Regardless of the seeming formality or informality of a service, in most churches a pattern often exists that characterizes the weekly gathering for worship. Another name for this service structure is “liturgy.”

Duke Chapel offers an interdenominational worship that is not linked to one particular denominational pattern or liturgy. The structure of Duke Chapel worship provides a framework for the praise and worship of God in Jesus through the Spirit. The particular way we order our worship draws from the earliest traditions of the church and is meant to enable all those who have gathered together to participate in common acts of worshiping God. In this way, the liturgy is the means by which the whole community participates in worship. Liturgy becomes everyone’s activity, everyone’s work. In an effort to bridge faith and learning in weekly worship, we will regularly include information in the bulletin about particular aspects of our liturgy. We invite you to learn why we do what we do, to ask questions, and to find ways to participate more deeply in worship as together we encounter our triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.