SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

NINETY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVOCATION
The Baccalaureate Service

Friday Evening, the Sixteenth of May, Two Thousand and Eight
Eight O’Clock in the Evening

MCFARLIN MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
CARILLON CONCERT AND CALL TO BACCALAUREATE
Lorn L. Howard, Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering
Fondren Science Tower, 7:30 p.m.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE PRELUDE
Olympic Fanfare              Fisher Tull
Three Pieces                 Ludwig Maurer

THE PROCESSIONAL
Grand March from Aida        The Imperial Brass
                            Giuseppe Verdi

            The congregation rises when the procession reaches the doors of the auditorium.

WORDS OF WELCOME
R. Gerald Turner
President of the University

THE CALL TO WORSHIP
William M. Finnin, Jr.
Chaplain and Minister to the University

Isaiah 43: 1b-2, 5-7

Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you……

Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the end of the Earth,
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.
INVOCATION

HYMN

Praise the Source of Faith and Learning

Hymn to Joy

Praise the Source of faith and learning Who has sparked and stoked the mind with a passion for discerning how the world has been designed.
Let the sense of wonder flowing from the wonders we survey
keep our faith forever growing and renew our need to pray.

God of wisdom, we acknowledge that our science and our art
and the breadth of human knowledge only partial truth impart.
Far beyond our calculation lies a depth we cannot sound
where your purpose for creation and the pulse of life are found.

May our faith redeem the blunder of believing that our thought
has displaced the grounds for wonder which the ancient prophets taught.
May our learning curb the error which unthinking faith can breed
lest we justify some terror with an antiquated creed.

As two currents in a river fight each other's undertow
till converging they deliver one coherent steady flow.
Blend, O God, our faith and learning till they carve a single course,
till they join as one returning, praise and thanks to you, their Source.

PRAYERS FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

LESSON FROM SACRED TEXTS

Philippians 4:13

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON

“You Have the Power”

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God, You have called us to be diligent teachers and eager learners
in all that we do, both in this community and in Your larger world. Now send
us forth into that world as Your willing servants.
Give us the strength lightly to bear our joys and sorrows.
Give us the strength to make our love fruitful in service.
Give us the strength never to disown the poor or bend our knees before insolent might.
Give us the strength to raise our minds high above earthly trifles.
And give us the strength to surrender our strength to Your will with love. Amen.

- Hindu Prayer

HYMn

God of the ages, whose almighty hand
leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
in this free land with thee our lot is cast;
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,
thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
be thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
thy true religion in our hearts increase;
thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh thy people on their toilsome way;
lead us from night to never-ending day;
fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

THE BLESSING AND RESPONSE

The time has come to go forth.

Senior Class: We go in thanksgiving for all we have learned.

This is a bittersweet moment.

Senior Class: We rejoice in our growth and in bonds of friendship, even as we bid farewell.

This is a moment of anticipation.

Senior Class: We look forward with excitement, eager to embrace all that awaits us.

Go now in peace and hope, and may blessing accompany you always. Amen.

Please stay in place for the Rotunda Recessional, which will follow immediately.
One of the University’s most symbolic traditions is Rotunda Passage, which includes both a processional and recessional. Many of tonight’s candidates for graduation began their lives at SMU by processing through the Rotunda of Dallas Hall to Opening Convocation in this auditorium, symbolizing their entrance to SMU. Tonight, all candidates will recess through the Rotunda as a symbolic departure from campus and out into their future as the newest members of the SMU Alumni family. Alumni who are parents of graduating seniors are serving as marshals for tonight’s recessional. They will help line the path between McFarlin Auditorium and Dallas Hall for the recessional participants.

REMARKS
Ronald Wallace Lowenfield
President of the Class of 2008

Following his remarks, the President of the Senior Class will pass the lantern that signifies continuity to the Class of 2009, represented by Lamar Humphries Dowling.

Connie O’Neill
Alumni Relations Chair

CALL TO THE RECESSIONAL
Bradley Kent Carter
Chief Marshal

VARSITY
Oh we see the Varsity,
Varsity, Varsity,
As she towers o’er the hill
Over there.
And our hearts are filled with joy,
SMU, SMU,
Alma Mater, we’ll be true
Forever!

Following “Varsity,” all candidates will remain standing.

As soon as the stage party is organized in a central aisle, ushers will help guests assemble on both sides of the diagonal walk to Dallas Hall.

As the guests fill the walkway, the stage party will lead the Rotunda Recessional.

Marshals will organize the candidates’ march.

THE RECESSIONAL
The Imperial Brass

Selections from The Dansereye
Tielman Susato
Dr. Sheron Patterson is the senior pastor of Highland Hills United Methodist Church in Dallas. She earned an undergraduate degree from Spelman College, followed by two Masters’ degrees and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Perkins School of Theology at SMU. A trailblazer and champion of women’s advancement, she holds the distinction of being the first African American woman to be ordained in the North Texas region of The United Methodist Church. This extraordinary accomplishment earned her a place of honor in the National Women’s Museum. A breast cancer survivor, Dr. Patterson has created a print, radio, and television education campaign to help others face their health issues. In 2007 she joined forces with Methodist Health Care System to reach an even broader audience. Through an interactive web site, her Patterson Pledge offers online encouragement via podcasts and commentaries. Dr. Patterson is a highly sought-after speaker across the nation. A veteran journalist, she has more than 20 years of on-air radio and television experience, including a syndicated ABC radio broadcast and frequent appearances on Good Morning Texas on WFAA-TV. She is the author of eight books, a frequent columnist for The Dallas Morning News and has been featured on CNN and in Jet magazine.

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP**

Presiding: Dr. R. Gerald Turner, *President of the University*

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Sheron Patterson, *Senior Pastor*

*Highland Hills United Methodist Church*

Liturgist: The Reverend Dr. William M. Finnin, Jr., *Chaplain and Minister to the University*

Lector: Betty McHone, *Assistant to the Chaplain*

Musicians: The Imperial Brass

Precentor: Marie Requa Gailey

*Candidate for degree of Bachelor of Music, Voice Performance*

**GUILD OF MARSHALS**

Bradley Kent Carter, *Chief Marshal*

Thomas B. Fomby, *Procession Marshal*

Robert Van Kemper, *Platform Marshal*

Patty Harrington Delaney, Deborah Diffily, Jeffery L. Kennington,

William J. Pulte, Dennis M. Simon, Linda Brewster Stearns

*Southern Methodist University will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status. SMU’s commitment to equal opportunity includes nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.*