ALMA MATER

“Varsity”
Imperial Brass
Meadows Vocal Performance Graduates

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 platform party is organized in a central aisle, ushers will help guests
assemble on both sides of the walk to Dallas Hall. As guests fill the walkways,
the platform party will lead the Rotunda Recessional. Marshals will
organize the candidates’ march.

THE RECESSIONAL

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LARRY JAMES

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

CARILLON CONCERT
Quarter Past Seven in the Evening
John Wheeler, Carillonneur
Fondren Science Tower

PRELUDIAL CONCERT
Imperial Brass

PROCessional
Imperial Brass
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
Stephen W. Rankin
Chaplain and Minister to the University
and Dean of Student Life ad interim

PSALM 145: SELECTED VERSES

I will extol you, O my God and King
And I will bless your name forever and ever.
Great is the Lord and highly to be praised
And His greatness is unsearchable.
Generation after generation praises your works
And proclaims your might.
Let all your works give you thanks O Lord
And let your faithful ones bless you.
The Lord is faithful in all His words
And holy in all his works.
You open your hand
And satisfy the desire of every living thing.
May your mouth speak the praise of the Lord
And may all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

INVOCATION
Chaplain Rankin

HYMN TO JOY
“Praise the Source of Faith and Learning”
Meadows Vocal Performance Graduates
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.

PRAYER FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE
Judith H. Henneberger
Associate Chaplain and Minister to the University

LESSON FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE
Luke 14:12-14

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER
President Turner

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON
Rev. Larry James
Chief Executive Officer
CitySquare

RESPONSIVE PRAYER
Hope Elise Anderson
Candidate for Degrees of Bachelor of Arts in
History and Human Rights and
Bachelor of Science in Sociology

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 earthy trifles.
And give us the strength to surrender our strength to Your will with love. Amen.

HYMN
“Forth in Thy Name, O Lord”
Meadows Vocal Performance Graduates

From the above...

THE BLESSINGS AND RESPONSE
Chaplain Rankin

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 follows immediately.

THE ROTUNDA RECESSIONAL

One of the University’s most symbolic traditions is Rotunda Passage, which includes both a processional and a 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 Memorial Auditorium and Dallas Hall for the recessional participants.

REMARKS
Blake Alan Rainey ’17
Student Body President

Following remarks, the president of the Student Body passes the lantern that signifies continuity to the Class of 2018, represented by Arthur William Trey.

Douglas C. Smellage 77
Chair of the SMU Alumni Board

CALL TO THE RECESSIONAL
Thomas B. Fomby
Chief Marshal
THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

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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.

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On Throwing Parties  
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Candidate for Degrees of Bachelor of Arts in History and Human Rights and Bachelor of Science in Sociology

HYMN  
“Forth in Thy Name, O Lord”  
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PRAYER FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE  
Judith H. Henneberger  
Associate Chaplain and Minister to the University

PRAYER FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go,  
My daily labor to pursue;  
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.  
The task Thy wisdom hath assigned,  
Let me cheerfully fulfill,  
in all my words Thy presence find,  
and prove Thy good and perfect will.  
Thou may I set at my right hand,  
Whose eyes mine in most substance see,  
and labor on at Thy command,  
and offer all my works to Thee.  
For Thee delightfully employ what’er Thy bounteous grace hath given;  
and run my course with even joy,  
and simply walk with Thee to heaven.

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