



SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

NINETY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

*The Baccalaureate Service*

*Friday Evening, the Fifteenth of May, Two Thousand and Nine  
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*

*Three Pieces*

The Imperial Brass

Fisher Tull

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

Judith H. Henneberger

Associate 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

Associate Chaplain Henneberger

HYMN

*Praise the Source of Faith and Learning*

HYMN TO JOY  
Led by Avis Oveta Stroud

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

Betty McHone

LESSON FROM SACRED TEXTS

*Proverbs 16:1-9*

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

President Turner

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON

*"The ABC's of Life"*

Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe

*(Moments of Silence)*

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*

NATIONAL HYMN  
Led by Elias Hendricks III

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

Associate Chaplain Henneberger

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.*

## THE ROTUNDA RECESSIONAL

*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

Lindsay Allison Jackson  
President of the Class of 2009

*Following her remarks, the President of the Senior Class will pass the lantern that signifies continuity to the Class of 2010, represented by Bailey Holyfield.*

Kenneth Malcolmson  
Alumni Relations Chair

### CALL TO THE RECESSIONAL

Thomas B. Fomby  
Chief Marshal

### VARSITY

Led by Elias Hendricks III, Avis Oveta Stroud

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 walkways, the stage party will lead the Rotunda Recessional.  
Marshals will organize the candidates' march.*

### THE RECESSIONAL

*Selections from The Dansereye*

The Imperial Brass

Tielman Susato

## BISHOP W. EARL BLEDSOE

W. Earl Bledsoe was elected bishop in July 2008 and was assigned to the Dallas Area. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from SMU's Perkins School of Theology and the Doctor of Ministry from Drew University. He has served The United Methodist Church in many capacities, including as district superintendent of the Bryan/West District, director of teaching ministries for the Texas Conference and pastor of churches in Houston, Cypress, Fort Worth and Amarillo, as well as in England. His broader leadership positions have included jurisdictional member of the Connectional Table from 2004-08, Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee representative in 2004 and General Conference delegate from 1992-2008. He has served as president of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration and as chair of the Conference Board of Ministry, Houston Board of Missions Revitalization Committee, Gulfside Long Range Planning Team and Texas Methodist Foundation Board. Bishop Bledsoe has served on the boards of the Methodist Hospital System, Lon Morris College and Methodist Retirement Services. He was appointed by the Texas Supreme Court to the Equal Access to Justice Foundation board. He joined the SMU Board of Trustees in July 2008.

## MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding:	Dr. R. Gerald Turner, <i>President of the University</i>
Preaching:	Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe, <i>Resident Bishop, Dallas Area - North Texas Conference, The United Methodist Church</i>
Liturgist:	Dr. Judith H. Henneberger, <i>Associate Chaplain and Minister to the University</i>
Lector:	Betty McHone, <i>Program Coordinator for the Chaplain's Office</i>
Musicians:	The Imperial Brass
Precentors:	Elias Hendricks III, Avis Oveta Stroud <i>Candidates for degree of Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance</i>

## GUILD OF MARSHALS

Thomas B. Fomby, *Chief Marshal*  
Bradley Kent Carter, *Chief Marshal Emeritus*  
Thomas Osang, *Procession Marshal*  
Robert Van Kemper, *Platform Marshal*  
Nathan Balke, Patricia Harrington Delaney, Deborah Diffily,  
Jeffery L. Kennington, Olga Lopez-Valero, Monnie McGee