Eighty-first Annual Convocation
The Baccalaureate Service
Southern Methodist University

Friday Evening
The Seventeenth of May
Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-six
At Eight O'clock
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

Fantasia in G Major, BWV 572
J.S. Bach

THE PROCESSIONAL

Marche Heroïque
A. Herbert Brewer
The congregation rises when the procession reaches the doors of the auditorium.

WORDS OF WELCOME

R. Gerald Turner

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to God a new song!
We lift our hearts in praise!
Sing to God who transforms our lives!
Who makes all things new!
Glory to God, now and forever!

HYMN

Praise the Source of Faith and Learning
Hyfrydol

Praise the Source of faith and learning
Who has sparked and stoked the mind
With a passion for discerning how the work 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.
THE INVOCATION

THE PSALTER
Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come?
    My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
The Lord will not let your foot be moved, the Lord who keeps you will not slumber.
    Behold, the One who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper;
    the Lord is your shade on your right hand.
The sun shall not smite you by day,
    nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil, and will keep your life.
    The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.

Choral music
A Jubilant Song

PRAYERS FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

LESSONS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Hebrews 11:8-9; 13-16

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON
"The Journey Is Our Home"

Moments of Silence

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.
HYMN

All Who Love and Serve Your City

All who love and serve your city, all who bear its daily stress,
all who cry for peace and justice, all who curse and all who bless:

In your day of loss and sorrow, in your day of helpless strife,
honor, peace, and love retreating, seek the Lord, who is your life.

In your day of wealth and plenty, wasted work and wasted play,
call to mind the words of Scripture, “Work yet while it is day.”

For all days are days of judgment, and your God is waiting still,
drawing near to all who spurn Him, offering peace to all who will.

Holy God, shall yet the city be the city of despair?
Come today, our judge, our Glory, be its name, “Our God is there!”

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.
Everyone: We look to the future with excitement,
eager to embrace the unknown.

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

Many of tonight’s candidates for graduation began their life at SMU by marching through the Rotunda of Dallas Hall to Opening Convocation in this auditorium. Tonight, all candidates will return through that Rotunda as a symbolic anticipation of tomorrow’s graduation ceremonies that will end one stage of membership in this community and begin another, that of being a part of the SMU alumni.

REMARKS

Jennifer Calvert
President of the Class of 1996

Following her remarks, the president of the Senior Class will pass the lantern that signifies continuity to Scott McMonagle, president of the Class of 1997.

Scott J. McLean
President of the Alumni Association

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 for undergraduate degrees will be seated. Graduate and professional candidates will remain standing. As soon as the stage party and graduate and professional candidates are organized in a central aisle, marshals and ushers will help guests leave the auditorium. Once outside, guests are asked to assemble on both sides of the diagonal walk to Dallas Hall. When this is accomplished, undergraduate candidates will stand, and marshals will lead the stage party and candidates to Dallas Hall.

THE RECESSIONAL

Sinfonia: “We Thank Thee, God”
   J.S. Bach
Sonata in C minor, opus 65/2
   Felix Mendelssohn

Reception following Rotunda Recessional on Fondren Science lawn.

The chief marshal and the director of academic ceremonies would like to thank Provost ad interim William S. Babcock for his support of the ceremonial life of this community.
WILLIAM M. FINNIN, JR.

William M. Finnin, Jr., a native of New Orleans, was appointed chaplain and preacher to the University at SMU in 1980. He earned a B.S. degree cum laude from Centenary College of Louisiana, a Master of Divinity degree summa cum laude from The Divinity School at Duke University, and a Doctor of Theology degree in the field of ethics and social sciences from The Iliff School of Theology at the University of Denver. He has taught for six years in SMU’s Edwin L. Cox School of Business, has led seminar classes at Perkins School of Theology, and leads seminars on the works of novelist Walker Percy through SMU’s Division of Evening and Summer Studies. In 1981 Dr. Finnin founded The United Methodist Campus Ministry and SMU’s annual Yom HaShoah commemoration of the Holocaust. In 1984 he co-founded SMU’s Alternative Spring Break Program and in 1991 SMU’s Inter-Community Experience program, chairing its board of directors for two years. In addition to serving as the regular preacher at University Worship on Sunday mornings in Perkins Chapel, Dr. Finnin has extended the impact of the chaplaincy across the campus and into the larger community. An Underwood Fellow of The Danforth Foundation, he has served as a member of the boards of directors of The National Institute for Campus Ministries (Boston), Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, the Greater Dallas Community of Churches, and as president of the board of the Association for College and University Religious Affairs (two consecutive terms). He serves on the board of The Dallas Memorial Center for Holocaust Studies, is a Life Member of the board of the SMU Campus Y, and serves as faculty adviser to SMU’s Muslim Student Association and Kappa Sigma fraternity. He has organized and directed projects supported by The National Endowment for the Humanities, The Danforth Foundation, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church, and other private funding agencies. He is an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church. In 1994 he received the “M” Award for service to the University.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding: R. Gerald Turner
President of the University
Preaching: The Reverend Dr. William M. Finnin, Jr.
Chaplain and Preacher to the University
Liturgist: Rabbi Nancy Kasten
Associate Chaplain to the University
Lector: William S. Babcock
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, ad interim
Organist: Larry Palmer
Professor of Harpsichord and Organ
Choir Director: Tinsley Silcox
Director of Harman Arts Library
Pianist: Patricia Neufeldt-Bartel
Graduate Student, Meadows School of the Arts
Trumpet Choir: David Kehler
Director of the Mustang Band

The University Choir comprises faculty and staff members of the University. We are pleased to have them with us tonight.