



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

The Imperial Brass

*Grand March from Aida*

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

Chaplain Finnin

HYMN

*Praise the Source of Faith and Learning*

HYMN TO JOY  
Thomas Troeger

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

*Philippians 4:13*

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

President Turner

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Sheron Patterson

*"You Have the Power"*

*(Moments of Silence)*

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Chaplain Finnin

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

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

Chaplain Finnin

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

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

*Selections from The Dansereye*

The Imperial Brass

Tielman Susato

## THE REVEREND DR. SHERON PATTERSON

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, <i>President of the University</i>
Preaching:	The Reverend Dr. Sheron Patterson, <i>Senior Pastor</i> <i>Highland Hills United Methodist Church</i>
Liturgist:	The Reverend Dr. William M. Finnin, Jr., <i>Chaplain and Minister to the University</i>
Lector:	Betty McHone, <i>Assistant to the Chaplain</i>
Musicians:	The Imperial Brass
Precentor:	Marie Requa Gailey <i>Candidate for degree of Bachelor of Music, Voice Performance</i>

### 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