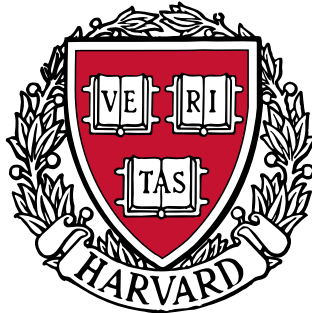


HARVARD UNIVERSITY

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE FOR
THE CLASS OF 2017 IN HARVARD COLLEGE



Tuesday, May twenty-third, two thousand seventeen
two o'clock in the afternoon
in the sanctuary of the Memorial Church

The limited seating capacity of the Memorial Church permits the admission of candidates for degrees only, in academic costume. The service is broadcast into Tercentenary Theatre, where parents and friends are invited to take their seats after they have reviewed the academic procession. The procession forms in the Old Yard, steps off from Holworthy Hall, and passes the western front of University Hall, where candidates doff their mortarboards to John Harvard. Led by their Class Marshals, they then proceed to the eastern side of University Hall and to the western porch of the Memorial Church.

This service is conducted by Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church. Prayers are offered by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to Harvard University; Swami Tyagananda, Harvard Chaplain, Hindu Community; and Jeffrey Barneson, Harvard Chaplain, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

The Commencement Choir is led by Dr. Andrew G. Clark, Director of Choral Activities and Senior Lecturer on Music at Harvard University; Kira Winter, Resident Conductor of the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum; Edward E. Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster in the Memorial Church; and Thomas M. Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster in the Memorial Church.

The Harvard College Class of 2017 Marshals are Samuel Craig Becker, Taylor Quinton Carol, Victoria Helena Jones, Xenia Cecilia Laguarda, Avni Nahar, Hamna Mustansar Nazir, Olivia Frances Novick, Riya Patel (First Marshal), Rohan Pidaparti, Rebecca Jo Ramos, Natalie Elís Torres, Jarrod Robert Wetzel-Brown, Angela Wu, and Katherine Frances Gregor Wu (Second Marshal).

Please silence all electronic devices upon entering the sanctuary of the Memorial Church.

Photography is not permitted in the Memorial Church.

THE BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

The Baccalaureate Service has long been associated with the commencement exercises of American colleges and universities, and forms a link between these increasingly secular institutions and their religious origins. The term baccalaureate is derived from two Latin words, *bacca*, or “berry,” and *laureus*, “laurel,” which might refer to the wreaths of laurel with which new graduates were crowned in European ceremonies of the medieval period.

Harvard’s first Commencement, that of 1642, is the first recorded such ceremony in English North America, and in it are rudiments of its Cambridge University ancestor, whose thirteenth-century statutes describe a Baccalaureate sermon preached while a candidate “sat with bowed head over which his hood was drawn, a picture of abject humility and utter embarrassment.” No seventeenth-century Harvard Baccalaureate sermons survive: eighteenth-century specimens are post-revolutionary, with the 1794 sermon of David Tappan, third Hollis Professor of Divinity, one of the oldest. One symbol of continuity maintained in this service is the singing of Psalm 78 to the tune *St. Martin’s*. The text and tune have been sung at Harvard Commencement and Baccalaureate at least since 1806.

In the nineteenth century, the seniors in Harvard College routinely extended an invitation to the President to address them, and with few exceptions this tradition has been maintained. For some years it has been our happy custom to include the readings from scriptures sacred to the many religious traditions of the Class, and to invite members of the Harvard Chaplains to offer prayers in behalf of the Class, the University, and the world. The occasion is both joyful and solemn, intimate and public, filled with the exuberance of youth and sustained by venerable and weighty tradition. Next to Commencement itself, Baccalaureate is perhaps our oldest public occasion.

*The Reverend Peter J. Gomes (1942–2011)
Former Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church
and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals*

ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL from *Music for the Royal Fireworks* George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

Following the Class Marshals the candidates for degrees enter into the body of the church.

PRESIDENTIAL FANFARE Domine, salvam fac Charles Gounod (1818–1893)

The Class stands at the entrance of the President.

Domine, salvam fac, Præsidentem nostram,
Et exaudi nos in die qua invocaverimus te.

*O Lord, save our President,
And answer us when we call on you.*

SALUTATION Jonathan L. Walton
*Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister,
The Memorial Church, Harvard University*

HYMN Give Ear, Ye Children, to My Law *St. Martin's*

The Class standing

- | | |
|---|---|
| I. Give ear, ye children, to my law
Devout attention lend,
Let the instructions of my mouth
Deep in your hearts descend. | IV. Let children learn the mighty deeds
Which God performed of old,
Which, in our younger years, we saw,
And which our fathers told. |
| II. My tongue, by inspiration taught,
Shall parables unfold:
Dark oracles, but understood
And owned for truths of old, | V. Our lips shall tell them to our sons,
And they again to theirs,—
That generations yet unborn
May teach them to their heirs. |
| III. Which we from sacred registers
Of ancient times have known,
And our forefathers' pious care
To us has handed down. | |

READINGS

from the Holy Quran (Islam)
read in Arabic by Abeer ElTemtamy '17
read in English by Zainub Dhanani '17

from the Ofudesaki (Tenrikyo)
read in Japanese by Sean Rodan '17
read in English by Cherie Hu '17

from the New Testament (Christianity)
read in Greek by Ileana Riveron '17
read in English by Julia DeAngelo '17

from the Writings of Seamus Heaney (Humanism)
read in English by Colin Criss '17

PRAYER

Swami Tyagananda
Harvard Chaplain, Hindu Community

ANTHEM

Prayer *Karen Electra Christianson '17 (b. 1995)*
Soloists: Emily Bishai '17, soprano; William Gardner '17, tenor

This is my prayer to thee, my Lord:

Give me the strength lightly to bear my joys and sorrows;
Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers,
But to be fearless in facing them.

Give me the strength to make my love fruitful in service;
Let me not beg for the stilling of my pain,
But for the heart to conquer it.

Give me the strength never to disown the poor,
Or bend my knees before insolent might;
Let me not crave in anxious fear to be saved,
But grant that I may not be a coward.

Let me find the grasp of Your hand in my failure,
And give me the strength to surrender my strength to Thy will with Love.

*Adapted from Gitanjali (36) and "The Grasp of Your Hand" (from The Heart of God)
by Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941)*

READINGS

from the Bhagavad Gita (Hinduism)
read in Sanskrit by Monica Mishra '17
read in English by Vimal Konduri '17

from the Dasam Granth (Sikhi)
read in Gurmukhi by Amanpreet Singh Kandola '17
read in English by Kaitavjeet Chowdhary '17

from the Hebrew Bible (Judaism)
read in Hebrew by Joseph Hostyk '17
read in English by Talia Weisberg '17

from a Diné Beautyway Prayer (Native American, Diné)
read in Diné Bizaad (Navajo Language) and English by Damon Jack Clark '17

PRAYER

Jeffrey Barneson MPA '95
Harvard Chaplain, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

ANTHEM

“Achieved Is the Glorious Work”
from *The Creation*, Hob. XXI:2

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Achieved is the glorious work; our song let be the praise of God.
Glory to his name for ever; he sole on high exalted reigns. Hallelujah.

Gottfried van Swieten (1733–1803) after Psalm 148:13

ADDRESS

Drew Gilpin Faust
President of Harvard University

HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun danket alle Gott

The Class standing

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

CHARGE

from the Writings of John O'Donohue (Christianity)
read in English by Emma Woo '17

BLESSING

Lucy A. Forster-Smith
Sedgwick Chaplain to Harvard University

RECESSIONAL

Grand chœur dialogué

Eugène Gigout (1844–1925)

The Class exits following the President, clergy, readers, and Class Marshals.

