

Multireligious Commencement Service for the
Class of 2016



THE DIVINITY SCHOOL
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

MAY 25, 2016

4:00 PM

THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

*Please remember to turn off all personal communication devices.
Please respect The Memorial Church's rule prohibiting flash photography.*

Upon the occasion of this graduation, we join together across the many religious traditions represented within our School and this year's graduating class. We gather in joy to give thanks for and to celebrate the diverse ministries, vocations and aspirations of our graduates. Prayers, readings and music for this service, drawn from the wide array of faiths and backgrounds which animate the intellectual and spiritual life of Harvard Divinity School, were selected by the students who lead us this day. Since this is a service of prayer, meditation, and worship, we respectfully request that you refrain from applause.

Prelude

Gigue, from Partita No. 1 in B-flat Major, BWV 825 J.S. Bach
 Timothy Rhyker Benavidez, MTS '16, piano

Liberty Traditional
 Gabrielle Goodman, MDiv' 16, violin; Lucy Ballard, MTS '16, banjo

How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou, op. 18, #5 Marcel Dupré
 Christopher Whiteman, MDiv '16, organ
As you are willing and able, please rise for the processional.

Processional

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In Louise Ruspini



1.En - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.	En - ter,	re - joice,	and come
2.O - pen	your ears	to the	song.	O - pen	your ears	to the
3.O - pen	your hearts	ev - 'ry -	one.	O - pen	your hearts	ev - 'ry -
4.Don't be	a - fraid	of some	change.	Don't be	a - fraid	of some
5.En - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.	En - ter,	re - joice,	and come



in.	To - day will be	a	joy - ful	day;	en - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.
song.	To - day will be	a	joy - ful	day;	en - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.
one.	To - day will be	a	joy - ful	day;	en - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.
change.	To - day will be	a	joy - ful	day;	en - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.
in.	To - day will be	a	joy - ful	day;	en - ter,	re - joice,	and come	in.

Please be seated.

We congratulate members of the Class of 2016 who have been recipients of the following honors during their time at Harvard Divinity School:

Class Speaker for the Graduating Class of 2016
 Erez DeGolan, MDiv' 16

Class Marshals for the Graduating Class of 2016
 Dorie Goehring, MDiv '16 & Taj Smith, MDiv '16

John E. Thayer Scholarship for Meritorious Students, est. 1857
 Mary Kate Long, MTS '16

Billings Prize for Excellence in Preaching
 Christopher Whiteman, MDiv '16 (winner in 2015)
 Aisha Ansano, MDiv '16 (finalist in 2015)
 Taj Smith, MDiv' 16 (finalist in 2015)

The Hopkins Shareholders Prize, est. 1657
 Aisha Ansano, MDiv '16
 Marisa Egerstrom, MDiv '16
 Taj Smith, MDiv '16
 Casper ter Kuile, MDiv '16
 Christopher Whiteman, MDiv '16

Stendahl Symposium Presenters
 Ryan Gregg, MTS '16 (2015, 2016)
 Meghan Guidry, MDiv '15 (2014)
 Timothy Martin, MDiv '16 (2015)
 Adeel Mohammadi, MTS '16 (2015)
 Eric Stephen, MTS '16 (2016)

Program Notes

This past year, the Harvard Art Museums hosted the exhibit “Corita Kent and the Language of Pop,” featuring the images and prints of Sister Mary Corita, an American Roman Catholic nun and pop artist. Kent’s artwork was discussed in classrooms and through events across campus, becoming a part of the student experience at HDS and in the wider university. Kent’s piece, *Love is hard work*, hangs in the front of The Memorial Church and speaks to the fierce struggle for justice, healing, and love that characterizes the vocations represented in the graduating class. Additional information can be found at: www.harvardartmuseums.org/visit/exhibitions/4830/corita-kent-and-the-language-of-pop

We extend our gratitude to the clergy and staff of The Memorial Church for hosting this gathering.

The flowers are given in memory and in honor of Professor Helmut Koester and Brita Stendahl.

The multireligious banner is carried by Roberta Robison, MTS ’16.

The streamers are carried by Kristen Lovett, MTS ’16 and Sasha Weisse, MTS ’16.

Members of the HDS Commencement Choir include Aisha Ansano, MDiv ’16, Lucy Ballard, MTS ’16, Katie Blaisdell, MDiv ’16, Sonia David, MDiv ’16, Dorie Goering, MDiv ’16, Gabrielle Goodman, MDiv ’16, Mary Kate Long, MTS ’16, Amanda Napior, MDiv ’16, Erika Nelson, MTS, 16, Amy Norton, MDiv ’16, Parameshwaran Ramakrishnan, MDiv ’16, Rina Sadun, MDiv ’16, Jeremy Sher, MDiv ’16, Taj Smith, MDiv ’16, Hannah Stohler, MDiv ’16, Casper ter Kuile, MDiv ’16, Angie Thurston, MDiv ’16, Cydney VanDyke, MDiv ’16, Sasha Weisse, MTS ’16, Jennifer Wenz, MDiv ’16, Christopher Whiteman, MDiv ’16, and Stefano Zordan, MTS ’16.

Today’s ushers are members of the HDS Noon Service Steering Committee Steve Carmody, MDiv ’18, Sophia Lufkin, MDiv ’17, Cora McCold, MDiv ’17, Naohito Miura, MDiv ’17, and Tenzin Tselha, MDiv ’18; and Katie Caponera of HDS Student Services.

Words of Welcome

Dean David N. Hempton, on behalf of Harvard Divinity School

Dean of the Faculty of Divinity, Alonzo L. McDonald Family Professor of Evangelical Theological Studies, and John Lord O’Brian Professor of Divinity

Please rise as you are willing and able.

Congregational Song

Creator of the Intertwined

Kingsfold



1. Cre - a - tor of the in - ter - twined, you_ made each soul_ u - nique: each.
2. The_ song of peace best sung by all: strength born of u - ni - ty. In_
3. In_ e - vil's wake we all are hurt; when prick'd all hu - mans bleed. With
4. Teach us to cher - ish what is strange and_ so the rich - er be; to_



one with ears to hear faith's call, each_ one with voice to speak. Each_
har - mo - ny we cel - e - brate your_ gift: di - ver - si - ty. Can_
com - mon wounds and shared de - spair, we_ seek the balm_ we need. We_
lis - ten with our hearts and speak with_ lov - ing hon - es - ty. From



wor - ships where the call is heard: in_ for - est, _ tem - ple, dome, on_
we not sing_ each oth - er's songs? Speak un - fa - mi - liar prayer? Re -
do not ask_ be - fore we reach to_ of - fer_ our em - brace. We_
dif - frent sourc - es com - fort comes, each_ seeks for_ the Di - vine: your_



moun - tain top, in up - per room, the_ soul must find_ a home.
- joi - cing in the boun - ty of the_ dif - fren - ces_ we share?
do not ask, "How do you pray?" We_ reach with arms_ of grace.
voice speaks man - y lan - gua - ges, just_ one of them_ is mine.

Please be seated.

*Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?
See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?*

Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life!

*Water make the river, river wash the mountain
Fire make the sunlight, turn the world around.*

*Heart is of the river, body is the mountain
Spirit is the sunlight, turn the world around.*

*We are of the spirit, truly of the spirit
Only can the spirit turn the world around.*

Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life!

As you are willing and able, please stand for the duration of the recessional.

Invocations

From the Sikh Tradition

Japji Sahib

Ramprit Singh, MTS '16

From the Orthodox Christian Tradition

An Orthodox Prayer

Andrew Baccari, MDiv '16

The First Reading

From the Islamic Tradition

Qur'an 30: 17-23

Adeel Mohammadi, MTS '16

The Second Reading

From the Quaker Tradition

From A Testament of Devotion by Thomas Kelly

Cara Curtis, MDiv '16

Recessional

Toccata on the Bells of Westminster

Grimoaldo Macchia

Harry Lyn Huff, organ

The Third Reading

From the traditions of the Divine Feminine

From Scivias by Hildegard of Bingen

Eloise Bloundiau, MTS '16

Sage Luft Moses, MDiv '16

Amanda Napior, MDiv '16

Jennifer Wenz, MDiv '16

*Family and friends are asked to wait for the recessional to conclude before exiting.
Once all have exited, the Class of 2016 will gather on the church steps for the class photo.
Family and friends are also invited to take photos of the class at that time. Following the class photo,
all are invited to a reception on the HDS Campus Green, Andover Hall, 45 Francis Avenue.*

Benedictions: Going Forth with Prayers, Blessings and Song

From the Hindu Tradition

Rig Veda 10.191.2-4
Parameshwaran Ramakrishnan, MDiv '16

From the Unitarian Universalist Tradition

A Prayer of Risk
Erica Long, MDiv '16

From Eclectic Pagan Traditions

From *Earthseed* by Octavia Butler
Sara Otero, MTS '16 & Sasha Weisse, MTS '16

From the Jewish Tradition

The Priestly Blessing
Gabrielle Goodman, MDiv' 16, Rina Sadun, MDiv' 16, & Jeremy Sher, MDiv '16

Choral Benediction

Turn the World Around

Harry Belafonte

2016 HDS Commencement Choir
Ainsley Tucker, flute; Andrew Stauffer, drums


*We come from the fire, living in the fire, go back to the fire,
Turn the world around.
We come from the water, living in the water, go back to the water,
Turn the world around.
We come from the mountain, living on the mountain, go back to the mountain,
Turn the world around.

Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life!*

Psalm 148

From the Christian Tradition
Antiphon composed by David Hurd

Katie Blaisdell, MDiv '16 & Taj Smith, MDiv '16, cantors



*Praise God! Praise God from the heavens; praise God in the heights!
Praise God, all you angels of God; praise God, all you host of heaven!
Praise God, you sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!
Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!*

Sung Response

*Let them praise the name of God, for God commanded and they were created.
God established them forever and ever; God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
Fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
Beasts of the forest and all cattle, crawling things and flying birds!*

Sung Response

*Rulers of the earth and all peoples, nobles and all leaders of the earth!
Young men and women alike, old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the Sovereign,
Whose name alone is exalted, whose glory is above earth and heaven.
God has raised up a horn for the people, and praise for all the faithful,
For the people of Israel who are close to God.
Praise be to God!*

Sung Response

The Fourth Reading

Śāntideva's Bodhicaryāvatāra 3.18-22

Upali Sraman, MDiv '16

From the Buddhist Tradition

The Fifth Reading

From the writings of Corita Kent & Daniel Berrigan, SJ

Maggie Krueger, MTS '16

From the Roman Catholic Tradition

The Sixth Reading

Urantia Book 144:5.51-68

Angie Thurston, MDiv '16

From the Tradition of Urantia Book Readers

Music

Alabaster Box

Sonia David, MDiv '16, vocalist

Janice Sjostrand

Faculty Address

Kimberley C. Patton

Professor of the Comparative and Historical Study of Religion

Music

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

2016 HDS Commencement Choir

*For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of human care, sister, brother, parent, child,
For the kinship we all share, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

-----Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, adapt.

The Seventh Reading

From the writings of Carl Sagan

Rachel Deitch, MTS '16

From the Humanist Tradition

The Eighth Reading

From *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* by J.K. Rowling

Casper ter Kuile, MDiv '16

From the Religious Nones