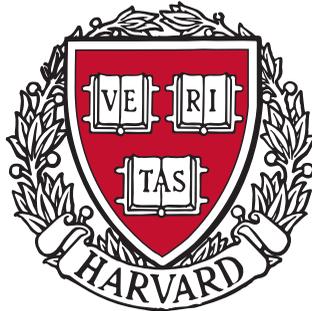


HARVARD UNIVERSITY

*Baccalaureate Service for
the Class of 2011 in Harvard College*



THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

*Tuesday, May twenty-fourth, two thousand eleven
two o'clock in the afternoon*

PLEASE SILENCE PERSONAL TELEPHONES AND PAGERS
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.

Peter J. Gomes (1942–2011)

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.

Photography is not permitted in The Memorial Church.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PROCESSIONAL 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.
The members of the platform party, led by the Verger, take their places in the chancel.
When the President takes her seat, the Class is seated.*

SALUTATION The Reverend Dr. Wendel W. Meyer
Acting Pusey Minister in The Memorial Church

READINGS *from* The Analects of Confucius
Read in Chinese by Lisa Yu
Read in English by Kevin Chow

from The Hebrew Bible
Read in Hebrew by Jon Warsh
Read in English by Rachel Endick

ANTHEM

For the Graduation

Carson P. Cooman '04
(b. 1982)

The honor
of being human
will stay constant.

The earth, earth,
water wet, sun
shine.

The world will be
as ever round,
and all yourselves

will know it,
on it, and around
and around.

No one knows
what will
happen. That

is the happiness
of the circle,
finding you.

Robert Creeley (1926–2005)

READINGS

from Hindu Scripture
Read in Sanskrit by Anjali M. Bhatt
Read in English by Umang J. Shukla

from The Holy Quran
Read in Arabic by Chaima Amor Bouhlel
Read in English by Talal Mohammed Alhammad

from The New Testament
Read in Greek by Dafni Giannikou
Read in English by Cort VanOstran

HYMN

No. 5, “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 wond'rous 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.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Toccata” from *Symphony No. 5*

Charles-Marie Widor
(1844–1937)

*The readers and the platform party leave following the Verger, to be followed by the Class Marshals
and the candidates for degrees.*

This service is conducted by The Reverend Dr. Wendel W. Meyer, Acting Pusey Minister in The Memorial Church. Prayers are offered by Farther William Murphy, Undergraduate Chaplain, Catholic Student Center; and Rabbi Ben Greenberg, Co-Director of Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus and Orthodox Rabbinic Advisor, Hillel Foundation.

The Commencement Choir is conducted by Andrew Clark, Director of Choral Activities in Harvard College, and Edward E. Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster, The Memorial Church. The organ is played by Edward E. Jones.

The Harvard College Class of 2011 Marshals are Talal Alhammad, Moira Forberg, Robert Long, Sam Novey, Toby Stein, Kurt Tsuo, Vidya Viswanathan, and Tian Wen.