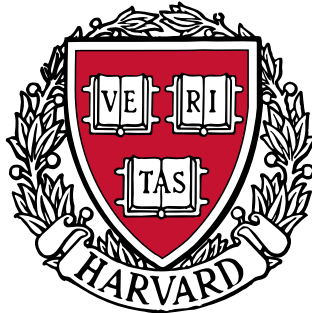


# HARVARD UNIVERSITY

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE FOR  
THE CLASS OF 2018 IN HARVARD COLLEGE



Tuesday, May twenty-second, two thousand eighteen  
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 Donna Hakimian EdM '16, Harvard Chaplain, Baha'i Association; Getzel Davis, Associate Rabbi, Harvard Hillel; Kathleen Reed, Harvard Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry and President, Harvard Chaplains; and Khalil Abdur-Rashid, Muslim Chaplain at Harvard University.

The Commencement Choir is led by Dr. Andrew G. Clark, Director of Choral Activities and Senior Lecturer on Music at Harvard University; 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 2018 Marshals are Berkeley Elaine Brown, First Marshal; Wyatt Mark Robertson, Second Marshal; Cengiz Cemaloglu, Eduardo Andres González, Charles Solomon Krumholz, Belle Lee, Allison Silin Li, Alexander Keith Reed, Gift Marshals; and Anthony Xiao Chen, Jerry George Nelluvelil, William Oh, Madeleine Harley Stern, Sara Salim Surani, Raj Vatsa, Program Marshals.

*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* (1749) 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, Præsidem 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<br>Devout attention lend,<br>Let the instructions of my mouth<br>Deep in your hearts descend. | IV. Let children learn the mighty deeds<br>Which God performed of old,<br>Which, in our younger years, we saw,<br>And which our fathers told. |
| II. My tongue, by inspiration taught,<br>Shall parables unfold:<br>Dark oracles, but understood<br>And owned for truths of old,   | V. Our lips shall tell them to our sons,<br>And they again to theirs,—<br>That generations yet unborn<br>May teach them to their heirs.       |
| III. Which we from sacred registers<br>Of ancient times have known,<br>And our forefathers' pious care<br>To us has handed down.  |   |

READINGS

*from* the Bhagavad Gita (Hinduism)  
read in Sanskrit by Neil Davey '18  
read in English by Raj Vatsa '18

*from* the Holy Quran (Islam)  
read in Arabic by Sarah Mokh '18  
read in English by Iman Aysha Masmoudi '18

the Heart Sutra (Buddhism)  
read in Chinese and English by Anthony Hou '18

PRAYER

Donna Hakimian EdM '16  
*Harvard Chaplain, Baba'i Association*

Getzel Davis  
*Associate Rabbi, Harvard Hillel*

ANTHEM

I Will Wade Out (2017)

*Fraser Weist '18 (b. 1995)*

i will wade out

till my thighs are steeped in burning flowers

I will take the sun in my mouth

and leap into the ripe air

Alive

with closed eyes

to dash against darkness

in the sleeping curves of my body

Shall enter fingers of smooth mastery

with chasteness of sea-girls

Will i complete the mystery

of my flesh

I will rise

After a thousand years

lipping

flowers

And set my teeth in the silver of the moon

*E. E. Cummings, Class of 1915 (1894–1962)*

READINGS

*from* the New Testament (Christianity)

read in Greek by Scott Ely '18

read in English by Shanelle Davis '18

*from* the writings of E. E. Cummings (Humanism)

read in English by Frank Zhou '18

the Tefilat Haderech (Judaism)

read in Hebrew by Ilana Harris '18

read in English by Aaron Grand '18

PRAYER

Kathleen Reed

*Harvard Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry; President, Harvard Chaplains*

Khalil Abdur-Rashid

*Muslim Chaplain at Harvard University*

ANTHEM

To the River Charles (2016)

*Michael Schachter '09 (b. 1987)*

River! that in silence windest  
Through the meadows, bright and free,  
Till at length thy rest thou findest  
In the bosom of the sea!  
Four long years of mingled feeling,  
Half in rest, and half in strife,  
I have seen thy waters stealing  
Onward, like the stream of life.

Friends my soul with joy remembers!  
How like quivering flames they start,  
When I fan the living embers  
On the hearth-stone of my heart!  
'T is for this, thou Silent River!  
That my spirit leans to thee;  
Thou hast been a generous giver,  
Take this idle song from me.

*from "To the River Charles" (publ. 1866) by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882)*

ADDRESS	Drew Gilpin Faust <i>President of Harvard University</i>	
HYMN	Now Thank We All Our God  <i>The Class standing</i>  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.	<i>Nun danket alle Gott</i>
BLESSING	Jonathan L. Walton <i>Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister, The Memorial Church, Harvard University</i>	
RECESSIONAL	Grand chœur dialogué (1881)  <i>The Class exits following the President, clergy, readers, and Class Marshals.</i>	<i>Eugène Gigout (1844–1925)</i>

