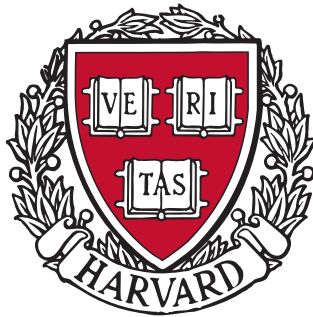


HARVARD UNIVERSITY

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE FOR
THE CLASS OF 2023 IN HARVARD COLLEGE



Tuesday, May twenty-third, two thousand twenty-three,
two o'clock in the afternoon
Tercentenary Theatre

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 into Tercentenary Theatre.

This service is conducted by the Rev. Matthew Ichihashi Potts, PhD '13, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church. Blessings are offered by Rabbi Dr. Jonah Steinberg, Executive Director, Harvard Hillel; Dr. Mia Chandler, Bahá'í Chaplain at Harvard; Imam Dr. Khalil Abdur-Rashid and Samia Omar, Muslim Chaplains at Harvard University; Dr. Daryush Mehta PhD, Zoroastrian Chaplain at Harvard; Janelle Ibaven, Foursquare Church Chaplain at Harvard; Alden Fossett, Kellogg Fellow for the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard.; and the Rev. Dr. Calvin T. Jones, Assistant Minister in the Memorial Church.

The music is provided by the Commencement Choir, directed by Andrew G. Clark, Director of Choral Activities and Senior Lecturer on Music at Harvard University, and Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster in the Memorial Church; and the Harvard University Band, directed by Mark E. Olson, Director of the Harvard University Band and Wind Ensemble.

The Harvard College Class of 2023 Marshals are Athena Q. Ye (First Marshal); Chibuike K. “Chibby” Uwakwe (Second Marshal); Kyle J. Lee, Sebastian J. Pereira, Daniyal Sachee, Calliste A. O. Skouras, Choetsow Tenzin, and Esther J. Xiang, (Program Marshals); and Mustafa Ansari, Natalka A. Bowley, Kathryn L. Hodakowski, Priyanka Kumar, Jessica Liu, and Jonathan Z. Zhang (Gift Marshals).

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 Selections by the Harvard University Band

Following the Class Marshals the candidates for degrees enter into Tercentenary Theatre

PRESIDENTIAL FANFARE Domine, salvum fac

Charles Gounod (1818–1893)

The Class stands

Domine, salvum fac, Præsidentem nostrum,
Et exaudi nos in die qua invocaverimus te.

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

SALUTATION Rabbi Jonah C. Steinberg, PhD
*Executive Director of Harvard Hillel
Harvard Chaplain*

HYMN Give Ear, Ye Children, to My Law

St. Martin's

The Class standing

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Give ear, ye children, to my law
Devout attention lend,
Let the instructions of my mouth
Deep in your hearts descend. | 4. Let children learn the mighty deeds
Which God performed of old,
Which, in our younger years, we saw,
And which our fathers told. |
| 2. My tongue, by inspiration taught,
Shall parables unfold:
Dark oracles, but understood
And owned for truths of old, | 5. Our lips shall tell them to our sons,
And they again to theirs,—
That generations yet unborn
May teach them to their heirs. |
| 3. Which we from sacred registers
Of ancient times have known,
And our forefathers' pious care
To us has handed down. | |

READINGS	<i>from the Hindu tradition</i> read in Sanskrit by Kavya Shah '23 read in English by Aakash Mishra '23	
BLESSINGS	Dr. Mia Chandler, Bahá'í <i>Chaplain at Harvard</i> Dr. Daryush Mehta PhD, <i>Zoroastrian Chaplain at Harvard</i>	
READINGS	<i>from the Jewish tradition</i> read in Hebrew by Michael Frim '23 read in English by Sabrina Goldfischer '23	
BLESSINGS	Alden Fossett '21, <i>Kellogg Fellow for the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard</i> Janelle Ibaven, <i>Foursquare Church Chaplain at Harvard</i>	
READINGS	<i>from the Muslim tradition</i> read in Arabic by Mohammed Guerrab '23 read in English by Malika Umar '23	
ANTHEM	Hold Fast to Dreams (2023, <i>world premiere</i>)	<i>Veronica Leahy '23 (b. 2001)</i> <i>Composer and soprano saxophone soloist</i>
	What makes a nation's pillars high And its foundations strong? testing whether that nation, can long endure Hold fast to dreams For if dreams die life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly Tell them that I stood in line and I waited I waited I waited Can we long endure?	Hold fast to dreams For if dreams die Life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly Tell them that I stood in line waiting waiting How long can we endure? We never know how high we are Til we are called to rise; And then, if we are true to plan, We must endure— Hold fast to dreams so We touch the sky We touch the sky We touch the sky

*Emily Dickinson (1830–1886), Ralph Waldo Emerson, Class of 1821 (1803–1882),
Langston Hughes (1901–1967), Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865), and June Jordan (1936–2002)*

READINGS *from the Buddhist tradition*
read in Tibetan by Sonam Sherpa '23
read in English by Savannah Richard '23

BLESSINGS Imam Dr. Khalil Abdur-Rashid, *Muslim Chaplain at Harvard University*
Samia Omar, *Muslim Chaplaincy at Harvard University*

READINGS *from the Christian tradition*
read in Tagalog by Jeromel Dela Rosa Lara '23
read in English by Elizabeth Propst '23

ANTHEM Will the Circle Be Unbroken

Traditional Appalachian
arranged by J. David Moore (b. 1962)

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, Lord, by and by
There's a better home a-waitin'
If we try, Lord, if we try.

I was singing with my sisters
I was singing with my friends
And we all can sing together
'Cause the circle never ends.

I was born down in the valley
Where the sun refuse' to shine
But I'm climbing up to the highland
Gonna make that mountain mine!

Ada Ruth Habershon (1861–1918); adapt. Betsy Rose, Cathy Winter, and Marcia Taylor

ADDRESS Lawrence S. Bacow MPP-JD '76, PhD '78
President of Harvard University

HYMN

Deus omnium creator

Harvard Hymn

Text by James Bradstreet Greenough, Class of 1856 (1833–1901)

Music by John Knowles Paine A.M. (Hon.) 1869 (1839–1906)

The Class standing, sung in Latin

Deus omnium creator,
rerum mundi moderator,
crescat cuius es fundator,
nostra universitas.
Integri sint curatores,
eruditi professores,
largiantur donatores
benepartas copias.

*God, the creator of everything,
controller of the things of this world,
may that of which you are the founder grow,
our university.
May the administrators be upstanding,
the professors learned,
may the donors supply
their well-gotten abundance.*

Sic dum civitas manebit,
clarum lumen hic lucebit,
luce angulos replebit,
fugerit obscuritas,
error territatus latebit,
virtus vivida valebit,
et insignior florebit
nostra universitas.

*Thus, while the commonwealth will last,
a bright lamp will shine here,
it will fill up the corners with light,
obscurity will flee,
deception, frightened, will hide,
virtue, energetic, will flourish,
and outstandingly will blossom
our university.*

BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Calvon T. Jones

Assistant Minister in the Memorial Church

The Rev. Matthew Ichihashi Potts, PhD '13

Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and

Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church of Harvard University

RECESSIONAL

Harvard University Band

The Class exits following the President, chaplains, readers, and Class Marshals

