



SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Baccalaureate

Lois Perkins Chapel • May 7, 2021 • 7 p.m.

Welcome to this service of worship. We hope that you will find both meaning and encouragement during this time. Please stand as you are able for the portions of the service indicated with an asterisk (). Please silence all electronic devices.*

Prelude

"Prelude in G Major WTC 2 BWV 884"

J.S. Bach

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: May grace and peace be ours in abundance this night,
People: As we celebrate the lives and the accomplishments of the Southwestern University graduating classes of 2020 and 2021.
Liturgist: This is an occasion to praise God and to listen to God's word,
People: To remember our days on campus, and to pray as we finish this part of our journey and begin new adventures.
Liturgist: As the people of God have always done,
People: We bring our emotions and our wishes to the Almighty Creator who made us and loves us.
All: Let us then turn to God in worship.

***Invocation** *(in unison)*

We thank you, Creator God, for the lives of these graduates, each known and loved even before they were born. We praise you that they were consecrated by you to purposes we could not imagine so many years ago. We recognize them as your children, bearing your image. Their compassion and their creativity mark them as men and women of God, sharing their Creator's likeness. We thank you that you have brought us to this day of rejoicing: a day to remember their journey, a day to pause and look both to the past and to the future. We know that you have great things in store for each graduate. We cannot imagine the futures to which you are calling them, but we are confident in your ability to use every gift in your own time and for the purposes of your Kingdom. Amen.

Psalm 126

Anthem

"Your Hands in Mine"

Florence Price
Maureen Rendon '21

Scripture

2 Timothy 1:3-7

Sermon

Genuine Faith

Litany of Thanksgiving and Intercession

- Liturgist: Loving God, we pray for the wisdom to discern your call in our lives.
People: Hear our prayer, O God.
Liturgist: We pray for the wisdom to make healthy choices in the face of endless and confusing options.
People: Hear our prayer, O God.
Liturgist: We pray for the grace to redefine our relationships with our parents and our friends as our lives change.
People: Hear our prayer, O God.
Liturgist: We pray for the grace to form new relationships with new friends as we move forward from this place.
People: Hear our prayer, O God.
Liturgist: We pray for the courage to swim against the current of society as we seek to follow where you lead us.
People: Hear our prayer, O God.
Liturgist: We pray for the courage to take a stand with you for justice and peace in this world at this time.
People: Hear our prayer, O God. Amen.

Prayer for the Graduates and the University *(in unison)*

We rejoice, O God, for these graduates, and we pray for their lives
as they step from this day into their futures.
Grant to them wisdom that begins in friendship and knowledge, is forged by faith,
and is expressed in lives of honesty, justice, love and hope.
Fill them with great dreams and persevering spirits
that they may make a difference on the side of good in the world.
We pray for our beloved University.
Kindle within it the fire of your love
that it may be a sign of passionate learning and inspired living,
renewed by the quest of learning itself, to be an instrument of your peace in the world. Amen.

Benediction

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

Numbers 6: 24–26

Blessing and Sending Forth

Postlude

"Marche"

Louis Lefébure-Wély

It is the custom of this chapel to remain seated during the postlude.

