

REVEREND ELISABETH A. GARVIN, CHAPLAIN AND  
MINISTER TO THE UNIVERSITY

The Rev. Lisa Garvin is SMU's chaplain and minister to the University. As chaplain, she leads religious and spiritual life on campus and serves on the leadership team for the vice president of Student Affairs. With the staff of the Office of the Chaplain and Religious Life and the Center for Faith and Learning, she provides ethical leadership to the SMU community, cultivates multi-religious community and mentors students in integrating faith and learning.



Garvin is an ordained deacon in The United Methodist Church and connects the church to the world through ministries of justice and compassion. She seeks to create space for authenticity and exploration – where students, faculty and staff come together for sacred encounters that nourish the soul and inspire faithful engagement.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in European studies from Millsaps College, a Master of Divinity from Emory University's Candler School of Theology and a Juris Master in human rights from Emory School of Law.

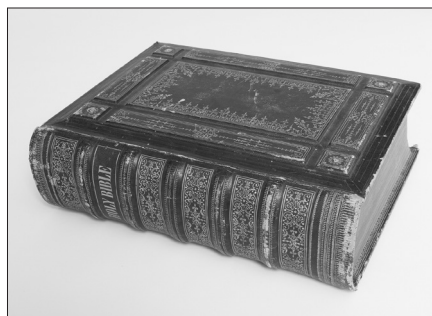
Before coming to SMU in October 2020, she served as the associate dean of the chapel and religious life at Emory University for eight years, college chaplain at Millsaps College for three years and held two appointments on the staff of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church.

A native of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Garvin serves on Millsaps College Board of Trustees, The United Methodist Church's General Board of Church and Society and the Mississippi Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. She previously served on the Georgia Prison Ministry Board and the local advisory board for AID Atlanta.

THE SMU MCKENZIE BIBLE

The McKenzie Bible was printed in 1856 and once was the property of J.W.P. McKenzie, a pioneer in Methodist education in Texas. It was used continually by McKenzie, who established McKenzie College at Clarksville, once the largest institution of higher learning in Texas. This historic Bible was presented to SMU in 1916 by Mrs. Milton Ragsdale of Dallas, a niece of McKenzie.

The McKenzie Bible was first used at SMU's 1916 Commencement Convocation, and the University is proud to use it at tonight's Baccalaureate Service.



MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding: R. Gerald Turner, President of the University  
Speaking: Elisabeth A. Garvin, Chaplain and Minister to the University  
Liturgist: Elisabeth A. Garvin, Chaplain and Minister to the University  
Readers: Paige Edwards, Candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts, Film and Media Arts  
Nathan Pupko Ginsberg, Candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration  
Musicians: Imperial Brass

Meadows School of the Arts Vocal Performance Graduates:  
Ella Dabney '24, Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and Bachelor of Science in Health and Society  
Macaela Gross '24, Bachelor of Music in Music Education  
Nickolas Jones '24, Bachelor of Music in Music Education

GUILD OF MARSHALS

Thomas Osang, Chief Marshal  
Thomas Fomby, Procession Marshal  
Jill DeTemple, Platform Marshal

BACCALAUREATE MARSHALS

Robert Harrod  
Roy L. Heller  
Maribeth Kuenzi  
Monnie McGee  
Meredith Richards  
David Sedman

B A C C A L A U R E A T E  
S E R V I C E



S O U T H E R N  
M E T H O D I S T  
U N I V E R S I T Y

*For more information about tomorrow's Commencement activities,  
please refer to [smu.edu/maycommencement](http://smu.edu/maycommencement).*

**SMU**

*The Tenth of May  
Two Thousand and Twenty-Four  
Five O'Clock in the Evening  
McFarlin Memorial Auditorium*

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

CARILLON CONCERT Quarter Past Four in the Afternoon  
David Son, Carillonneur  
Fondren Science Tower

PRELUDIAL CONCERT Imperial Brass

PROCESSIONAL Imperial Brass  
*The congregation rises when the procession reaches the doors of the auditorium.*

WORDS OF WELCOME R. Gerald Turner  
President of the University

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Elisabeth A. Garvin  
Chaplain and Minister to the University

BASED ON PSALM 100

We gather to celebrate and joyfully sing to God!  
Together, let us share our praises and thankfulness.  
**Come, let us enter into this sacred space with praise.**

You O God, are the Holy God always and forever!  
You are the Eternal One from whom all things come.  
**Come, let us enter into this sacred space with thanks.**

O God, We are your children  
created by and with your love.  
**Come, let us enter this sacred space with joy and delight. Amen.**

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MEDITATION ON WISDOM AND LEARNING\* Nathan Pupko Ginsberg  
Candidate for the degree of  
Bachelor of Business Administration  
*\* Jonah Rank*

HYMN *Come All Who Love Learning*  
Imperial Brass  
Meadows Vocal Performance Graduates

Come all who love learning, whose hearts still are yearning  
To know more the Source and the End of our days.  
All slumber and sadness cast off, and with gladness  
Praise God, who has lighted our paths in all ways.  
Through struggle and trial, against all denial,  
The truth will at least lead us forth out of night.  
God’s fire goes before us, God’s voice leads our chorus  
And beckons as we follow light into light.

Divine song ever rising in descants surprising  
Rings forth through the ages and into all lands.  
It calls out and molds us, sustains and enfolds us  
As we strive to do what creation demands.

Our hope unabating, we too are creating  
With God, who seeks most lives of love, souls of mirth.  
So let us be faithful, our hearts always grateful,  
Our eyes fastened on a new heav’n, a new earth.

Tune: ASH GROVE  
Words: Gary Hauk

READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE Paige Edwards  
*Romans 8:24-25* Candidate for the degree of  
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Film and Media Arts

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER President Turner

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON Reverend Elisabeth A. Garvin  
Chaplain and Minister  
to the University

HYMN “Forth in Thy Name, O Lord”  
Imperial Brass  
Meadows Vocal Performance Graduates

Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go,  
My daily labor to pursue;  
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know  
in all I think or speak or do.

The task Thy wisdom hath assigned,  
O let me cheerfully fulfill;  
in all my words Thy presence find,  
and prove Thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand,  
Whose eyes mine in most substance see,  
and labor on at Thy command,  
and offer all my works to Thee.

For Thee delightfully employ  
whate’er Thy bounteous grace hath given;  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with Thee to heaven.

THE BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH Reverend Garvin

May God bless us with discomfort  
At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships  
**So that we may live deep within our hearts.**

May God bless us with anger  
At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people  
**So that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.**

May God bless us with tears to shed  
For those who suffer from pain, injustice, starvation, and war,  
**So that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and to turn their  
pain into joy.**

And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe  
We can make a difference in the world,  
**So that we can do what others claim cannot be done.**  
Go forth in peace to be world changers!  
Be of good courage. Think big. Do good.  
So that those to whom love is a stranger find in you generous friends.  
**AMEN!**

*Please stay in place for the Rotunda Recessional, which follows immediately.*

THE ROTUNDA RECESSIONAL

*One of the University’s most symbolic traditions is Rotunda Passage, which includes both a processional and a recessional. Many of tonight’s candidates for graduation began their lives at SMU by processing through the Rotunda of Dallas Hall to Opening Convocation in this auditorium, symbolizing their entrance to SMU. Tonight, all candidates will recess through the Rotunda as a symbolic departure from campus and out into their future as the newest members of the SMU alumni family. Alumni who are parents of graduating seniors are serving as marshals for tonight’s recessional. They will help line the path between McFarlin Memorial Auditorium and Dallas Hall for the recessional participants.*

REMARKS Alex Alarcon ’24  
Student Body President

*Following remarks, the president of the Student Body passes the lantern that signifies continuity to the Class of 2025, represented by Michael Castle.*

Philip Wise ’78, ’81  
Chair of the SMU Alumni Board

CALL TO THE RECESSIONAL Thomas Osang  
Chief Marshal

ALMA MATER *Varsity*  
Imperial Brass  
Meadows Vocal Performance Graduates

Oh we see the Varsity,  
Varsity, Varsity,  
As she towers o’er the hill  
Over there.  
And our hearts are filled with joy,  
SMU, SMU,  
Alma Mater, we’ll be true  
Forever!

*Following Varsity, all candidates will remain standing. As soon as the Platform Party is organized in a central aisle, ushers will help guests assemble on both sides of the walk to Dallas Hall. As guests fill the walkways, the Platform Party will lead the Rotunda Recessional. Marshals will organize the candidates’ march.*

THE RECESSIONAL Imperial Brass