
Baccalaureate Service

Spring 2021



University of The Bahamas

Tuesday, 25th May 2021

7:00 p.m.

Lighthouse Fellowship Church of God

Mahogany Street, Malcolm Allotment

Nassau, Bahamas

Unleashing Our Creativity: The Key to a Sustainable Future

ORDER OF SERVICE

Presiding Pastor

Reverend Eileen L. Johnson

Prelude

Mr. Christian Justilien, flugabone

Assistant Professor of Music

Dr. Dion Cunningham, piano

Assistant Professor of Music & Education

Processional

Trumpet Tune(*G. F. Handel*)

National Anthem

Led by: Mr. Joel Sweeting, baritone-Candidate for Graduation, BBA, Marketing

Ms. Tonique Brown, soprano

Alma Mater

Written by: Christian Justilien, 2016

We've come to build together a dream for this great land
Like palm trees tall upon this landfall called Bahamaland
The future is before us like endless sea and sand;
We'll chart a course with alma mater proudly we will stand.

A beacon for these islands embraced in shallow seas,
UB will lift our spirits high for all the world to see.
With hands and hearts together we'll be a guiding light;
We'll live to praise our alma mater 'neath the clear blue skies.
We'll live to raise our alma mater's banner waving high.

Opening Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King

1. All creatures of our God and King

Lift up your voice and with us sing:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,

Thou silver moon with softer gleam,

O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,

Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,

Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,

Ye lights of evening, find a voice,

O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,

Make music for thy God to hear,

Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright,

That givest all both warmth and light,

O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. Let all things their Creator bless,

And worship God in humbleness,

Alleluia, alleluia!

To God all thanks and praise belong!

Join in the everlasting song:

O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Invocation

Mr. Daniel Thompson, President, Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas

Welcome & Remarks

Dr. Rodney D. Smith, President & CEO, University of The Bahamas

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 65:17-23

Ericka Reckley-Rolle, BSc Nursing

(All scripture readings are taken from the New International Reader's Version)

17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

18 But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.

21 And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

22 They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

23 They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

Musical Selection

You Raise Me Up – Brendan Graham/Rolf Løvland

Mr. Joel Sweeting '21, baritone

Dr. Dion Cunningham, piano

New Testament Reading: Revelation 3:7-8

Phylicia Sargent, B.Ed. Physical Education

A Letter to the Church in Philadelphia

7 “Here is what I command you to write to the church in Philadelphia.

Here are the words of Jesus, who is holy and true. He holds the key of David. No one can shut what he opens. And no one can open what he shuts. He says,

8 ‘I know what you are doing. Look! I have put an open door in front of you. No one can shut it. I know that you don’t have much strength. But you have obeyed my word. You have not said no to me.

New Testament Reading: Revelation 3:10-13

10 You have kept my command to remain strong in the faith no matter what happens. So I will keep you from the time of suffering. That time is going to come to the whole world. It will test those who live on the earth.

11 'I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have. Then no one will take away your crown.

12 Here is what I will do for anyone who has victory over sin. I will make that person a pillar in the temple of my God. They will never leave it again. I will write the name of my God on them. I will write the name of the city of my God on them. This is the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God. I will also write my new name on them.

13 Whoever has ears should listen to what the Holy Spirit says to the churches.'

Musical Selection

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands, *Spiritual* / arr. M. Bonds

Ms. Tonique Brown, soprano

Dr. Dion Cunningham, piano

Message

Reverend Eileen L. Johnson

Responsive Prayer

Led by: Candidates for Graduation

Catharine Gomez, BA Media Journalism

Waydeisha Sands, B.Ed. Business Studies

C. Gomez: Our Heavenly Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, has promised to hear us when we pray in faith. Let us therefore pray faithfully for our country, for all nations of the world and for all institutions of learning. We pray for Your blessings, O LORD, on the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, on all those who govern and lead our nation, on the Church and all its leaders.

W. Sands: Direct this nation, the church and all nations of the world in the ways of righteousness, justice and truth, that peace and stability may prevail.

C. Gomez: With Jesus Christ as our lord and saviour, who lives forever and ever, and intercedes eternally on our behalf, we hold up to Your tender mercy the leaders of all educational institutions and all those who are in positions of public trust, authority and leadership, that they may fulfill their high calling with integrity, humility, fairness and grace.

- W. Sands:** Give wisdom to all who are in positions of public trust, authority and leadership; that they may promote the prosperity, godliness and peace of Your people everywhere.
- C. Gomez:** We pray for the unfailing guidance of Your Holy Spirit on those who teach, as well as those who learn from their teachings. We ask Your blessings on the graduating class of 2021 of the University of The Bahamas, the instructors and all other students of the University of The Bahamas. Enable them by Your grace to accept the demands of scholarship, the privilege of schooling and the responsibility of education.
- W. Sands:** In the current environment of distant and online learning, we pray for continued wisdom, knowledge and understanding for students and educators in all places of education and learning. In our homes, schools and especially the University of The Bahamas. May true knowledge, sound wisdom and godly discipline forever be found.
- C. Gomez:** We pray for all the departments, faculties and offices within the University of The Bahamas, that their work may edify the people of this land and bear faithful witness to the University's purpose, its mission and vision.
- W. Sands:** Give us the courage and willingness to utilize our resources and talents rightly in the service of others and do it all to Your honor and glory.
- C. Gomez:** Strengthen the bonds of family to carry forward Your work, for You are our True Master Teacher. Thank You for the tasks which demanded our best efforts; unite us in Your truth and engulf us in Your love that through us, Your glory may be revealed to the world.
- W. Sands:** For ourselves and all those who confess the Name and Word of Jesus Christ, we humbly beseech You, who has called us out of the darkness and into Your marvelous light; for Your favor, Your mercy, Your grace and Your forgiveness of our sins, so that we may show forth Your excellence today and forevermore.
- C. Gomez:** That our pursuits and the advancement of our knowledge and skills may forever be in the service of that true humanity, which is created in Your image, the image of God. Please accept, O LORD, our thanks and praise for all You have done for us and will continue to do into our futures
- W. Sands:** Enable us, O LORD, to be worthy of Your presence, and to glorify Your name and enhance the reputation of the University of The Bahamas, as we continue in the pursuit of Knowledge, Truth, Integrity and Excellence.
- C. Gomez & W. Sands:** Merciful God, we commend to You, ourselves and all those who need Your help and correction. Where there is hatred, let us give love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; where there is darkness, light. Grant that we may not seek so much to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for in giving we receive, in pardoning, we are pardoned, and, in dying, we are born into eternal life. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Closing Hymn

Praise to the Lord the Almighty, the King of Creation

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation:
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Praise Him in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e're have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

4. Praise to the Lord! Oh let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him!

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Reverend Eileen L. Johnson

Recessional Te Deum (M.A. Charpentier)

Mr. Christian Justilien, flugabone

Dr. Dion Cunningham, piano

Spring 2021 Baccalaureate Planning Committee Members

Ruth Sumner – Chair

Berthamae Walker – Co-chair

Glenelle Scantlebury

Shirley Curtis

Llewelyn Curling

Paul Jones

Thalia Micklewhite

