University of Pennsylvania

THE CLASS OF
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

The Baccalaureate Ceremony

May 16, 2021
PRIÈRE À NOTRE-DAME;  
SUITE GOTHIQUE, Op.25  
by Léon Boëllmann  

Juliana Tsż Yan Choi, C’21

INTRODUCTION  
Charles Howard  
Chaplain, University of Pennsylvania

STANDARDS  
by Leslie Odom, Jr  
Counterparts  
featuring Henry Platt, C’21

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LENAPE TRIBE  
Connor Hughes Oxendine Beard, C’21

WELCOME  
Amy Gutmann  
President, University of Pennsylvania

THE SHEHECHEYANU  
Shira M. Silver, C’21

A SELECTION FROM THE ISA UPAISHAD  
Amit Lohe, EAS’21, W’21

THE OPENING VERSE OF THE QUR’AN  
Mobamed Aly, EAS’21, W’21

THE BEATITUDES  
Courtney Butterworth, C’21

DIDADI  
by Moussa Traore  
African Rhythms

INTRODUCTION  
Wendell Pritchett  
Provost, University of Pennsylvania
Shadows grow long on the campus,
Twilight has come again.
Warm copper rays streak the golden haze
As peace settles down on Penn.

And soft and low,
In the pale afterglow,
The voices of students ring
With songs and cheers
Of their fair college years,
The Songs they love to sing:

“Post jucundam juventutem
Vivat academia.”
Sing the praise of college days.
Sing of Pennsylvania!
THE BACCALAUREATE CEREMONY

Baccalaureate is the ceremony during Commencement Season in which the President, Provost, student participants, and a guest speaker addresses aspects of the moral life and its relation to liberal education through remarks, speeches, song, and readings from sacred texts. By history and practice the baccalaureate is associated with the bachelor’s degree. As such, it is a distinctly undergraduate event.

The participation of students from various religious traditions reflects the religious origins of the ceremony in which a sermon was delivered. Today, however, as a testament to our religiously and culturally diverse student body, readings, and music from traditions other than Christianity and guest speakers who are not necessarily clergy make the baccalaureate ceremony one in which a wide constituency of the graduating class – along with their families and friends – may participate.