

# Baccalaureate Service

2011



Philander Smith College  
Little Rock, Arkansas

T H I N K J U S T I C E

# History and Mission

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## PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE

Officially founded in 1877, Philander Smith College is the result of the first attempt west of the Mississippi River to make education available to freedmen (former African-American slaves). The forerunner of the College was Walden Seminary, named in honor of Dr. J. M. Walden, one of the originators and the first Corresponding Secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society.

In 1882, Dr. G. W. Gray, president of Little Rock University, the institution for the Arkansas Annual Conference, met Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Mr. Philander Smith of Oak Park, Illinois, while soliciting funds. The late Mr. Philander Smith had been a liberal donor to Asiatic Missions and had developed an interest in the work of the church in the South. In making her gift to Dr. Gray, Mrs. Smith designated \$10,500 for Walden Seminary. The trustees accepted the gift and gave it special recognition by changing the name of the struggling Walden Seminary to Philander Smith College. A new site for the school had already been purchased at Eleventh and IZard Streets. The gift made by Mrs. Smith was a significant contribution toward the construction of Budlong Hall, the first brick building on the new site.

Philander Smith College was chartered as a four-year college on March 3, 1883. The first baccalaureate degree was conferred in 1888. The first president, the Reverend Thomas Mason resigned in 1896. He was succeeded by a member of the faculty of the College, the Reverend James Monroe Cox, Professor of Ancient Languages. Dr. Cox retired from the presidency of the College in 1924, and was succeeded by the Reverend George Collins Taylor, a graduate of the College. Dr. Taylor served as president from 1924 to 1936. In May, 1936, Dr. Marquis LaFayette Harris succeeded Dr. Taylor as president of the College. During the administration of Dr. Harris, the campus area was greatly enlarged. In July, 1948, the site of the Little Rock Junior College, adjacent to the south end of Philander Smith's campus, was purchased. On March 30, 1949, after an extensive program of academic improvement, Philander Smith College was fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Harris was succeeded by Dr. Roosevelt David Crockett, a graduate of the institution on June 1, 1961. Dr. Dixon, Philander Smith's sixth president, took office January 1, 1965. Dr. Dixon was succeeded by Dr. Walter R. Hazzard who took office as the seventh president of the College on July 1, 1969. Dr. Hazzard was succeeded by Dr. Grant S. Shockley. Dr. Grant S. Shockley took office as the eighth president of Philander Smith College on January 1, 1980. Dr. Shockley was succeeded by Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr. Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr., elected unanimously July 19, 1983 by the Board of Trustees, took office August 20, 1983. Dr. Carter resigned the presidency of Philander Smith College in August 1987. He was succeeded by Dr. Myer L. Titus, a 1954 graduate of the institution. Dr. Titus retired as President on June 30, 1998. Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed was elected by the Board of Trustees in February, 1998 as the eleventh and first female President of Philander Smith College. In the summer of 2004, Dr. Julius Scott was appointed by the Board of Trustees to serve as the interim president while the College completed a national search for the next president. In October of 2004, the Board announced the selection of Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough as the 12th president of Philander Smith College. He took office on December 13, 2004.

Philander Smith College has a rich Christian heritage. It has maintained a close relationship with the church across the years. It acknowledges a definite obligation to The United Methodist Church. The College receives funding from The General Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry of The United Methodist Church. Philander Smith College strives to instill the desire to serve in its faculty and students. This desire is at the core of its educational philosophy.

Philander Smith College is a small, privately supported, historically Black four-year liberal arts institution related to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. Currently offering four degrees including the Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Business Administration, and the Bachelor of Social Work. Philander Smith College, the only United Negro College Fund member institution in Arkansas, strives to provide a quality college education for all regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin or ethnic background.

### MISSION:

**Our mission is to graduate academically accomplished students, grounded as advocates for social justice, intentionally changing the world for the better.**

The  
Baccalaureate Service  
of  
Philander Smith College

Friday, April 29, 2011

7 p.m.

M. L. Harris Auditorium

Little Rock, Arkansas

# Baccalaureate Service

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Ms. Theresa Webb, organist

+PROCESSIONAL

*War March of the Priest*  
Ms. Theresa Webb

Felix Mendelssohn

(Acolytes — Senior Class members\_Araceli Espinoza, Sammy Buffin, Selena Jordan, Chinelo Bivens)

+THE BACCALAUREATE LITANY

**Leader:** Today is a gift from God. Gathered on the edge of a milestone, we offer to God what we have to give—ourselves and the stirrings of our hearts and minds. Let us bless God together.

**ALL:** **Blessed be the Name of the Lord!**

Graduates: Strange, surreal, like a high peak where we can look back over the way we've come and ahead to where we have not yet walked. Exciting! Scary! We're ready!

**ALL:** **Blessed be the Name of the Lord!**

Parents & family: Where did the time go? Suddenly babies have become young women and men, explorers and natives in a world in which we are aliens.

**ALL:** **Blessed be the Name of the Lord!**

Faculty & Staff: We did our job—coaching, challenging, encouraging, and risking our passion in hope that they would not only turn the tassel, but believe in themselves as gifted, lovable people who are contributors in a world that needs them.

**ALL:** **Blessed be the Name of the Lord!**

Leader: Tradition and vision mean so much to us: God, love, justice, faith, hope, kindness, the Ten Commandments, and the Great Commandments. With you, we have continued to learn the ways of peace and life. May the holy and divine Life of the Word be a pathway for you as you commence your journey, and find your way.

**ALL:** **Blessed be the Lord! How good it is, O God, to share this moment on tiptoe expectancy: grateful, alive, feeling whole and entering into the rest of our lives. Thank you for this milestone. Blessed be the Name of the Lord!**

*(By Daniel Benedict, General Board of Discipleship, The United Methodist Church)*

+THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

James W. Johnson  
J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty; let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet, come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last,  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

+ *All who are able, please stand.*

# Baccalaureate Service

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God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, Our God, where we met Thee;  
Lest, our heart drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand.  
True to our GOD, true to our native land.

THE GREETING

Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough  
President, Philander Smith College

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Proverbs 3:13-18

Victoria Brown, Senior Class

**RESPONSE:** Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL LESSON:

St. John 21:1-6

Blenda Downs, Senior Class

**RESPONSE:** Thanks be to God. Hallelujah. Amen.

PRAYER

Jacques Edwards, Senior Class Chaplain

ANTHEM

Acclamation *Hallelujah, Praise The Lord* arr. Robert Ray  
Philander Smith Collegiate Choir  
Mr. Karliss Chapple, Director

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Thurman Green, Senior Class

ANTHEM

*God Made Who I Am* by Mississippi Mass Choir  
Philander Smith Collegiate Choir  
Mr. Karliss Chapple, Director

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON

The Reverend Telley L. Gadson, Senior Pastor  
Saint Mark United Methodist Church, Sumter, South Carolina

+ALMA MATER

Dear Alma Mater, tried and true, We'll win respect and love for you,  
We pledge our hearts to you each day, To do our best, at work, at play.

Dear PSC, when from your fold, We'll lift the dear old Green and Gold.  
O'er Alma Mater vigil keep, Her high ideals we'll strive to meet.

When college days are at an end, Our hearts will ever toward you bend.  
With loyalty, we'll always be, A part of you, Dear PSC.

BENEDICTION

The Reverend Ronnie Miller-Yow

+RECESSIONAL

*Trumpet Voluntary*  
Ms. Theresa Webb

Jeremiah Clark

+ *All who are able, please stand.*

# Baccalaureate Speaker

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## REVEREND TELLEY LYNNETTE GADSON



REVEREND TELLEY LYNNETTE GADSON

\_\_\_ Reverend Telley Lynnette Gadson is a native of Hollywood, South Carolina; she was raised as a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church. Reverend Gadson graduated from the University of South Carolina, with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a minor in Religious Studies. She graduated from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia with a Master's of Divinity degree and certification in Black Church Studies. She serves as the Pastor of Saint Mark United Methodist Church in Sumter, South Carolina.

With sensitivity and a warm smile as her hallmarks, Reverend Gadson leads by example and believes that everyone has a place in the building of God's kingdom. An anointed preacher, a tenacious teacher, and a compassionate counselor, Reverend Gadson models her life after the African-American spiritual: *"If I can help somebody as I travel along the way, then my living shall not be in vain."*

# PSC Board of Trustees

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*Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough (Ex-Officio)*

# Commencement and Regalia

## COMMENCEMENT

The term “Commencement” derives from a practice in the Medieval University where it was customary for a candidate for an academic degree to present a public lecture or disputation to the faculty and other scholars gathered to hear it. If the disputation was successfully defended and accepted, the candidate was “Admitted” to the degree “with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.” This first public lecture or disputation was originally called an “Inception.” It signified the beginning or “Commencement” of the scholar’s academic career in the degree to which he had been admitted. The ceremony surrounding this inception or “graduation” has subsequently come to be called Commencement. Today, Philander Smith College celebrates its 134th Commencement.

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The distinctive dress associated with academic processions and convocations dates from the Middle Ages, when long-sleeved, hooded gowns were necessary for warmth in the unheated stone colleges. Most of the scholars were clerics in holy orders, and they wore cloaks to which were attached hoods that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads. Over the centuries, much diversity occurred in academic costumes. To bring some order to this diversity, in 1894 in the United States, the Intercollegiate Commission met in New York and agreed on a code of academic dress which has become the standard for most colleges and universities. According to this code, both the styling and color of the regalia have significance. The design of the gown indicates the degree. The bachelor’s gown is simple, with a full sleeve. The master’s gown is much like the bachelor’s, except for the long sleeves, which hang loose. The doctor’s gown is fuller and more elaborate. It has velvet edging and three velvet stripes on the full sleeves. Usually, the color of the gown is black. Hoods, which are worn over the gowns, are similar for all degrees, although differing slightly in length. The candidates for the bachelor’s degree usually do not wear the hood. The hood has a velvet edging which indicates the area of the degree, and the inside or lining of the hood is satin in the colors of the college or university granting the degree. A partial list of the degree colors to be found on the edge of the hood or the trimming on the doctor’s gown is given below. The usual cap, proper for all degrees, is the black mortarboard, although some colleges use the beret. Tassels, usually black, are worn over the left front quarter of the cap for a degree holder and on the right for a candidate for a degree. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders may also wear tassels in the colors of the college or university granting the degree.

Agriculture.....Maize  
Arts, Letters, Humanities.....White  
Business Administration.....Drab  
Dentistry.....Lilac  
Economics.....Copper  
Education.....Light Blue  
Engineering.....Orange  
Fine Arts, Architecture.....Brown  
Forestry.....Russet  
Journalism.....Crimson  
Law.....Purple  
Library Science.....Lemon

Music .....Pink  
Medicine.....Green  
Oratory Speech.....Silver Gray  
Philosophy.....Dark Blue  
Physical Education.....Sage Green  
Public Administration.....Peacock Blue  
Public Health.....Salmon  
Science.....Golden Yellow  
Social Science.....Cream  
Social Services.....Citron  
Theology/Divinity.....Scarlet  
Veterinary Science.....Gray



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Philander Smith College  
900 Daisy Bates Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
[www.philander.edu](http://www.philander.edu)