

# **Southwest California Synod Baccalaureate**

## **Sunday, June 14, 2020**

### **Gathering**

**Welcome** | Bishop Guy Erwin

**Greeting + Prayer of the Day**

**Gathering Song** | “Every Move I Make” – Lutheran Retreats, Camps & Conferences

### **Word**

**Scripture Reading** - Matthew 9:35-10:8

**Song** | “It Is Well” - Tyra Dennis & Houston Youth Gathering House Band

**Sermon/ Commencement Address** | Shakari Smith

**Song + Presentation of Graduates Slideshow** | “Born to Reign” - Tyra Dennis

**Blessing of the Graduates** | Bishop Guy Erwin

**Prayers of the People** (written by the Graduates)

Dear Lord,

Bless this graduating class and the next steps on their journey. Grant them courage, provide them bountiful opportunities, and lead them with your teachings.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray that the world would show more forgiveness and love toward one another.

That the world would come together and put differences aside to make change.

We pray for dismantling and disruption.

We pray that the world be filled with peace and positivity.

And we pray that the class of 2020 will have ultimate success.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray to make the world a better place by loving one another and knowing God.

To be there for those suffering hurting and affected during this time... to show light in new life

and for the future to become better than ever.

We pray for everyone to come together.

Working together.

Understanding of all people's perspectives.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for protection from the coronavirus.

That the Lord God would end this pandemic so we can live our lives again with our friends.

For peace and courage... for each of us to continue pursuing our purpose in these uncertain times.

To continue to be rooted in faith, hope, and love every day.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God, we pray for peace in this difficult time.

We pray for peace and justice.

For peace and healing.

Healing for those struggling right now.

Our prayer is that we remain humble and kind to each other in the same manner that Jesus is humble and kind to us.

We pray for world peace.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray that we resist the urge to aim low... or settle in life for what is convenient or safe. Within all of us there is a particular purpose as to why we are here, and our mission is to find it and execute our assignments with the love and integrity that would give Glory to our God. We pray that we ask for help when needed and utilize and give back to our communities.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change,  
Courage to change the things we can,  
and the Wisdom to know the difference.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for wisdom and a clear path.

We seek wisdom and pray that we can use our gifts to grow the Kingdom of God.

We pray that we all learn to live in an increasingly more positive state of mind.  
And that we keep looking ahead.

We pray that we don't give up on life.

For our class to have the strength to overcome hardships.

That we trust God.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We hope and pray that all the graduates find something that makes them smile every day.

That Bella knows that she is loved.

That Kari shows her light to the world through her teaching and art.

That our graduates may always know God's love.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray that the class of 2020 will continue to be resilient  
and use their strengths to bring out the best in all of our world.

We pray we find jobs and we bring up students that will change the world in the best way possible.

We pray that the graduates keep their eyes on the prize, and their faith in God.

Class of 2020, it has not been an easy year for us but know that God is always with us from the beginning to the end and he will continue to bless us in our future lives.

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

## **Sending**

### **Benediction**

**Sending Song** | “Make a Difference” - Rachel Kurtz

*Kirra Hemphill & Matthew Waldman. Masters of Ceremony*