PASTORAL PRAYER

COMMENCEMENT SERVICE

Wellesley College
June 3, 1972

H. Paul Sautmire
Chaplain

Let us pray.

S God of blessing, free our hearts and minds and bodies to celebrate this day. Take away our heavy halos of solemnity. Let us play as children of your Grace. We praise you for our sister the sun, for our mailing camera-ed parents, for our genial preening faculty, for all manner of good degrees and fine honors, for everyone today who beats the drums and sounds the horns of festal joy.

0 God of justice, free our hearts and minds and bodies to rededicate this day. Silence the dulling noise of our sacred personal conceits. Help us walk anew to the cadence of your Righteousness. Touch our ears so we may hear the cries of all who suffer, in any need — a friend burdened with loneliness and despair, a neighborhood suffocating in the sludge of affluence, a city ravaged by poverty and discrimination, a whole country tortured by a thousand brilliant bombers.

0 God of hope, free our hearts and minds and bodies to dream this day. Bracket those pedestrianfvisions of practicality, so that we all, according to our gifts, may be poets of your Providence. Help us to lean into our future, with courage and vitality, with the land of peace and compassion held fast before our eyes.

0 God of blessing, God of justice, God of hope, be with us now, we beseech you, and abide with us, as we join together in this place, as we play and walk and dream along our many ways. For your mercy's sake, Amen.