



Baccalaureate

• SPRING 2026 •

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026 • 11:00 AM

FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY • SUSIE C. HOLLEY RELIGIOUS CENTER
15800 NW 42ND AVENUE, MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33054

ORDER OF SERVICE

"Built on Legacy ~ Bound for Greatness"

PRESIDING

Rev. Dr. Jamila R. Jackson | *Dean of Campus Ministry*

PROCESSIONAL MARSHALS

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Jacqueline B. Hill | *Executive Vice President and Provost*

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Deborah Gomez | *Assistant Professor of Spanish*

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & AERONAUTICAL SCIENCE

Dr. Roselee Payne | *Chair of the Business Department, Associate Professor of Management*

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dr. Suzanne Brooks | *Assistant Professor of Reading*

THE PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Miami Carol City Senior High School | Junior ROTC

OPENING PRONOUNCEMENT

Dr. Jacqueline B. Hill

INVOCATION

Ms. Kortney Purnell | *Class of 2026*

MUSICAL SELECTION

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

The Ambassador Chorale

PRESIDENT'S WORDS OF GUIDANCE

President William C. McCormick, Jr. | *President, Florida Memorial University*

GREETINGS

Dr. h.c. Bernard Jennings | *Chair, FMU Board of Trustees*

THE OCCASION

Ms. Sierra Johnson | *Senior Class President 2025-2026*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Ms. Kayla West | *Senior Class Vice President 2025-2026*

MUSICAL SELECTION

The Ambassador Chorale | Dr. Argarita Johnson-Palavicini | *Director*

BACCALAUREATE SPEAKER

Pastor Anthony Burrell | *Lead Pastor, Living Waters Christian Fellowship*

PRESIDENTIAL PRESENTATION TO THE SPEAKER

President William C. McCormick, Jr.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ms. Carnessia Patton | *Class of 2026*

FINAL CHARGE

Dr. Jacqueline B. Hill

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jamila R. Jackson

CLOSING PRONOUNCEMENT



GUEST SPEAKER

Pastor Anthony Burrell

Lead Pastor • Living Waters Christian Fellowship • Lauderdale Lakes, Florida

Anthony Burrell was born on July 13, 1959, in Williamsburg, Virginia, and was educated in the public schools of New Kent County, Virginia. He graduated from New Kent County High School in June 1977.

With over 45 years of ministry experience, Reverend Burrell answered his call to ministry in September 1980. He preached his initial sermon on February 1, 1981, at Saint Luke Baptist Church in Plum Point, Virginia, where he was later ordained on July 10, 1983. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Philosophy from

Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia, in May 1983, and later received a Master of Divinity from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, in December 1989.

Reverend Burrell is deeply passionate about preaching and teaching God's Word and welcomes every opportunity to share his faith in Christ with others. By God's grace, he has impacted many lives through his faithful service and ministry. His mission is to help others grow and mature in their Christian faith.

He has been married to his wife, Virginia C. Burrell, since June 30, 1984. Together, they have built a strong and faithful family and have been blessed with four children: Courtney (a graduate of Howard University), Jessica (a graduate of Hampton University), Anthony Carter (a graduate of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee), and Brianna Rose (a graduate of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton). All of their children are actively serving the Lord in their respective churches.

Anthony and Virginia Burrell are also proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.

His favorite Bible verses include III John 4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth," and Psalm 107:1, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!"

LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING

*Written by James Weldon Johnson and
composed by John Rosamond Johnson*

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the list'ning 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 chast'ning 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 has been watered.

We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered.
Out from a gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast 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 hearts 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.

ALMA MATER

Marie A. Ferguson, J.H. Brown

As the breeze thru tall palm trees
Seems to sing thy sacred name,
The sons and daughters love to spread
O'er all the land thy well earned fame.

We love thy halls, thy hallowed walls,
And the friends who gave thee birth;
The truths we learned as each heart yearned
For higher, nobler things on earth.

Should future years bring joy or tears,
To thy name we'll e'er be true;
To thee we pledge our loyalty
And dedicate our lives to you.

REFRAIN:

*Florida Memorial, Florida Memorial
How we love to sing thy praise;
We'll be loyal, ever loyal,
And for thee our voices raise.*