

# A Blessing for Graduates

**God** of joy and hope, we thank you for this time of graduation.

**Your** spirit of wisdom has empowered these student's hard work and discipline in such a way that their hunger for learning has been nourished with knowledge, discovery, creativity, and determination.

**As** they prepare to receive their diplomas, may they walk in prayerful gratitude for the many blessings that have made this moment real and filled with great potential.

**In** gratitude, we pray for their families and the many who have sacrificed and worked to witness this hopeful moment.

**In** gratitude, we pray for the professors and administrators who have challenged, cared, and crafted them along their academic journey.

**In** gratitude, we pray for your fellow students who have taught you more about authentic Christian friendship.

**God**, even as they have faced challenges and accomplished much, we understand that their lives move into a new chapter where there will be more challenges to face and more will be demanded of them in order to accomplish good things in your name. May your grace cover their anxieties and fears so that they may remain encouraged about the future.

**Give** them patience and hope to energize their search for work that is just and makes proper use of their gifts.

**Give** them courage to face the challenges of carving out a place in society where we all might live in peace, service and gratitude.

**Give** them strength to resist the temptations of greed, laziness, pride and envy as they strive to do and be their best.

**May** your spirit guide them as they unfold the next chapters of their lives. Help them to enliven hope in the world and bring good things to Your Kingdom. And, may this celebration be a reflection of the blessings that we find in knowing and loving you.

For this is the day that the Lord has made. We are glad and rejoice in it! Amen.