CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST COMMEMORATING

THE CONSECRATION OF

THE RIGHT REVEREND BARBARA CLEMENTINE HARRIS

FIRST WOMAN BISHOP IN THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

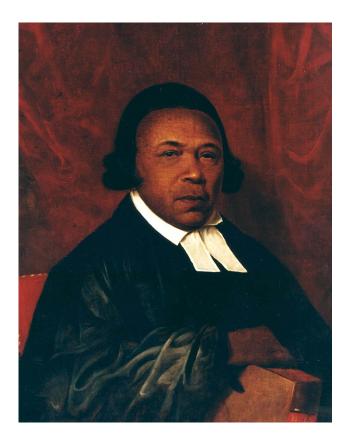
AND

THE LIFE AND WITNESS OF

THE REVEREND ABSALOM JONES

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN PRIEST OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH





TRINITY CATHEDRAL CLEVELAND, OHIO SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

BARBARA CLEMENTINE HARRIS (1930-2020)

Barbara Clementine Harris was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 12, 1930. She was active in the civil rights struggles of the 1960s and continued as a powerful advocate for the civil enfranchisement of all people in the United States. Ordained as a priest in 1980, her ministry was in both the parish and the public square. She continued to address issues of civil injustice while also offering a prophetic critique of The Episcopal Church for its homophobia, racism, and sexism.

Although General Convention included the provision for electing and consecrating women to be bishops in 1976, no woman became a bishop until Barbara Harris was elected as bishop suffragan for the Diocese of Massachusetts on September 24, 1988. Her election and subsequent consecration were not without controversy, including threats on her life by those opposed to the inclusion of women in the House of Bishops. Despite these threats, she was consecrated bishop on February 11, 1989. Sixty bishops served as co-consecrators before a congregation of eight thousand people.

As a bishop, Harris shaped a generation of leaders through her powerful preaching as chief pastor at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston; her witnessing, preaching, and teaching in the Diocese of Massachusetts and beyond; her advocacy for, in her words, "the least, the last, and the lost"; and her joy in sharing her faith, especially through hymns. She said of her work as a bishop, "I certainly don't want to be one of the boys. I want to offer my peculiar gifts as a black woman . . . a sensitivity and an awareness that comes out of more than a passing acquaintance with oppression."

Bishop Harris served the people of the Diocese of Massachusetts as their bishop suffragan for thirteen years, until her retirement in 2002. After her retirement, she served from 2003 to 2007 as an assisting bishop in the Diocese of Washington, D.C. and she continued to be in demand worldwide as a preacher until the end of her life.

The first woman ordained as a bishop in The Episcopal Church and the worldwide Anglican Communion, Barbara Harris has been joined by more than fifty women in the episcopate. She died on March 13, 2020.

ABSALOM JONES (1746-1818)

Absalom Jones was born enslaved to Abraham Wynkoop, a wealthy Anglican planter in 1746 in Delaware. He was working in the fields when Abraham recognized that he was an intelligent child and ordered that he be trained to work in the house. Absalom eagerly accepted instruction in reading. He also saved money he was given and bought books (among them a primer, a spelling book, and a bible). Abraham Wynkoop died in 1753 and by 1755 his younger son Benjamin had inherited the plantation. When Absalom was sixteen Benjamin Wynkoop sold the plantation and Absalom's mother, sister, and five brothers. Wynkoop brought Absalom to Philadelphia where he opened a store and joined St. Peter's Church. In Philadelphia Benjamin Wynkoop permitted Absalom to attend a night school for black people that was operated by Quakers following the tradition established by abolitionist teacher Anthony Benezet.

At twenty, with the permission of their masters, Absalom married Mary Thomas who was enslaved to Sarah King who also worshiped at St. Peter's. The Rev. Jacob Duche performed the wedding at Christ Church. Absalom and his father-in-law, John Thomas, used their savings, and sought donations and loans primarily from prominent Quakers, in order to purchase Mary's freedom. Absalom and Mary worked very hard to repay the money borrowed to buy her freedom. They saved enough money to buy property and to buy Absalom's freedom. Although he repeatedly asked Benjamin Wynkoop to allow him to buy his freedom, Wynkoop refused. Absalom persisted because as long as he was enslaved Wynkoop could take his property and his money. Finally, in 1784 Benjamin Wynkoop freed Absalom by granting him a manumission. Absalom continued to work in Wynkoop's store as a paid employee.

Absalom left St. Peter's Church and began worshiping at St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church. He met Richard Allen who had been engaged to preach at St. George's and the two became lifelong friends. Together, in 1787, they founded the Free African Society, a mutual aid benevolent organization that was the first of its kind organized by and for black people. Members of the Society paid monthly dues for the benefit of those in need. At St. George's, Absalom and Richard served as lay ministers for the black membership. The active evangelism of Jones and Allen greatly increased black membership at St. George's. The black members worked hard to help raise money to build an upstairs gallery intended to enlarge the church. The church leadership decided to segregate the black worshipers in the gallery, without notifying them. During a Sunday morning service a dispute arose over the seats black members had been instructed to take in the gallery and ushers attempted to physically remove them by first accosting Absalom Jones. Most of the black members present indignantly walked out of St. George's in a body.

Prior to the incident at St. George's the Free African Society had initiated religious services. Some of these services were presided over by The Rev. Joseph Pilmore, an assistant at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The Society established communication with similar black groups in other cities. In 1792, the Society began to build the African Church of Philadelphia. The church membership took a denominational vote and decided to affiliate with the Episcopal Church. Richard Allen withdrew from the effort as he favored affiliation with the Methodist Church. Absalom Jones was asked to provide pastoral leadership and after prayer and reflection he accepted the call.

The African Church was dedicated on July 17, 1794. The Rev. Dr. Samuel Magaw, rector St. Paul's Church, preached the dedicatory address. Dr. Magaw was assisted at the service by The Rev. James Abercrombie, assistant minister at Christ Church. Soon thereafter the congregation applied for membership in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania on the following conditions: 1) that they be received as an organized body; 2) that they have control over their own local affairs; 3) that Absalom Jones be licensed as layreader and, if qualified, be ordained. In October 1794, it was admitted to the Diocese as the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. The church was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1796. Bishop William White ordained Jones as deacon in 1795 and as priest on September 21, 1802.

Jones was an earnest preacher. He denounced slavery, and warned the oppressors to "clean their hands of slaves." To him, God was the Father, who always acted on "behalf of the oppressed and distressed." But it was his constant visiting and mild manner that made him beloved by his congregation and by the community. St. Thomas Church grew to over 500 members during its first year. The congregants formed a day school and were active in moral uplift, self-empowerment, and anti-slavery activities. Known as "the Black Bishop of the Episcopal Church," Jones was an example of persistent faith in God and in the Church as God's instrument. Jones died on February 13, 1818.

ORGAN PRELUDE

A Great Cloud of Witnesses (2023)

Buck McDaniel (b. 1994)

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us...

Hebrews 12:1

HYMNS IN PROCESSION

Hymnal #609 - Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Gardiner



Words: Frank Mason North (1850-1935), alt. Music: Gardiner, from Sacred Melodies, 1815; arr. William Gardiner (1770-1853).

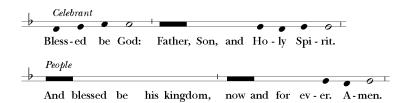






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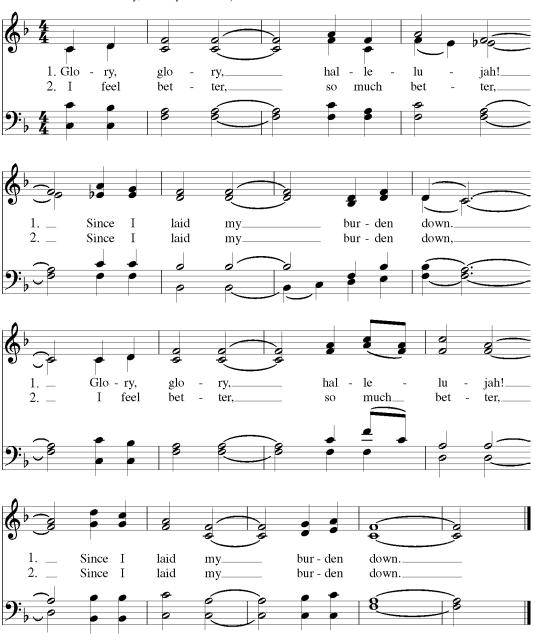
OPENING ACCLAMATION



Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

LEVAS #130 – Glory, Glory Hallelujah



- 3. Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" etc.
- 4. I am climbing Jacob's ladder. etc.

THE COLLECTS OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of the prophets, we give you thanks for calling Barbara Clementine Harris to the office of bishop. Open our eyes to behold the wondrous works you have prepared for your church in calling women to share in the ministry of the episcopate. May we, inspired by their example as faithful shepherds, wise teachers, courageous prophets, and guardians of the faith, proclaim the Good News and carry out the works of Jesus Christ in the world; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Set us free, Heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON

Isaiah 58:6-12

Lector The Word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 33:18-22

Sung by the Saint Paul's Youth Choir

David Hurd (b.1950)

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those fear him, On those who wait upon his love,

> To pluck their lives from death, And to feed them in time of famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.

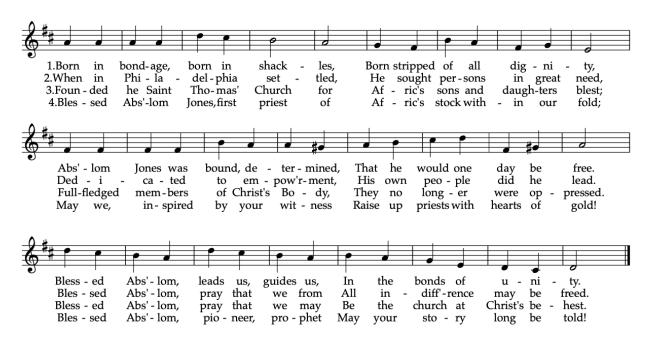
Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, For in his holy Name we put our trust.

Let your loving kindness, O Lord, be upon us, As we have put our trust in you.

GRADUAL HYMN

LEVAS #44 - Blessed Absalom

Lauda Anima



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Giory to you, Lord Cir

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris Bishop Suffragan of Massachusetts

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us turn our minds and hearts to the larger community of which we are a part, saying Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For the good earth and the created universe: Give us the will and the strength to protect and conserve the air, the water, the land, the space and all its creatures.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For all peoples of every race, nation and disposition: May your love so embrace us all, that its power overcomes our conflicts, our defenses and our fears. Quicken us to our true nature as your children that we may love one another.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For all the churches of the world: May we grow together in our understanding of mission, that we may be strengthened in unity and united in acts of service. Call us to the one discipleship with its many gifts.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For all Christian communities: Renew our vision and experience of Christian Community as ever birthing and transforming, ever young and open to risk, ever old and full of wisdom.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For those who live in fear and confusion, whether they be migrants or stateless people in refugee camps, or settled people in threatened communities: Give to the vulnerable strength and to the secure vulnerability, that our human compassion for one another may end injustice and give our societies a human face.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For the world community, especially for those who suffer most, for the emotionally and physically ill, for all who have died, especially for victims of gun violence and human rights abuses, for those who have died from Covid 19, for casualties of the war in Ukraine, for those who have perished in the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, and for those who grieve. May we all, out of our own suffering, give comfort and support.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

For the larger community around us, especially for the newborn children, the homeless and the imprisoned: May we create a world where shelter, food and medical care are available for all and where the law protects people for a better chance and better choices.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Celebrant Holy God, creator of all that is, lover of the human family and helper of all in need, hear the prayers we offer in faith, strengthen us to follow the example of your faithful servants Barbara Harris and Absalom Jones and to join together in making no peace with oppression.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The ministers and people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome & Announcements

Wendy Wilson Walker Midwest Regional Director, Union of Black Episcopalians
The Very Rev. Bernard J. Owens Dean, Trinity Cathedral
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr. Bishop of Ohio

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

This morning's offering will be sent to the Presiding Bishop's Fund and will be forwarded to the Historically Black Episcopal Universities: St. Augustine's University in Raleigh, North Carolina Voorhees University in Denmark, South Carolina.

Please make checks payable to NOCUBE (Northern Ohio Chapter Union of Black Episcopalians)

SOLO AT THE OFFERTORY

Sung by Matthew Jones, tenor

Guide My Feet: In Tribute to Leontyne Price

Traditional Spiritual Arr. Jacqueline B. Hairston (b.1932)

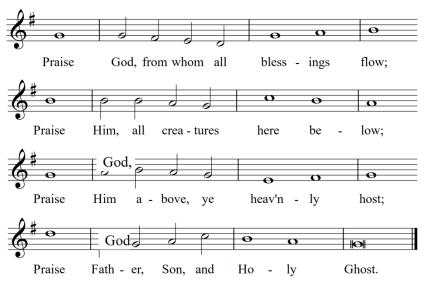
Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race For I don't want to run this race in vain.

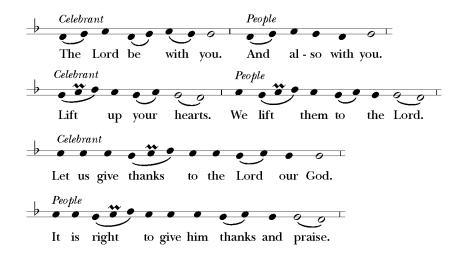
Stan' by me, Lord, while I run this race For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Please stand.

Doxology



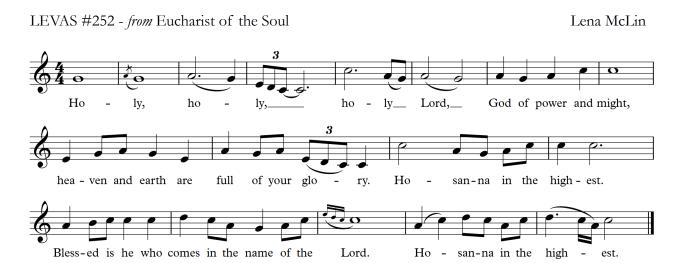
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Celebrant continues

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the light of the world in their generations. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: in your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of your sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the Mystery of Faith:

Tune: We Shall Overcome

Jesus Christ has died. Jesus Christ is risen. Jesus Christ will come again. O deep in my heart, I do believe: Jesus Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

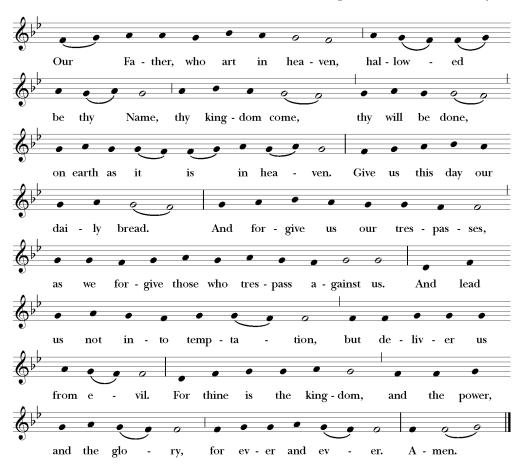
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and the Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

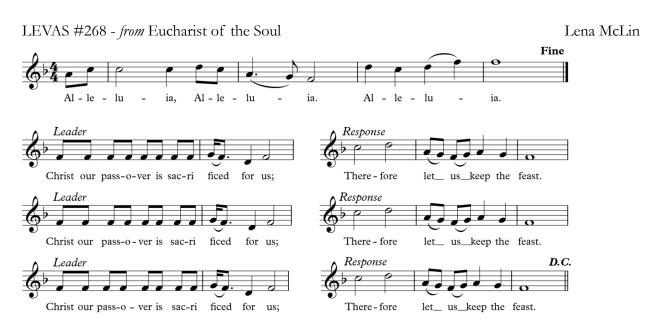
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM



Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ushers will direct the People to the Communion administration stations. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Simply let the priest know that you need one.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit

Traditional Spiritual Arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit, Moving in my heart, I will pray.

Up on the mountain my Lord spoke,
Out of his mouth came fire and smoke.
All around me looked so fine,
Asked my Lord if all was mine.

Jordan river chilly and cold, Chills the body but not the soul. There ain't but one train runs this track, Runs to heaven and runs right back.

St. Paul's Youth Choir

Give Me Jesus

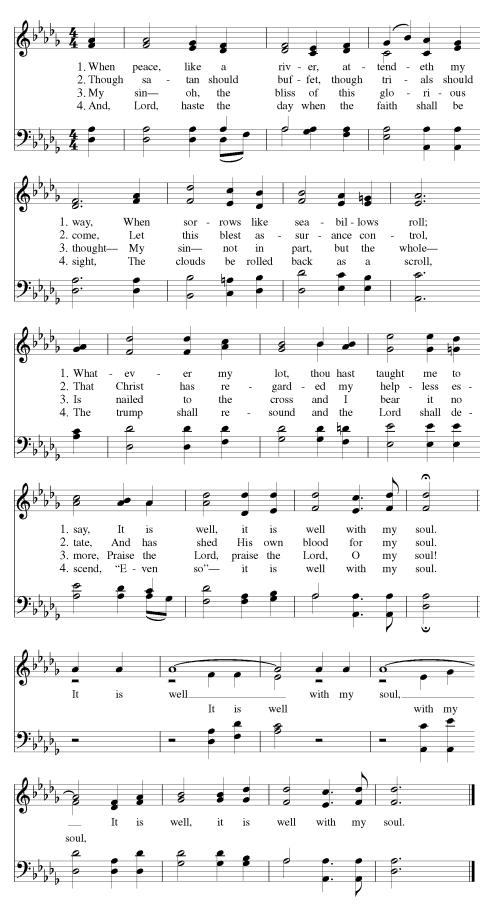
Traditional Spiritual Arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus. You may have all this world, give me Jesus.

Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. You may have all this world, give me Jesus.

Oh when I come to die, give me Jesus. You may have all this world, give me Jesus.

Matthew Jones, tenor



Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LEVAS #1 – Lift Every Voice and Sing





THE BLESSING

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., adapted

Celebrant And now unto God who is able to keep us from falling and to lift us from the dark valleys of despair to the mountains of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy; to God be power and authority, forever and ever.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL

Voices Found #21 - God of the Women



THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing, in the power of the Spirit. People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata improvisee sur la We Shall Overcome

Today's Preacher

The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Massachusetts, was born in Cleveland, Ohio and we are pleased to welcome her home to preach at this celebration. Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris was present at her ordination to the priesthood and the chief consecrator at her episcopal ordination was The Rt. Rev. Arthur B. Williams, Jr., then Vice President of the House of Bishops. She is currently the convener of the Episcopal Bishops of African Descent in the House. In April she will become Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia.

The Banners

The banners in the procession were designed especially for this celebration by Jessica Rocha and The Rev. Brian Wilbert and are a gift from the Archives of the Diocese of Ohio.

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr. Bishop of Ohio

Concelebrants

The Rt. Rev. William Persell Assisting Bishop of Ohio, ret.
The Rt. Rev. Arthur Williams, Jr. Assisting Bishop of Ohio, ret.
The Very Rev. Bernard Owens Dean, Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland The Rev. Debra Bennett Church of Our Savior, Akron
The Rev. Leah Romanelli DeJesus St. Luke's Church, Cleveland
The Rev. Clark West St. Philip's Church, Akron
The Rev. Sharon Williams Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland

Preacher

The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris Bishop Suffragan of Massachusetts

Deacons

The Rev. Lonny Gatlin
The Rev. Robin Woodberry

Vergers

Ted Andrews Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland
Dr. Clifford Bennett St. Paul's Church, Cleveland Heights

Crucifer and Torch Bearers

Dr. Roderick Adams, Jr. Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland
Debbie Likins-Fowler Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland
Greg Skrocki Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Thurifer

Dr. Natalie Belle Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Lector

Wendy Wilson Walker Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Prayers of the People

Anita Pruitt Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland

Oblation Bearers

Lois Jackson Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland Lynnette Miller St. Philip's Church, Akron Charles Roberts All Saints Church, Toledo

Server

Luke Taylor Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Banner Bearers

Joseph Crichton Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland Emma Yeboah-Amankwah Church of Our Savior, Akron

Ushers

Marie Kittredge
David Lawrence
Dan McGuire
Ute Vilfroy
Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Musicians

St. Paul's Youth Choir; Kelsey Ferguson, Director St. Paul's Church, Cleveland Heights

Matthew Jones Soloist

Buck McDaniel Organist & Director of Chapel Music, General Theological Seminary, New York City

Singers from

All Saint's Church, Toledo

Church of Our Savior, Akron

Sacristan

Fran Csoma Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Today's service is hosted by
The Wilma Ruth Combs Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians
Trinity Cathedral
The Diocese of Ohio

Executive Committee of The Wilma Ruth Combs Chapter – Union of Black Episcopalians

President Dianne Audrick Smith, Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland

Vice President Lera Doneghy, All Saints Church, Toledo Secretary Lynnette Miller, St. Philip's Church, Akron

Treasurer Lois Jackson, Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland Chaplain Anita Pruitt, Historic St. Andrew's Church, Cleveland

We are grateful to The Diocese of Ohio, to Eva Cole, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, and to Lynette Williams, for the production of this service bulletin, and to Ginger Bitikofer and Wendy Wilson Walker for arranging today's reception.