

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA
CHORAL EUCHARIST



November 11, 2016

The Right Reverend Gladstone B. Adams, III
Bishop of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

GRACE CHURCH CATHEDRAL
IN THE CITY OF CHARLESTON

Cover image: 226th Annual Convention theme created from a mosaic of photos from around the diocese in 2016.

CHORAL EUCHARIST

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA

November 11, 2016

*Welcome to Grace Church Cathedral, celebrating its 170th year of service and worship in Charleston.
Please silence all electronic devices before the liturgy begins.*

Convention: Call to Order

Voluntary

At the conclusion of the voluntary, please stand for the procession.

Processional Hymn 287

For all the saints, who from their labors rest

Sine Nomine
(Descant: Nigel Potts)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy Name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed.
Alleluia, alleluia! | 5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, alleluia! |
| 2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might:
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, the one true Light.
Alleluia, alleluia! | 6. The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia, alleluia! |
| 3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, alleluia! | 7. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia, alleluia! |
| 4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, alleluia! | 8. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, alleluia! |

THE WORD OF GOD

The Acclamation and Response

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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.*

Glory be to God in heaven,
 Songs of joy and peace we bring,
 Thankful hearts and voices raising,
 To creation's Lord we sing:
 Lord, we thank you,
 Lord, we bless you,
 Glory be to God our King.

Lamb of God, who on
 your shoulders
 Bore the load of this world's sin,
 Only Son of God the Father,
 You have brought us peace within:
 Lord, have mercy,
 Christ, have mercy,
 Now your glorious reign begin.

You, O Son of God, are holy,
 You we praise with one accord;
 None in heav'n or earth is like you,
 Only you are Christ the Lord –
 With the Father,
 And the Spirit,
 Ever worshipped and adored.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Ever serving God, who clothed your servant Martin with the spirit of sacrifice, and set him as a bishop in your Church to seek your will and to serve in your name: Give us grace to follow in his holy steps, that at the last we may be found clothed with righteousness in the dwellings of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

The First Reading: Isaiah 58:6-12

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Refrain (sung first by Cantor, then by all)

The just shall dwell on your ho - ly moun - tain.

Cantor: Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
 who may abide upon your holy hill?
 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right,
 who speaks the truth from his heart.

All: **Refrain**

Cantor: There is no guile upon his tongue;
 he does no evil to his friend;
 he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
 In his sight the wicked is rejected,
 but he honors those who fear the Lord.

All: **Refrain**

Cantor: He has sworn to do no wrong
 and does not take back his word.
 He does not give his money in hope of gain,
 nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
 Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

All: **Refrain****The Second Reading: Galatians 6:1-2**

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.**People:** Thanks be to God.*Please stand.***Gradual Hymn 527***Singing songs of expectation*

Ton-y-botel

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Singing songs of expectation,
 onward goes the pilgrim band,
 through the night of doubt and sorrow,
 marching to the promised land.
 Clear before us through the darkness
 gleams and burns the guiding light:
 trusting God we march together
 stepping fearless through the night.</p> | <p>2. One the light of God's own presence,
 o'er his ransomed people shed,
 chasing far the gloom and terror,
 brightening all the path we tread:
 one the object of our journey,
 one the faith which never tires,
 one the earnest looking forward,
 one the hope our God inspires.</p> |
| <p>3. One the strain the lips of thousands
 lift as from the heart of one;
 one the conflict, one the peril,
 one the march in God begun:
 one the gladness of rejoicing
 on the far eternal shore,
 where the one almighty Father
 reigns in love for evermore.</p> | |

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:34-40

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'"

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Reverend Winnie Varghese

A period of silent reflection is kept.

Please stand.

The Apostles Creed *(metrical)*

(From Common Worship)

Austria (Hymn 522)

We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Savior,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.

Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.

We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
One in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Savior, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.

The Prayers of the People

Bishop: As we strive to seek and serve Christ in this diocese, let us pray saying:
Hear us, O God.

Intercessor: Gracious God, we commemorate your faithful servant Martin and we give you thanks for all who through the ages have sought out your will and served you. Empower us at this Diocesan Convention to strengthen your church by the holiness of our lives and the faithfulness of our service. We pray,

People: Hear us, O God.

Intercessor: We pray for Skip, our Bishop, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, the leaders of the Reformed and Pentecostal churches of the world, Francis, Bishop of Rome and the Patriarchs of the Orthodox Churches, that through them your people may be renewed and strengthened in their worship and in their witness, and in the proclamation of your saving Gospel. We pray,

People: Hear us, O God.

Intercessor: Establish peace and justice throughout the world, and turn the hearts of those who seek their ends through violence, oppression and terrorism. Grant that those who exercise leadership among the nations and are in positions of authority, remembering Donald, our President-Elect, may use their power with wisdom and compassion, and seek not their own interest but the good of all. We pray,

People: Hear us, O God.

Intercessor: To all who are afflicted and in distress we beg your healing and relief: to all who are in bondage to their own addictions and obsessions give release and deliverance; and to all who are lonely and isolated give the assurance of your presence. We pray,

People: Hear us, O God.

Intercessor: On this Veterans Day we give thanks for those who have served us as they have served this nation. As we salute their service, we give thanks for their faithfulness; as we pay tribute to their devotion, we honor their sacrifice. We pray, O Lord, that you would renew in them your gift of courage, your promise of healing and your priceless gift of peace. We pray ,

People: Hear us, O God.

Intercessor: We remember all who have died, especially remembering those of our diocesan family who have passed since our last convention. Lift them up from the gates of death, and bring them out of darkness into your marvelous light ,

People: Hear us, O God.

Bishop: Look with favor on us, O God, and prosper all that we seek to do in your name, according to your will and for your glory. And as we seek to serve you in all that we say and do, may we live in the freedom of your grace and truth. In the name of Jesus, our saving shepherd, we pray,

People: Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please be seated.

Welcome

The Very Reverend J. Michael A. Wright
Dean, Grace Church Cathedral

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion

Malcolm Boyle

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion, and unto Thee shall the vow be perform'd in Jerusalem. Thou that hearest the prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Blessed is the man whom Thou chooseth and receives unto Thee. He shall dwell in Thy courts and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of Thy house, e'en of Thy holy temple. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stay'd on Thee. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength. Let the people praise Thee, O God, yea, let all the people praise Thee. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase: and God shall give us His blessing. (Psalm 65:1, 2, 4; Isaiah 26:3,4; Psalm 67:3, 6, 7)

Members of the congregation will present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

The offering from today's service is designated for Episcopal Relief and Development and the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy.

Presentation Hymn

Doxology

Old Hundredth, arr. R Vaughan Williams

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving (from *Common Worship*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, —

5 heav'n and earth — are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in — the high - est.

9 Bless - ed — is he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho -

13 san - na in — the high - est. — Ho - san - na in — the high - est.

Celebrant: Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean. This is his story.

All: This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to the table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people. This is his story.

All: This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me. This is his story.

All: This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free. Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world. This is our story.

All: This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All: Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Lord's Prayer *(said together)*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Silence

Fraction Anthem S154

David Hurd

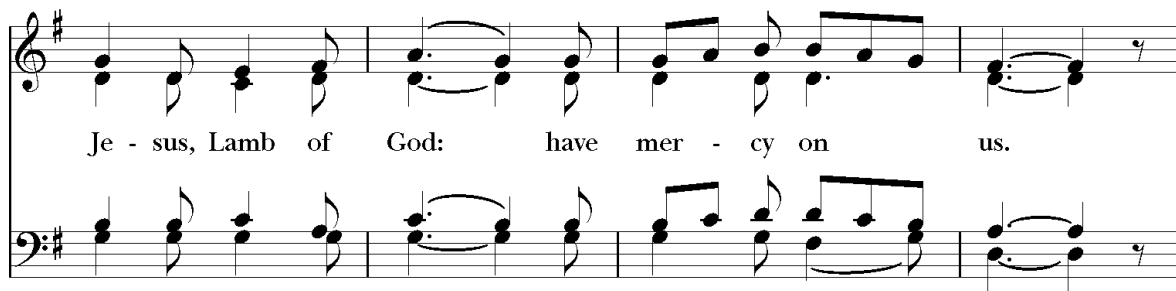
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

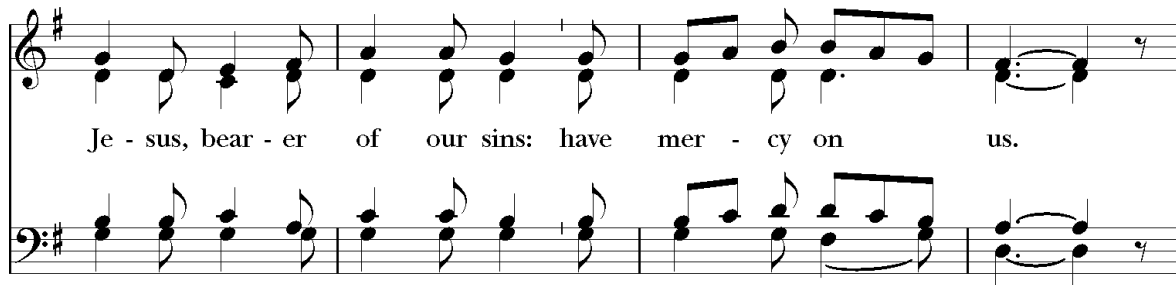
there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

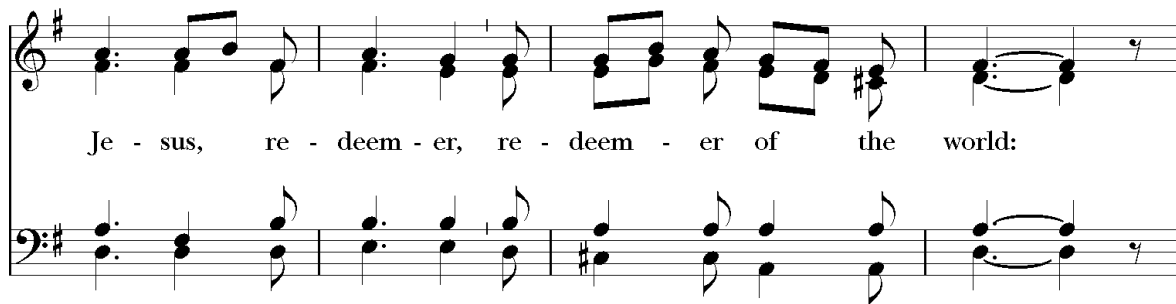
Invitation to Communion



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Communion of the People

Christians of all denominations are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Communion Hymn 711

Seek ye first the kingdom of God

Seek Ye First

The congregation is invited to join in singing all the Communion Hymns.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you,
seek, and ye shall find,
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you;
Allelu, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Allelu, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Allelu, alleluia!

Communion Anthem

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit

arr. William L. Dawson

Chorus:

Every time I feel the spirit
Movin' in my heart I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit
Movin' in my heart I will pray.

Up on the mountains my Lord spoke
Out of His mouth came fire and smoke
Looked all around me, it looked so fine
I asked the Lord could it be mine.
(Chorus)

The Jordan river is chilly and cold.
It chills the body but not the soul.
There ain't but one train upon this track.
It runs to heaven and then right back.
(Chorus)

Oh, I have sorrow and I have woe
I have heartaches here below
But while God leads me I'll never fear
For I know that He is near.
(Chorus)

Communion Hymn 619

Sing alleluia forth in duteous praise

Martins

1. Sing alleluia forth in duteous praise,
ye citizens of heaven, O sweetly raise
an endless alleluia.
2. Ye powers who stand before the eternal Light,
let all your choirs re-echo to the height
an endless alleluia.
3. Then let the holy city raise the strain,
and with glad songs resounding wake again
an endless alleluia.
4. Ye who have fought and joined the starry throng,
ye victors, now take up the eternal song,
an endless alleluia.
5. Your songs of triumph shall for ever ring,
the hymns which tell the honor of your King,
an endless alleluia.
6. Such song is rest and food and deep delight
to saints forgiven; let them unite
in endless alleluia.
7. Almighty Christ, to thee our voices sing
glory for evermore; to thee we bring
an endless alleluia.

1 Sis - ter, let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav - ellers
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll

Christ to you; pray that I may have the
 on the road; we are here to help each
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and

grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
 oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,
 we shall find such harmony,
 born of all we've known together
 of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, let me be your servant,
 let me be as Christ to you;
 pray that I may have the grace to
 let you be my servant too.

Music and text: Richard Gillard

Communion Hymn

Precious Lord, take my hand (*Lift Every Voice and Sing 2, Hymn 106*)
 (Mayor John Tecklenburg, piano, and Lonnie Hamilton, saxophone)

1. Precious Lord, take my hand,
 lead me on, let me stand,
 I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 through the storm,
 through the night,
 lead me on to the light,
 take my hand, precious Lord,
 lead me on.

2. When my way grows drear,
 precious Lord, linger near,
 when my life is almost gone;
 hear my cry, hear my call,
 hold my hand, lest I fall,
 take my hand, precious Lord,
 lead me on.

3. When the darkness appears
 and the night draws near,
 and the day is past and gone;
 at the river I stand,
 guide my feet, hold my hand,
 take my hand, precious Lord,
 lead me on.

Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993)

Please stand.

The Postcommunion Prayer *(said together)*

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.

The Blessing

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord;
People: The maker of heaven and earth.
Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord;
People: From this time forth for evermore.
Bishop: The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Processional Hymn

Lord, you give the great commission

Abbot's Leigh (Hymn 379)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the Church neglect its mission
and the Gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.</p> <p>2. Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.</p> <p>3. Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body, this my blood."
Let your priests, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.</p> | <p>4. Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.</p> <p>5. Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.</p> |
|--|--|

Words: Jeffery Rowthorn (b. 1934)

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Prelude in C (BWV 547)

J.S. Bach



*The flowers in the church are given to the Glory of God
and in thanksgiving for the ministries of
The Right Reverend Gladstone B. Adams, III
and
The Reverend Winnie Varghese*



Service Participants

Celebrant

The Right Reverend Gladstone B. Adams, III
Bishop of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

Preacher

The Reverend Winnie Varghese
Trinity Church, Wall Street

Archdeacon

The Venerable Calhoun Walpole

Deacon

The Reverend Michael Smith

Chancellor

Thomas S. Tisdale, Jr.

Musicians

St. Gregory Choir of Grace Church Cathedral
Nigel Potts, Canon Organist and Master of the Music
Parks Greene, Sub-Organist

Cantor

The Reverend Canon Caleb J. Lee

Lectors

Anita Jefferson
Michael Jordan

Intercessors

Nancy Skardon
Taylor Skardon

Oblation Bearers

Barbara Christie and Cece Stricklin

Ministers of Communion

The Reverend Canon John Zahl
The Reverend Alastair Votaw
The Reverend Jean McGraw
The Reverend Jennie Olbrych
The Reverend Robert Switz

Chalice Bearers

Canon Jean Bender, Sarah Craven,
Maggie Dunlap, Fred Fielding, Jason Roberson

Acolytes

Dr. James Hutchisson, Verger and Master of Acolytes
Barry Dennis, Verger
St. Thomas Guild of Acolytes
of Grace Church Cathedral
and Acolytes from
Church of the Holy Communion, Charleston

Ushers

Jim Callahan
Gary Tasker
Carl Millford
Andy Anderson
Margaret MacDonald
Ian MacDonald

The Reverend Winnie Varghese

The Reverend Winnie Varghese is Director of Justice and Reconciliation at historic Trinity Church Wall Street in New York City. A leader of social action efforts at the national and local levels, she has served as a key leader in the Church's Executive Council and the House of Deputies. Through her writing on the Huffington Post and elsewhere, she has become a prominent voice for justice in The Episcopal Church.

Since joining the staff of Trinity Church Wall Street in 2015, she has challenged the parish to go deeper into mission commitments and engage in new opportunities. Her position focuses on social justice ministries including outreach grants, feeding ministries, public school support, low-income housing ministry, and the Trinity Parish Center.

Winnie has been a priest for 16 years. She received her BA at Southern Methodist University in 1994 and her MDiv at Union Theological Seminary in 1999, and served in parishes and as a college chaplain. Before going to Trinity in 2015, she served for six years as priest-in-charge and then rector of St. Mark's-in-the-Bowery, a vibrant and diverse church in Manhattan that tripled in size under her leadership.

Her new book, *Church Meets World*, was published in August by Church Publishing Inc. as Volume 4 in its series for adults, *Church's Teachings for a Changing World*.

Today's Offering

Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy **coastalcrisischaplain.org**

The Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy provides comfort and support to survivors and First Responders of traumatic events to ensure their emotional, spiritual and mental wellness. During a crisis, the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy responds to the scene to assist in a variety of ways including, death notification, hostage negotiation, and general scene support. On the scene or off the scene, our Chaplains guide survivors and families as they navigate the necessary steps during a crisis and in the aftermath. Following the incident, chaplains and our survivor follow up team assist survivors, families, and first responders establish long-term sustainable support systems.

Episcopal Relief & Development **episcopalrelief.org**

Episcopal Relief & Development has been “Healing a Hurting World” for more than 75 years. Episcopal Relief & Development is an international relief and development agency and a compassionate response to human suffering on behalf of The Episcopal Church. Hearing God’s call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being, it serves to bring together the generosity of Episcopalians and others with the needs of the world. It provides relief in times of disaster and promotes sustainable development by identifying and addressing the root causes of suffering. Episcopal Relief & Development works through partnerships within the Anglican Communion, with ecumenical bodies and with others who share a common vision for justice and peace among all people.

St. Martin of Tours Bishop and Theologian, 397 (November 11)

Martin was born around 330 of pagan parents. His father was a soldier, who enlisted Martin in the army at the age of fifteen. One winter day he saw an ill-clad beggar at the gate of the city of Amiens. Martin had no money to give, but he cut his cloak in half and gave half to the beggar. (Paintings of the scene, such as that by El Greco, show Martin, even without the cloak, more warmly clad than the beggar, which rather misses the point.) In a dream that night, Martin saw Christ wearing the half-cloak. He had for some time considered becoming a Christian, and this ended his wavering. He was promptly baptized. At the end of his next military campaign, he asked to be released from the army, saying: "Hitherto I have faithfully served Caesar. Let me now serve Christ." He was accused of cowardice, and offered to stand unarmed between the contending armies. He was imprisoned, but released when peace was signed.

He became a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers, a chief opponent in the West of the Arians, who denied the full deity of Christ, and who had the favor of the emperor Constantius. Returning to his parents' home in Illyricum (Yugoslavia, approximately), he opposed the Arians with such effectiveness that he was publicly scourged and exiled. He was subsequently driven from Milan, and eventually returned to Gaul. There he founded the first monastery in Gaul, which lasted until the French Revolution.

In 371 he was elected bishop of Tours. His was a mainly pagan diocese, but his instruction and personal manner of life prevailed. In one instance, the pagan priests agreed to fell their idol, a large fir tree, if Martin would stand directly in the path of its fall. He did so, and it missed him very narrowly. When an officer of the Imperial Guard arrived with a batch of prisoners who were to be tortured and executed the



St. Martin and the Beggar
by sculptor Tom Player, in the
Garden of Remembrance at
Grace Church Cathedral.

next day, Martin intervened and secured their release.

In the year 384, the heretic (Gnostic) Priscillian and six companions had been condemned to death by the emperor Maximus. The bishops who had found them guilty in the ecclesiastical court pressed for their execution. Martin contended that the secular power had no authority to punish heresy, and that the excommunication by the bishops was an adequate sentence. In this he was upheld by Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. He refused to leave Treves until the emperor promised to reprieve them. No sooner was his back turned than the bishops persuaded the emperor to break his promise; Priscillian and his followers were executed. This was the first time that heresy was punished by death.

Martin was furious, and excommunicated the bishops responsible. But afterwards, he took them back into communion in exchange for a pardon from Maximus for certain men condemned to death, and for the emperor's promise to end the persecution of the remaining Priscillianists. He never felt easy in his mind about this concession, and thereafter avoided assemblies of bishops where he might encounter some of those concerned in this affair. He died on or about 11 November 397 (my sources differ) and his shrine at Tours became a sanctuary for those seeking justice.

The Feast of Martin, a soldier who fought bravely and faithfully in the service of an earthly sovereign, and then enlisted in the service of Christ, is also the day of the Armistice which marked the end of the First World War. On it we remember those who have risked or lost their lives in what they perceived as the pursuit of justice and peace.



The Episcopal Church in South Carolina
P.O. Box 20485
Charleston, South Carolina 29413
(843) 259-2016
episcopalchurchsc.org