

13TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018



# The African Methodist Episcopal Church A Social Justice and Liberating Faith

*See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern,  
and humbly obey your God. Micah 6:8*

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

*Gender/Sexual Justice*

*Loving Those with Whom I Disagree*

### 144th Session of the West Tennessee Annual Conference Closing Worship Service

**October 6, 2018**

**St. James AME Church**  
600 North Fourth Street  
Memphis, TN 38107

**Jeffrey N. Leath**  
Presiding Bishop

**Susan J. Leath, MD**  
Supervisor, Women's Missionary Society

**The Reverend C. Robert Finch**  
Host Presiding Elder, North Memphis District

**The Reverend Linda F. Thomas-Martin**  
Associate Presiding Elder, South Memphis District

**The Reverend Walter R. Henry**  
Host Pastor



# ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FOURTH SESSION THE WEST TENNESSEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, 6 October 2018

## CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE

Presiding Elder Linda F. Thomas-Martin  
Worship Leader

### The Prelude

**The Procession**    *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*    Hymn No. 4

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all; Bring  
forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of  
all; Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord  
of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the  
gall, Go spread your trophies at His feet, and crown Him Lord  
of all; Go spread your trophies at His feet, and crown Him  
Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball, To Him  
all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all; To Him all  
majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all.

O that, with yonder sacred throng, We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all;  
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all.

### The Closing Acknowledgements

#### The Resolution

#### The Doxology

*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 Call to Worship

The Reverend Walter R. Henry

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within Thy gates, O Jerusalem.

People: **For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

Leader: We have gathered from every corner of the Annual Conference to praise God and witness the commissioning of our leaders.

People: **We come to ask God's blessing on those who shall lead and those who will follow the call of Christian service.**

Leader: We prepare to preach a saving, healing, and liberating gospel. We seek to be more loving and faithful to Jesus as we cry for justice in His name.

People: **We come to sing praise to the Almighty.**

All: **Let us go from this place filled with the Holy Spirit and mature in love. God give us a holy fire for justice to take where we labor with mercy. Amen! Praise the Lord! Amen!**

## The Hymn of Praise

The Reverend Hilda Taylor

### *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Hymn No. 1

O for a thousand tongues to sing, My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice, New life the dead receive, The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, The humble poor believe.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb, Your loosened tongues employ; Ye blind, behold your Savior come, And leap, ye lame, for joy

**The Prayer**

The Reverend Quinten L. Smith

**The Choral Response**

*Sentence and The Lord's Prayer* Hymn No. 634

**The Scripture Lesson**

The Reverend Agnes Henderson

**The Introit**

***Bless the Lord, O My Soul***

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. (repeat) He has done great things, He has done great things, He has done great things, bless His holy name.*

**The Decalogue (Summary)**

The Reverend Linda Evans

And He said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

**The Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**The Selection**

Conference Choir

**The Benevolence Offering**

The Finance Committee  
The Reverend Dr. Byron Moore

**The Offertory Response**

***All Things Come of Thee***

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.*

**The Sermonic Selection**

Conference Choir

**The Sermon**

**Bishop Michael Leon Mitchell**  
Presiding Bishop, Twelfth Episcopal District

**The Invitation to Accept Christ**

The Reverend Eric J. Knowles

**The Hymn**

The Reverend John Hall  
***A Charge to Keep I Have*** Hymn No. 242

*A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify, A never dying soul  
to save And fit it for the sky.*

*To serve the present age, My calling to fulfill; O may it all my  
powers engage To do my Master's will!*

*Arm me with jealous care, As in Thy sight to live, And O, Thy  
servant, Lord, prepare, A strict account to give!*

*Help me to watch and pray, And on Thyself rely Assured, if I  
my trust betray, I shall forever die! Amen*

**The Commissioning of Officers**

**The Commissioning Prayer)**  
*(In Unison)*

The Reverend G.L. McCollins, Sr.

**Wise and Powerful God, you have been present with us as we worshipped, worked and witnessed during our Annual Conference. Send us into the world with the authority and power of the Holy Spirit. Protect us from all evil. Increase our love for those who are committed to our care. Give us wisdom for advising, teaching and administration. Grant us fruitful labors in the harvest of disciples. Bless us and the people we serve in your name. Amen and Amen!**

**The Commissioning Scripture**

The Reverend David Yancy II  
*Matthew 28: 19-20 (KJV)*

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

## The Sending Forth

The Reverend Marlon O. Barrentine  
**Go Preach My Gospel** Hymn No. 220

*"Go, preach My gospel," saith the Lord. "Bid the whole earth  
My grace receive. Explain to them My sacred word; Bid  
them believe, obey, and live.*

*"I'll make My great commission known, And ye shall prove  
My gospel true By all the works that I have done And all the  
wonders ye shall do.*

*"Go, heal the sick; go, raise the dead; Go cast out devils in  
My name; Nor let My prophets be afraid, Though Greeks  
reproach and Jews blaspheme.*

*"While thus ye follow My commands I'm with you till the world  
shall end; All power is trusted in My hands; I can destroy and  
can defend."*

*He spake, and light shone round His head, On a bright cloud  
to heaven He rode. They to the farthest nation spread The  
grace of their ascended God.*

## The Reading of Appointments

### The Doxology

*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 Benediction

Bishop Leath



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