



13TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY

2020 Annual Conference

Old Landmarks -UNCHARTED TIMES

*So that this may be a sign among you. When your children
ask in time to come, "What do those stones mean to you?"*

Joshua 4:6



120th Session of the
East Tennessee Annual Conference
Opening Worship

September 11, 2020

7:00 pm

Jeffrey N. Leath

Presiding Bishop

Susan J. Leath, MD

Supervisor, Women's Missionary Society

The Reverend Dr. Eva Settles

Host Presiding Elder, Chattanooga Knoxville District

The Reverend Dr. Terence L. Mayes, Sr.

Associate Presiding Elder, Fayetteville Pulaski District

Bethel AME Church, Knoxville

Host Church

The Reverend Lee Russell Brown

Host Pastor

120th SESSION
THE EAST TENNESSEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Friday, 11 September 2020

OPENING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Eva M. Settles
Worship Leader

The Greeting

Host Presiding Elder Settles

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 Rev. Lee R. Brown & Sister Angela Bourne

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.

Response: 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 come to give an account of our discipleship. We praise God for a testimony of faithful service.

Response: We visited the sick. We were present with those who mourned. We celebrated with those who rejoiced.

Leader: We heard the cry of the poor and the oppressed. We ministered with benevolence as we called for justice.

Response: We praise God as we come to another Annual Conference. We seek justice at our door and around the world. We thank God for our service and our deliverance.

ALL: Let's worship God! Praise God who for old landmarks in these uncharted times. May we be empowered to cry for justice; fearless to serve in crisis; motivated to vote as moral citizens; and

respectful of God's creation and creatures.
Praise the Lord!

The Hymn of Praise

And Are We Yet Alive

Hymn No. 304

*And are we yet alive, And see each other's face? Glory and
praise to Jesus give For His redeeming grace.*

*Preserved by power divine To full salvation here, Again in
Jesus' praise we join, And in His sight appear.*

*What troubles have we seen, What conflicts have we
passed, Fightings without, and fears within, Since we
assembled last.*

*But out of all the Lord Hath brought us by His love; And still
He doth His help afford, And hides our life above.*

*Then let us make our boast Of His redeeming power, Which
saves us to the uttermost. Till we can sin no more.*

*Let us take up the cross Till we the crown obtain; And gladly
reckon all things loss, So we may Jesus gain.*

The Invocation

The Reverend Archie Griffin

Almighty and Eternal God, Our Creator! We invite your presence into this Annual Conference. Remind us of our purpose in you. Help us to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Draw us close to you through our personal devotion. Expand our fellowship as we tell the love of Jesus. Give us wisdom and courage to stand for justice and truth.

Anoint us with Your Holy Spirit! Illumine the path of holiness. Make us mindful of those who are suffering loss. Give us hope as we receive your grace and mercy. All honor and glory belong to you. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

Brother Charles Moore

Psalm 62:5-8

The New Testament Reading

Sister Fordie Franklin

Hebrews 6:13-20

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

The Rev. Kenneth & Sis. Donna Love

(An Affirmation of God's Law)

Leader: Let us express our commitment to keep God's law.

God of our salvation, only You are God. We will make no idols.

We will not invoke with malice your name, O God.

We will remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

We will honor our father and our mother. We will not commit murder.

We will not commit adultery. We will not steal. We will not be a false witness.

We will not covet anything that belongs to our neighbor.

Leader: Jesus said: "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."

People: **Jesus also challenged us with a second commandment which is like the first: We shall love our neighbor as ourselves! 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

The Prayer

The Reverend Alma Herbert

The Sermonic Selection

The Annual Sermon

The Reverend Sheila E. Harris, D.Min.

The Invitation to Discipleship

The Announcements & The Bishop's Word

The Benediction



Annual Conference Preacher

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harris

St. James AME Church
Chattanooga, TN

Rev. Dr. Sheila E. Harris is the pastor of St. James AME Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She received her Bachelor of Social Welfare degree from East TN State

University in Johnson City, Tennessee. She received a master's degree in Health Care Administration from College of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois. Dr. Harris was awarded her Doctoral of Theology from Covington Theological Seminary, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

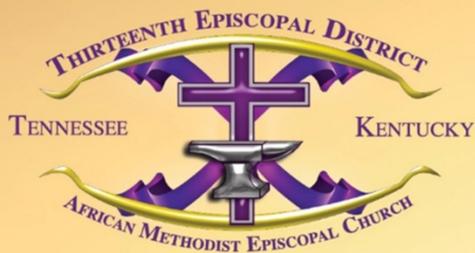
She has pastored the following congregations: Powell Chapel (Pulaski, TN), Friendship (Pulaski, TN), (St. John (Winchester, TN), Quinn Chapel, (Chattanooga, TN), Mulberry Circuit (St. John, Mulberry and Lucy Memorial, Kelso), Quinn Chapel (Paris, TN), St. Matthew (Midway, KY) and St. James (Chattanooga, TN)

She has been a leader in Women in Ministry (WIM) where she has served as Treasurer for the Lexington Conference WIM. Currently, she now serves as the 2nd Vice President for the 13th District WIM.

Dr. Harris has been employed as a counselor with Hamilton Co Juvenile Detention Unit. She developed the inner-city homemaker services and elder abuse unit for Family and Children Services and held various positions with Hospice of Chattanooga, Inc

Dr. Harris was an active leader in her local community. She was one of the first three Black females to serve as a school board member of Chattanooga Public Schools for 2 terms 1988-1991. In addition, From 1991-1992, she served as the first Black female to serve as a Hamilton County Commissioner. Dr. Harris is a member of Gamma Iota Zeta, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Dr. Harris' Motto is *"If I can help somebody then my living shall not be In vain."*



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African Methodist Episcopal Church

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