



13TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY

The AME Church
A Social Justice & Liberating Faith

Closing Worship

October 8, 2017

3:00 pm

143rd Session of the West Tennessee Annual Conference

**God's People Pursuing
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**
A CHRISTIAN SEXUAL ETHIC - ISSUES IN INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE

Presiding Elder C. Robert Finch
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 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 Dianna Dickerson

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 Bobby Carter

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 Dr. Byron Moore

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

The First Lesson Psalm 19:7-14 The Reverend Quinten L. Smith

The Gospel Matthew 21:33-46 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 Dr. Dave Adams

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 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 Jeffrey N. Leath

The Invitation to Accept Christ

The Hymn

The Reverend G. L. McCollins, Sr.

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 Jerry Epperson

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

Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV)

The Reverend Anthony Hodges

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

Go Preach My Gospel

The Reverend Kelvin Robinson

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