

A liturgy in celebration of the 227th Annual Convention of
THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA



**Friday, November 12 &
Saturday, November 13
2021**

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR FRIDAY EVENING

THE BISHOP'S WELCOME

Worship begins with Evening Prayer

The officiant says

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Ephesians 2:19

You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but citizens together with the saints and members of the household of God.

THE INVITATORY

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.
People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Officiant and People together

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

ALLELUIA CHORUS

THE READING

Matthew 13:44-52

Deacon A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

ALLELUIA CHORUS

THE SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson

THE COLLECT OF CONVENTION

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

God of breaking and mending, we who have been broken open come before you to offer our work of worship, prayer, and hope for our Diocese; Help us bring all that we are and all that we feel to this convention; that just as our Savior's body, broken for us, is mended among us, so might our worship and our work be mended, that we might be one body to your praise and glory, together with the Holy Spirit, for all time to come. **Amen.**

REPORTS & STORIES OF THE DIOCESE

CLOSING WORDS

Worship resumes within Compline

THE PRAYERS

V. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
R. **For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.**
V. Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;
R. **Hide us under the shadow of your wings.**

Officiant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Officiant Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People, spoken in the language of your heart.

**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.**

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer;
People **And let our cry come to you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

NIGHT PRAYER

from A New Zealand Prayer Book

Lord,
it is night.
The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.
It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.
The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives
rest in you.
The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.
The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new joys,
new possibilities.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

THE NECROLOGY

The officiant says

As we complete our work this night, we give thanks for those Diocesan clergy and leaders who now rest from their labors in the Lord's vineyard, having died since the 2019 Annual Convention, and entered into God's nearer presence. As their names are read aloud, we invite you who are with us virtually to remember those whom you have lost either using the chat function or in the silence of your hearts.

Edwin Michael Ward

Robert Harrison Dilday

Gloria Carroll Kennedy Berberich

Hugh Couch White III

Gordon Bell Davis

Gladys Elizabeth Lewis

John Joseph Desaulniers

Alexander Hoke Slaughter

Ruth Dimock Walsh

William Leon Weiler

William Francis Myers

William Ludwig Dols

John Moffett Smith

Randall Hilton Haycock

Joseph Christian Conrad

John Fletcher Lowe

John Shelby Spong

Officiant Receive, O Lord, your servants who return to you.

People **Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our brothers, sisters, and siblings.**

Hear us, O never-failing Light, Lord our God, our only Light, the Fountain of Light, the Light of your angels, thrones, dominions, principalities, powers, and of all the beings of this world; you have created the light of your saints, the bright cloud of witnesses around us. May our souls be your lamps, kindled and illuminated by you. May they shine and burn with your truth, and never go out in darkness. Being filled with Christ's splendor, may we shine within, so that the gloom of sin is cleared away, and the light of everlasting life abides within us. **Amen.**

SONG OF SIMEON (*NUNC DIMITTIS*)

Officiant and People

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

**Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

All repeat the Antiphon

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake
we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant concludes

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us. **Amen.**

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SATURDAY

PRELUDE: *It is Well with My Soul*

LEVAS #188

CALL TO ORDER

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT OF CONVENTION

Officiant Blessed be God, before you our hearts are broken open.
People **Blessed are we, for we are set free.**

God of breaking and mending, we who have been broken open come before you to offer our work of worship, prayer, and hope for our Diocese; Help us bring all that we are and all that we feel to this convention; that just as our Savior's body, broken for us, is mended among us, so might our worship and our work be mended, that we might be one body to your praise and glory, together with the Holy Spirit, for all time to come. **Amen.**

THE BUSINESS OF CONVENTION

THE RECOGNITION OF THOSE NEWLY ORDAINED

Officiant Blessed be God, before you our hearts are broken open.
People **Blessed are we, for we are set free.**

The Officiant says

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, . . . let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Hebrews 12:1-2

In this time of pandemic, the ordination of new clergy has proceeded, but of necessity their ordinations were held before only a small group of family and friends. Now we come together as a Diocese to affirm these new clergy who have, during this time, committed themselves to the trust and responsibilities of ordained life in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Video Introductions

Officiant People of God, do you accept these new clergy to minister with you?
People **We do.**
Officiant Will you uphold them in their ministries?
People **We will.**
Officiant Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were

being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

BREAK

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant Blessed be God, before you our hearts are broken open.

People **Blessed are we, for we are set free.**

Deacon Heavenly Father, humbled by your desire to break us open for the renewal and transformation of our lives, in faith we pray to you.

Broken open that we may continue to be a living witness for you, we pray for the Church Universal, its members, and its mission, that we may be united in sharing God's unfailing love and forgiveness. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the ministry of your people, especially for Bishops Susan, Jennifer, and Porter, the people of this diocese, and for the search for our Diocesan Bishop, that our hearts will be broken open to God's desires for our future. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our world and our nation, that all who govern and lead will serve those in need, and work for peace for every person entrusted to them. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

For the will and action to preserve God's creation, make us good stewards, that many generations will know the goodness of your gifts. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

For our sisters and brothers and siblings who live with hunger and without shelter, for all who feel alone, break us open to bear witness to God's love. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

United as the broken open people of God, we lift our prayers for all suffering the effects of COVID-19 and all those on our congregational prayer lists. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

We pray for refugees and immigrants, for victims of racism, for all who suffer violence at the hands of others and at the hands of our nation, and for all who live with addiction and mental illness. May our witness, our voices, our hospitality, and our communities be places of safety, hope and compassion for all people. *Pause.* God of compassion, transformation, and renewal,

People **hear our prayer.**

With gratitude, we remember all the blessings of our lives, that we may declare God's continued love and faithfulness towards us. *Pause.* God of transformation and renewal,

People **We offer you our thanks and praise.**

The officiant adds a concluding collect

God of transformation and renewal, from whom wholeness emerges from brokenness, continue to take us, bless us, break us open and make us responsive to a world that's in need of your love and saving grace. Make us faithful witnesses to your Word and deed. All this we ask in the name of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

THE BUSINESS OF CONVENTION

A LITURGY OF COMMISSION

Officiant Blessed be God, before you our hearts are broken open.

People **Blessed are we, for we are set free.**

Siblings in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Having concluded the work of this convention and sought God's gracious will, we seek God's blessing and reaffirm our commitment as we return to our churches and communities.

Officiant Dear friends in Christ, you and the faithful you represent have been called to a ministry in this diocese. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

People **We will.**

Officiant Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the people of the Diocese of Virginia?

People **We will.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Look with favor upon those whom you have called, O Lord, to serve your Church; and grant that they may be so filled with your Holy Spirit, that they may minister with steadfast devotion

and holy curiosity, carrying the will of this Convention to all your people, and seeking those who seek You with renewed vigor and hearts on fire with love for You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD, YOU GIVE THE GREAT COMMISSION

WLP #780

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Bishop blesses the people.

Officiant
People

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

PARTICIPANTS

Friday Evening

<i>Officiant</i>	The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, Bishop Suffragan
<i>Alleluia Chorus</i>	The Choir of Saint Paul's Church, Richmond
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Deacon Frederico Garza
<i>Homilist</i>	The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop
<i>Necrology</i>	The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assisting Bishop
<i>Responder</i>	Garway A.D. Bright, Vice President of the Executive Board
<i>Night Prayer</i>	The Rev. Dr. Charlie Dupree, Saint Paul's Church, Richmond

Saturday

<i>Officiant</i>	Bishop Susan Goff
<i>Prayers of the People</i>	The Rev. Deacon Barbara Ambrose, Saint Andrew's, Richmond Joy Warburton, author of the Prayers of the People, Saint Thomas, McLean, and Trinity, Arlington Mina Choi, Saint Francis Korean Church The Rev. Crystal J. Hardin, Saint George's, Arlington The Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson, Emmanuel, Delaplane Linden York-Simmons, Christ Church, Alexandria Sonia Sevilla, Iglesia San Jose John Ambrose, Saint Andrew's, Richmond Scherrone Dunham, Saint George's, Arlington

MUSICIANS

The Choir of Saint Paul's, Richmond
Dr. Christopher Reynolds, Director of Music

Saint George's Choristers, Saint George's, Arlington
Dr. Benjamin J. Keseley, Minister of Music

Christ Church, Richmond
Keith Tan, Director of Music

Congregation of the Church of the Holy Comforter, Vienna
Dr. David Kelly, Organist & Choirmaster

Saint Matthew's, Sterling
Kevin Fletcher

Iglesia Santa Maria, Falls Church
Julio Cuellar, Music Director

Calvary Church, Hanover
Michelle Williams, Music Director

Senior Choir of The Church of the Good Shepherd, Burke
Steve McBride, Director of Music Ministries

THE COMMITTEE ON LITURGY & MUSIC

The Rev. Crystal J. Hardin, *Chair*
Saint George's, Arlington

The Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey, *Liaison*
Interim Canon to the Ordinary

The Rev. Rainey Dankel
Saint Paul's, Richmond

The Rev. Will Dickinson
Saint George's, Fredericksburg

The Rev. Pierre Henry-Buisson
Emmanuel, Delaplane

Steve McBride
Good Shepherd, Burke

The Rev. Paul Moberly
St. Alban's, Annandale

The Rev. Penny Nash
All Saint's, Richmond

Joy Warburton
Trinity, Arlington & Saint Thomas, McLean

The Rev. Mark Wastler
Saint Paul's Memorial, Charlottesville