



IT'S OUR HISTORY

Of 39 congregations in our diocese, 24 were organized before 1860. Of these, 8 predate the Revolution. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG), founded in London in 1701 to evangelize the Empire, established Anglican churches in Delaware. From 1710 SPG was partially funded by profits from the largest slave worked sugar plantation in the West Indies and continued to utilize slaves until the 1833 abolition of slavery in the British empire. Some Delaware clergy owned slaves, as did lay members. An 18th century vestry of Old Swedes, Wilmington provided an enslaved woman for the Rectory.

In the decades following the Civil War, the denial of basic human rights afforded whites in the Constitution were legally denied to African Americans by Delaware law. The Church was too often silent.

Service of Repentance for Slavery

In the Diocese of Delaware

Saturday, October 30, 2010
11:00 a.m.

The Cathedral Church of St. John
10 Concord Avenue
Wilmington, Delaware 19802

RSVP Essential:

cyndebimbi@dioceseofdelaware.net or
Call Cynde at 302-656-5443, ext. 106

No later than **October 15, 2010**



Service of Repentance for Slavery

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October 30, 2010
11 AM

Reception To Follow Service

AFFIRMING ACTIONS OF THE 75TH GENERAL CONVENTION
ON SLAVERY AND RECONCILIATION

RESOLVED, that the 222nd Convention of the Diocese of Delaware affirms the action of the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church in its declaration that the institution of slavery in the United States and anywhere else in the world, based as it is on ownership of some persons by other persons, was and is a sin and a fundamental betrayal of the humanity and dignity of all persons who were involved, a sin that continues to plague our common life in the Church and our culture; and be it further

RESOLVED, this 222nd Convention affirms the action of the 75th General Convention to acknowledge its history of participation in this sin and the deep and lasting injury which the institution of slavery and its aftermath have inflicted on society and on the Church; and be it further

RESOLVED that this 222nd Convention joins with the 75th General Convention in expressing our most profound regret that (a) The Episcopal Church lent the institution of slavery its support and justification based on Scripture, and (b) after slavery was formally abolished, The Episcopal Church continued for at least a century to support de jure and de facto discrimination; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this 222nd Convention affirms the action of the 75th General Convention that the Episcopal Church apologize for its complicity in and injury done by the institution of slavery and its aftermath; we repent and ask God's grace and forgiveness; and be it further

RESOLVED that this 222nd Convention requests the Bishop to establish and implement a process for collecting and documenting the extent detailed information on (a) the complicity of the Episcopal Church in Delaware in the institution of slavery and in the subsequent history of segregation and discrimination, and (b) the economic benefits the Episcopal Church and its parishes in Delaware derived from the institution of slavery, and report periodically as requested to the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church and to the Bishop and Council of this Diocese, on the progress and findings of this undertaking, and report to the 223rd Convention of the Diocese of Delaware; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Convention commits the Diocese of Delaware to holding a Service of Repentance on or near a Day of Repentance to be designated by the Presiding Bishop.

Voluntary SSAM Drumming Circle
Hymn in Procession "Go Down, Moses"

Johnathan Whitney, facilitator
Leslie Burrs, flute

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Bishop

Come let us return to our God, who has torn us and will heal us.
God has struck us and will bind up our wounds,

Congregation

...after two days revive us,
On the third day restore us, that in God's presence we may live.

THE LESSONS

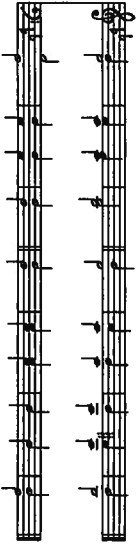
The First Reading *Isaiah 61:1-3*

The congregation stands and joins the choir in singing

Psalms 116

Dilexi, quoniam

William Croft
(1674-1727)



- 1 I love the Lord,
because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me
whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me;
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord:
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."
- 4 Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
- 5 The Lord watches over the innocent;
I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul,
for the Lord has treated you well.
- 7 For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 I will walk in the presence of the Lord*
- in the land of the living.
- 9 I believed, even when I said,
"I have been brought very low;"
In my distress I said, "No one can be trusted."
- 10 How shall I repay the Lord*
for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation,
and call it - pon the Name of the Lord.

The Second Reading: "A Letter to the Church in Delaware"

Personal Witnesses of the impact of Slavery's legacy, Racism

Three persons - Lloyd Garrison, Pat Van Cattaige, and Tanisha Julius, speak about their personal experiences of racism.

Gradual Hymn -

"God of Grace, and God of Glory" (Cwm Rhondda)

see Hymnal 1982 # 594

Gospel Reading *Luke 4:16-21*

Hon. Bishop Wright

Will include official, institutional apology for Church in Delaware's role in slavery

THE LITANIES

Children of European descent are invited to stand and pray this litany.

The Lender says

O God our Creator, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth. You have created all in your own image. You have given us the Church of Jesus Christ, who died and rose that all might be reconciled and have abundant life. You sent your Holy Spirit to enlighten, educate and empower us to live into your Divine Intention.

As children of European descent and members of the Episcopal Church, we have often failed to comprehend and honor that central and sacred truth. We acknowledge that throughout much of our history, white Episcopalians condoned, participated in, and benefited from the institution of Slavery, the legislation of "Jim Crow," and the customs of racial prejudice and discrimination. We confess that many times, consciously and not, we joined in the legacy of that behavior. We recognize that all of this has been, and continues to be deeply injurious to our black sisters and brothers.

We ask for the understanding and empathy necessary for sincere contrition. We ask forgiveness for our own wrongs, for things done and left undone, and for a spirit to effect true reconciliation in the present."

In your wisdom and in power, send the Holy Spirit to teach us and show us the way.

Where we are ignorant and unaware, help us to bring to consciousness all the unconscious assumptions and attitudes that hinder honest relationships with our black sisters and brothers. Inspire our imaginations to transcend the obfuscation blunting our attempts at honest dialogue and reconciliation. Come, Holy Spirit.
Teach us and show us the way.

Where we are estranged and in spiritual pain, open our eyes to the enduring effects of white power and white privilege so long a part of the fabric of our society. Empower us with courage to seek forgiveness and reconciliation. Come Holy Spirit.
Teach us and show us the way.

Deliver us from the temptation to be content with mere words of apology. Compel us to go further, to move through honest dialogue to clear, specific commitments and to actions of reconciliation. Come Holy Spirit.
Teach us and show us the way.

Systemic injustice and inequity persist. Help us to find effective ways and means for redressing wrongs. Strengthen us to withstand the negative criticism that arises in response to our efforts. Come Holy Spirit.
Teach us and show us the way.

Leader and children of European descent say together

God our Creator, Jesus our redeemer and reconciler, Spirit our counselor, and our true strength, we stand this day in your sanctuary of grace. Take away, we pray, whatever arrogance or fear we harbor in mind or heart, and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purpose for us as we go forward in this time and in this community. Amen.

Children of European descent are invited to sit.

Children of African descent are invited to stand and pray this liturgy.

The Leader says

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come. May your love and mercy encourage and sustain us, your sons and daughters of Africa, as we remember the long and tragic saga of suffering and pain that we have endured. Enslaved and bound in chains, we were taken from our ancestral soil and carried in the bowels of slave ships on a journey of unspeakable horrors, to a strange and hostile place. Here, robbed of our humanity by the white masters of this land, we were bought and sold among them as chattel, enduring the indignities, terror, brutality and hardships of slavery for many generations.

The tragedy of slavery continues, not as a past event, but as a living legacy into the present. It spreads its poison of racism, discrimination and injustice over all levels of society—including the Church, destroying all the bonds of the human family and violating your image in all of us. It has stamped a stigma of inferiority upon the sons and daughters of Africa which endures to this day.

Yet, your steadfast love never ceases, your mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness.

We come to you with a sense of reverence for those who have been lost in the seas of forgetfulness, a determination to bear witness to the silent screams of our ancestors, and a renewed commitment to doing justice in our times and for generations yet unborn.
Spirit of God, empower us.

Bear us up as we gaze upon the reality of the history of our presence in America, that embracing the burdens of the past, we may cease being victims of that past.
Spirit of God, empower us.

Make us conscious of the ways and impact of our internalized oppression, and free us from shame, despair and hopelessness.

Spirit of God, empower us.

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Turn our fear into courage, and turn our rage into focused vision, resolve and energy toward the transformation of our Church into a truly inclusive community, and the realization of equal justice throughout this land.
Spirit of God, empower us.

O God, you have made of one blood, all the peoples of the earth, and redeemed us through Jesus, your Christ. Enable us to live into this truth. Release our pent-up and withheld trust, that we may discern, hear and receive the genuine expressions of apology and repentance of our white brothers and sisters.
Spirit of God, empower us.

In your mercy, grant us the grace to accept their apology and to pray with them seeking your forgiveness.
Spirit of God, empower us.

Restore us to a right relationship with Christ, in whom there is a new creation, by whom everything old has passed away and everything has become new. Through Christ, you have reconciled us and given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Spirit of God, empower us.

Empower us this day—all of us—descendants of Africa, The Americas, Europe, Asia and every part of the globe, to renew your church and all the places where we live and move and have our being.

Leader and children of African descent say together

Walking with our brother Jesus and ennobled by the Holy Spirit, may we have faith that lets us mount up on wings like eagles; lets us run and not be weary; lets us walk and not faint. Amen.

Absolution

The Bishop, facing the people, says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

9

Blessing of Water & Asperges

The Bishop, concelebrants and selected members gather at the font. Water is poured in and the Bishop says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may recall our status as children of God and brothers and sisters one to another, and be cleansed, refreshed and renewed.

To Christ, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

During the affirmation of faith the congregation will be sprinkled with the water from the font as a reminder of Holy Baptism.

The Bishop says

Shall we reaffirm our faith in God?

We reaffirm our belief in God, holy Source of all that is. We believe in God, who has spoken the eternal Word in Jesus Christ. We believe in God, ceaselessly breathing the Spirit into creation.

Bishop Shall we renew our trust?

We renew our trust in God's love and wisdom: fully revealed in the humanity of Jesus Christ, present to us through the Spirit's working in the Church and beyond.

Bishop Shall we amend our lives?

We believe, in spite of our rebellion and sin, that God is calling the whole creation into a future of justice and peace. We share in Christ's risen life, and commit ourselves today to receive the coming reign of God.

10
10

The Peace

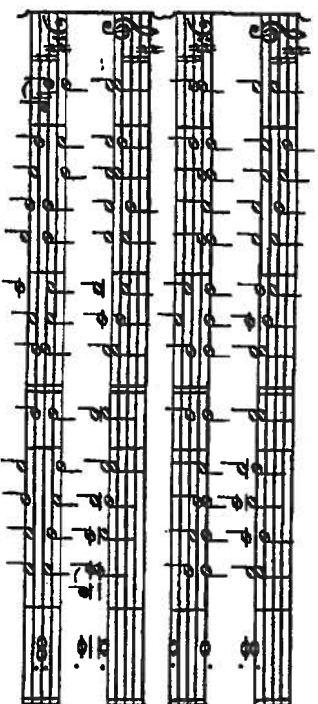
Offertory

The monetary offering today will be sent in equal amounts to the scholarship funds of: Cuttington University, Suoko, Liberia; St. Paul's College, Lawrencetville, VA; St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, NC; and Voorhees College, Denmark, SC.

Antiem "Walk together Children" arr. Raymond Wise

After the anthem all stand and sing the Offertory Hymn

St. Peter



1 In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord
Close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
What-e're your race may be,
All children of the living God
Are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
In Him meet south and north;
All Christ-ly souls are one in Him
Through-out the whole wide earth.

Tune "St. Peter", Alexander Robert Renagle, 1836.
Words: John Oxenham, 1908 alt.; stanza 3, Lawrence Hull Stookey, 1978.

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THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER Enriching our Worship: Prayer 1

The people remain standing. The Bishop and concelebrants gather at the altar, facing the people.

The Bishop says

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 him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels, and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus (Choir) *Missal de Angels' MODE VI*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Bishop continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful steward and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and you prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah, you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of Freedom and life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it; and gave it to his friends, and said: Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Bishop and people

Christ has died.

Bishop and people

Christ is risen.

Bishop and people

Christ will come again.

The Bishop continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

We pray to you with all our hearts asking for grace to forgive and amendment of life. We give you thanks for every faithful witness of justice who has graced your church here in Delaware and the Episcopal Church beyond, remembering especially today *Thomas Garrett, Quintin Primo, Jesse Anderson, Sr., Ann Brown King, George Freeman Bragg, Tollie Cantlion, Edward Thomas Demby, and John Thionias Walker.*

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with *blessed Absalom Jones, blessed Sojourner Truth, blessed Peter Claver, blessed William Wilberforce, blessed James Theodore Holly, blessed Martin Luther King, Jr.,* and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever and ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now as our Savior Christ taught us...

People and Celebrant

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.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then this anthem is said

Bishop Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

Those present and led by faith are invited to receive Holy Communion

During Communion the following are sung by the choir

Agnus dei Missa de Angelus MODE VI

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. R.
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.*

"I Love the Lord" arr. Richard Smallwood Kevin Holt, soloist

When all have received all stand and sing.

I'm so Glad

1. I'm so glad Je-sus lift-ed me - I'm so glad
 glad that lift-ed so glad that

Je-sus lift-ed me - I'm so glad Je-sus lift-ed me - sing-ing
 Lord so glad that

2. When he'd me bound (Jesus lifted me),
 glo - ry Hal - le - lu - jah Je - sus lift - ed me -

3. When I was in sin (Jesus lifted me),
 glo - ry Hal - le - lu - jah Je - sus lift - ed me -

Post Communion Prayer

The Bishop and people remain standing and pray together

God of all ages, giver of life, in sharing the Body and Blood of our Savior, you give us a fore-taste of what it means truly to be sisters and brothers in Christ, reconciled one to another in your holy reign. Lift us now beyond burdens of pain or guilt, as we turn from our pasts. Give us vision for your new creation as we commit ourselves to dismantle racism in our personal and public lives. Send us out into your world as repairers of the breach, and give us new strength to act for justice, human dignity, and the liberation of all your people, through the one who set us free: Jesus Christ. Amen.

All remain standing and sing

Hymn before Dismissal "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" see HYMNAL 1982 #599

The Bishop will then bless the people

May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the Holy and undivided Trinity guard your bodies, save your souls, and bring you safely to his heavenly country, where he lives and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Dismissal

The deacons say together

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit

People Thanks Be to God.

Voluntary *SSAM Drumming Circle*

Johnathan Whitney, facilitator

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

The Ushers & Greeters, Acolytes, and Oblations bearers of the Cathedral Church of St. John

A Massed Choir of the Diocese:

David Christopher, Music Director of the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew;
Director for the Service

Darryl Roland, Canon Precentor of the Cathedral Church of St. John & Matthew Boatman,
Canon Musician of the Cathedral Church of St. John; *Organist for the Service*

Jeff Knoettner, *keyboard*; Jonathan Whitney, *percussion*; Leslie Burts, *flute*

Joyce Bemby, Arrangements Committee Chair and the Rev Al Holland, Chair of Committee on
Slavery; *Readers.*

Pat Van Catledge, Lloyd Casson, and Tanisha Julius;

Giving Testimonies of their Personal Experiences of Racism

Rod Wells and Terry Quinn Gray; *Litanists*

Wayne P. Wright, Bishop of Delaware; *Celebrant and Preacher*

Cecily Sawyer Harmon and Sheila Brigid Sharpe, AF; *Deacons of the Liturgy*

Concelebrants

Lloyd Casson – Canon of the Diocese (retired)

Celeste Cox – Rector, Christ Church, Dover; Chair of the Standing Committee

William B. Lane – Dean of the Cathedral Church of St. John

Joy Walton – Chaplain (retired) St. Andrew's School

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Bishop, the Planning Committee, and the People of the Diocese of Delaware thank:

The Committee on Slavery, and the Pilot Congregation for their pioneering work and leadership
in our ongoing process of confession and amendment of life.

The Delegates and Alternates to the 222nd Diocesan Convention calling for this observance.

The Bishop's Staff for their help in publicity, planning and logistics for the service and the Luncheon

The Dean, Staff and Members of the Cathedral Church of St. John for their help and gracious
hospitality

The Music Director for the Service, Musicians and Choristers for their preparation, work and
support in the liturgy;

Our Members giving Personal Testimonies

Those preparing the luncheon in the Great Hall.

Jocelyn and Herb Quick of Hamilton Graphics for their design and layout of the service booklet

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Joyce Bembrly, Co-Chair

The Rev. Edward Godden, Co-Chair

The Rev. David Andrews

The Rev. Earl Beshears

David Christopher

Norwood Coleman

Patricia Hampton

The Rev. Al Holland

The Very Rev. William B. Lane

The Rev. Ruth Kirk

Herb Quick

Teri Quinn Gray

Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon

The Rev. Rod Welles

Bishop Wayne Wright