

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

#### WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS

Please complete the information card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the ushers.

#### WE, THE PEOPLE OF HOLY COMFORTER

Though very diverse politically and socially, care for each other and care deeply for how our faith is manifested in the community. We believe all people are equal in God's hand. Our nurturing congregation has an appreciation for diverse perspectives and opinions. We grow through a continually evolving and questioning discussion regarding our faith, God, and society. We welcome all, without reservation, into our Christian body to be part of a loving and sharing family.

#### **WE CARE**

Please call the church office at (336) 227-4251 if you or someone you know needs visitation, prayers or other assistance because of illness or inability to attend worship service.

# **OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

To worship God, revealed to us as Creator, as Jesus the Christ, and as the Holy Spirit, and experience God's presence within the church family, nurturing each other through a comprehensive parish program while affirming each other's individual ministries and responding to Jesus' continuing call to minister to others.

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME**

#### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN | 497**

How bright appears the morning star



#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Officiant People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **GLORIA | S-280**



Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And Also with you.

#### **COLLECT**

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God. for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

# All children are invited to follow the crucifer to Godly Play in the Children's Chapel.

FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know: be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

#### THE RESPONSE | S-409

1 The Lord, the God of gods, has | spoken; \*

he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its | setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its | beauty, \*

God reveals himself in | glory.

3 Our God will come and will not keep | silence; \*

before him there is a consuming flame,

and round about him a raging | storm.

4 He calls the heavens and the earth from a- |bove \*

to witness the judgment of his | people.

5 "Gather before me my loyal | followers, \*

those who have made a covenant with me

and sealed it with | sacrifice."

6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his | cause; \*

for God himself is | judge.

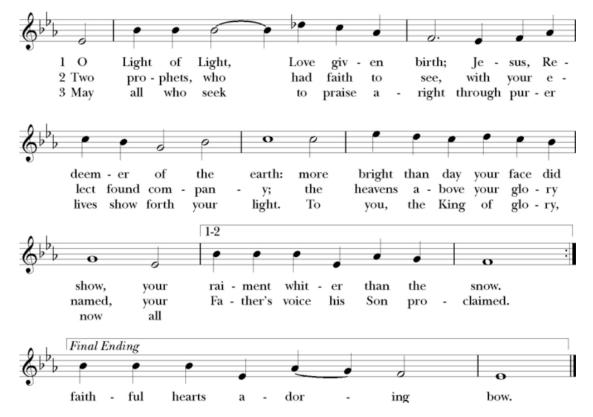
**THE EPISTLE** 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

### **SEQUENCE HYMN | 133**

O Light of Life, love given birth



**Gospeler** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE GOSPEL Mark 9:2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**SERMON** The Rev. Melanie Barbarito

#### THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

Officiant and People

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Form I | BCP 383

The Reader and People pray responsively

Deacon or other leader

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the Reader salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. For this city (town, village, ), for every city and Reader community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the Reader earth, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air [or through outer space], let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People \_\_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord. Reader For People Lord, have mercy. Reader For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

**Reader** That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and

without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

**Reader** Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by

thy grace.

People Lord, have mercy.

**Reader** In the communion of [ and of all the] saints, let us commend

ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence. The celebrant may add a concluding collect before the following.

#### A TRANSITION PRAYER FOR HOLY COMFORTER

Ever-present God,

You call us on a journey to a place we do not know.

We are not where we started.

We have not reached our destination.

We are not sure where we are or who we are.

Transition is not a comfortable place.

May we continue to remind ourselves of the wonderful resources of this Church Sanctuary and a warm and welcoming congregation.

Be among us, we pray.

Calm our fears, save us from discouragement.

Encourage us to care for one another.

And help us to stay on course.

Open our hearts to your guidance so that our journey toward calling a new Rector continues as a journey of trust, and faith and love. **Amen** 

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### **GENERAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

## Officiant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.** 

#### THE PEACE

**Officiant** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE BCP 376

#### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

: I Got Me Flowers Daniel Burton

I got me flowers to strew thy way; I got me boughs off many a tree: But thou wast up by break of day, And brought'st thy sweets along with thee.

The Sun arising in the East, Though he give light, and the East perfume; If they should offer to contest With thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this, Though many suns to shine endeavour? We count three hundred, but we miss: There is but one, and that one ever.

#### **DOXOLOGY | 380 V.3** Old 100th

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The people remain standing.

**Celebrant** 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 our thanks and praise.

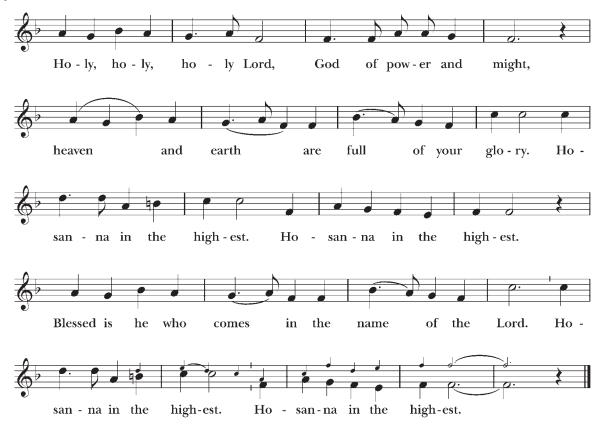
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### SANCTUS | S-125



#### The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Officiant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

#### Officiant and People

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.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

The Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread.
The choir will immediately sing the fraction anthem.

#### FRACTION ANTHEM | S-155



Facing the people, the Officiant says the following Invitation.

The Ciffs of Cod for your who are also gifts of Cod

The Gifts of God for you, who are also gifts of God.

Persons wanting a blessing instead of receiving bread or wine at the Altar may cross their arms over their chest.

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

129 | Christ upon the mountain peak





#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord, **Amen** 

#### PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those attending remotely.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.** 

#### **BLESSING**

#### **RECESSIONAL | 460**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



DISMISSAL Officiant People

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Phil and Audrey Deadmon in thanksgiving for the Newlin Partnership Board of Trustees and the numerous volunteers in the Partnership.

**OFFICIANT**The Rev. Melanie Barbarito

**LAY MINISTERS** 

VERGER Steven Swanner

ORGANIST Christin Baker

USHERS 8:15am - Tom McLean

10:30am - Phil Savage, Micah Ash 8:15am - Curt Odem

10:30am - Meredith Patterson, Martha Stewart

ACOLYTES 8:15am - Curt Odem

10:30am - Chalicist - Martha Stewart

Crucifer - Richard Parker

Left Torch Bearer - Mourine Todd

Right Torch Bearer - Gabe Johnson

Gospel Bearer - Lorenzo Johnson

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL Adriane Newbauer, Rachel Hayes

**VESTRY COUNTERS**George Blaisdell, Derek Bates

FLOWER GUILD Connie Griner

ALTAR GUILD Joanne McClusky, Cheryl Miner, Tish Murray, Susan Ryan,

Julie Smith, Nancy Smith, Janice Davis McAdams

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE Martha Adams, Jennell Harris, Chappy Moser

Cheryl Miner, Janie Sellers

# COMMITMENT TO MINISTRY | COMMITMENT TO FAITHFULNESS JANUARY 7 SERVICE COUNT 8:15AM 17 | 10AM 94 | REMOTE 43

## **MONDAY, JANUARY 29 - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

GENERAL FUND	\$80.00
PLEDGED	\$5,935.00

OTHER......\$**915.00** 

TOTAL ......\$ 6,930.00



# FILE FEBRUARY 11, 2024 | THE ABSALOM JONES FUND

#### What is the Absalom Jones Fund?

The Absalom Jones Fund for Episcopal HBCUs supports two institutions affiliated with The Episcopal Church since the 1800s: Saint Augustine's University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Voorhees University in Denmark, South Carolina.

In 1804, Absalom Jones became the first African American to be ordained a priest in The Episcopal Church. His witness to the way of Jesus included efforts to abolish slavery and to lift up all those cast down. He understood that education is the key to empowerment. We honor Absalom Jones by supporting our HBCUs, which prepare the talented leaders who will continue the work of building a more just and humane society.

#### What is an HBCU?

Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) were founded to create dynamic, supportive, and empowering educational environments for young people from diverse backgrounds. Today there are more than 100 HBCUs in the United States, including public and private institutions and professional schools of law and medicine.



# ABSALOM JONES **FUND**

According to a study published by the United Negro College Fund, today's historically Black colleges and universities are responsible for producing approximately 70 percent of all Black doctors and dentists, 50 percent of Black engineers and public school teachers, and 35 percent of Black lawyers.

### Why support our Episcopal HBCUs?

Voorhees University and Saint Augustine's provide an excellent liberal arts education to thousands of students, the majority of whom come from low-income households, and over 40% of whom are the first in their families to attend a four-year college. The Gospel work of education and emancipation, evangelism and formation, reconciliation and commitment to a just and humane society and world is happening at these schools! Yet in today's economic and political climate, HBCUs increasingly struggle to secure the funds they need to maintain their facilities, retain excellent faculty, and provide much-needed student financial aid.

#### **Collect for the Feast of Absalom Jones**

Set us free, heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# **CONTACTS**

**BISHOP DIOCESAN** The Rt. Rev. Sam Rodman | sam.rodman@episdionc.org ASST. BISHOP The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson | jennifer.brookedavidson@episdionc.org **VERGER** Steven Swanner | isswanner@gmail.com Christin Baker | cbaker@hc-b.org MUSIC DIRECTOR Julia Buffington | jbuffington@hc-b.org FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR Cat Sykes | csykes@hc-b.org PARISH ADMINISTRATOR **Kelvin Bradsher** | gareth.bradsher@yahoo.com **SEXTON** NEWLIN PARTNERSHIP ADMIN. DIRECTOR Mindy Robinson | newlinpartnership@gmail.com Jocelyn Safrit | safritr@bellsouth.net ASSISTANT FOR YOUTH & FAMILY PROJECTS Jan Kelly | jankelly 159@gmail.com **NURSERY STAFF EmmaLee Murphy** emma.murph26@icloud.com **NURSERY STAFF** The Rev. David R. Williams | david@davidrwilliams.org **RECTOR EMERITUS** 

## **VESTRY CONTACTS**

#### 2022-24 CLASS

2024-26 CLASS

PARISH LIFE

STEWARDSHIP

WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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Max Newbauer | maxnewbauer@yahoo.com

Diana Wallace | wallaced2000@yahoo.com

JUNIOR WARDEN

JUNIOR WARDEN ASSISTANT

SENIOR WARDEN

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# **WAYS TO CONNECT**

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OFFICE HOURS Monday-Thursday | 8am-2:30pm - Friday | 8am-12pm

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