



THE FEAST OF ABSALOM JONES



HOLY EUCHARIST

FEBRUARY 6, 2022 AT 4 P.M.

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

- We ask you to observe proper physical distancing throughout the service.
- Please remember to wear your mask, covering your mouth and nose, at all times (except when actively consuming Communion).

Biography of Blessed Absalom Jones

On February 13, the church celebrates Blessed Absalom Jones, the first person of African descent ordained in the Episcopal Church. Jones was born into slavery in Delaware in 1746. In 1770, while still enslaved, he married Mary King, who was also enslaved. He worked for eight years to buy his wife's freedom so that their children would be free, and seven years later, he was able to purchase his own freedom.

Jones became an active member of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, serving as lay preacher for the black members of the congregation. A gifted orator, Jones increased black membership in the church at such a rapid rate that white parishioners began trying to segregate the congregation; black parishioners were told by church officials that they would have to sit in the balcony. After a Sunday service in November 1786, when ushers tried to force all black parishioners, including Jones, to the balcony, Jones and his followers left St. George's.

Jones and Richard Allen, who had been a fellow member of St. George's, founded the Free African Society in 1787, a nondenominational mutual aid society designed to assist freed slaves. By 1791, the African Society had evolved into the African Church, which was received into the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania in 1794. The diocese renamed the church St. Thomas' African Episcopal Church, and it became the first black Episcopal parish in the United States. In 1804 Jones became the first ordained priest of African descent in the Episcopal Church. Jones died at his home in Philadelphia on February 13, 1818, and first appeared on the Episcopal calendar of saints in the Book of Common Prayer in 1979.

The Absalom Jones Fund for Episcopal HBCUs

Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry invites people of all backgrounds and faiths to support the hope-filled, life-impacting work of two historically Black institutions of higher education through donations and dedicated offerings on the Feast of Absalom Jones—the first Black priest ordained by the church—observed Feb. 13.

Saint Augustine's University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina, were founded after the Civil War to create educational opportunities for formerly enslaved people. They provide a liberal arts education to thousands of students, as well as offer robust campus ministries to help form young adults as followers of Jesus and his way of love.

Donations to the HBCUs (divided equally between the two) help support scholarships and financial aid for students in need as well as funding for quality facilities, faculty recruitment and retention, and the development of religious life on campus. Voorhees and Saint Augustine's are seeking to build strong programs in STEM fields and the health sciences as they overcome the financial pressures created by COVID-19.

To give: Donate online at iam.ec/givehbcu, or text **GIVEHBCU** to **41444**.

Hymns for today's service are found in either the Black & Red "Lift Every Voice and Sing" Hymnal (noted with L before the number) or the Blue "Hymnal 1982" (noted with # before the number).

ORGAN & CHOIR PRELUDE

WELCOME

VIDEO WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Victory - performed by Eben
The St. Augustine Liturgical Dancers

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN L44

Blessed Absalom

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

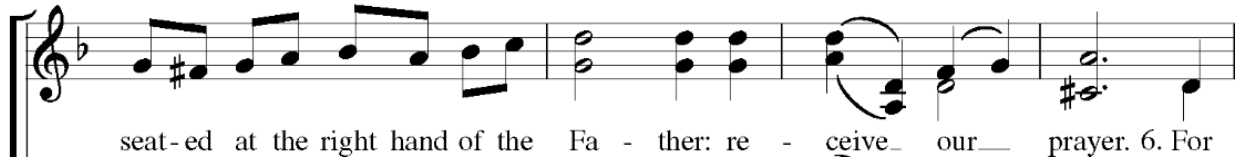
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,

Unison



7. You a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the

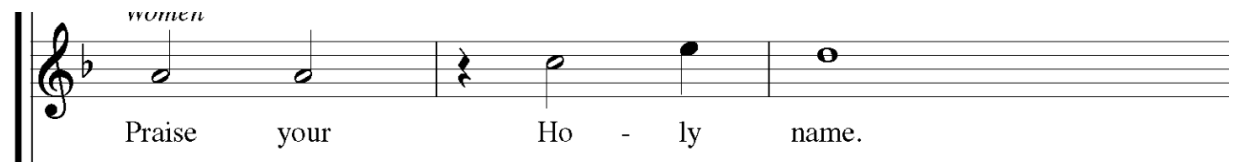


glo-ry of the Fa - ther. Glo-ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we

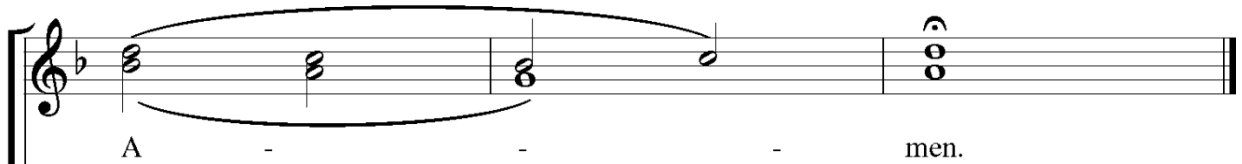


praise your Ho - ly name, Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we

women



Praise your Ho - ly name.



A - - - men.

THE COLLECT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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.**

Please be seated for the Lessons.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-5

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

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

THE PSALM

Psalms 137:1-6

New Britain

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. In Babylon we sat and wept
Beside its flowing streams
When memories of Zion came
Upon us in our dreams. | 3. How shall we sing the songs of God
Here in this foreign land?
If I forget Jerusalem,
Then wither my right hand. |
| 2. We took our harps and hung them up
In trees, among the limbs,
For our oppressors called for mirth:
“Sing us your Zion’s hymns.” | 4. If I forget Jerusalem,
Let every pleasure cloy,
If I set not Jerusalem
Above my highest joy. |

A New Metrical Psalter
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THE EPISTLE

Galatians 5:1-5

A reading from the Letter to the Galatians.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law. You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

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

All who are able are invited to stand.

HYMN L62

In Christ there is no East or West

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:12-15

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Right Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce
Bishop Provisional of West Missouri

After a moment of silent reflection, all who are able are invited to stand.

THE NICENE CREED

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us offer prayers to God who sets us free from the bondage of sin and gives us that liberty of abundant life which is revealed in Christ Jesus.

God of wisdom and strength, anoint the leaders of our Church with your Spirit. May we continue your ministries of reconciliation and peace. Help us grow Absalom Jones' ministry of racial justice. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God who hears, help the nations of the world hear their citizens' concerns by responding to injustice, war, and slavery with actions that lead to peace. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of our Ancestors, endue our elders and leaders with wisdom and vision to reach back with the purpose of moving forward. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, you hear your people's cries and prayers in heaven: accept our intercessions and petitions as part of our worship of you. Help us remember that we stand on the prayers of our ancestors. As they prayed for current and future generations, so must we pray for our sisters and brothers today and for those to come. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God who creates, Blessed Absalom reminded us that sacrifices must be accompanied with action: guide our feet to run the race without getting weary. Keep us focused on the fight for equality. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Healing God, deliver all those who call upon your name as we intercede for this city and our Diocese, for the hungry and the poor; for the sick and for the shut-in, and for those prayers we offer to you in the silence of our hearts. *Silence*
Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you inspire our hearts with hope as we offer prayers of thanksgiving.
silence
Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of our hope, we remember all who have died, may light perpetual shine upon them. *silence*
Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may

crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All who are able are invited to kneel.

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.**

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.**

All who are able are invited to stand.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Chas Marks,
Rector of St. Augustine's Church

The Rev'd Rita Kendagor,
Deacon of St. Augustine's Church

VIDEO MESSAGE

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

HYMN L151

One bread, one body

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The congregation is invited to stand or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Absalom, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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

**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

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION PROCESSION

All baptized Christian persons of any age may receive Communion.

*Please come forward to the center to receive the consecrated bread
and then go to the station on either side if you would like to receive the consecrated wine by intinction.*

*If you are not baptized or do not feel comfortable receiving at this time, you may come forward for a blessing.
Please indicate this by folding your arms across your chest.*

*If you are not baptized and interested in becoming a baptized member of the Church, please see one of the clergy.
We would be happy to welcome you into our faith.*

*Those who are unable to join us in person or do not feel comfortable receiving at this time
are encouraged to pray this act of Spiritual Communion.*

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Lord with the faithful around the world, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you and embrace you in my soul. Let nothing ever separate me from you. May I live and die forever in your love. **Amen.**

CHOIR HYMN

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

The congregation is invited to stand.

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.

THE BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN L196

Leaning on the everlasting arms

THE POSTLUDE

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We ♥ Pictures

We love pictures and videos, and we love sharing what we do. When attending any of our events or services, you agree to our using pictures of you and any children in your charge on social media and elsewhere. If you are not comfortable with this, please inform a member of staff **before** we start taking pictures or recording.



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