

TRINITY CATHEDRAL, PITTSBURGH

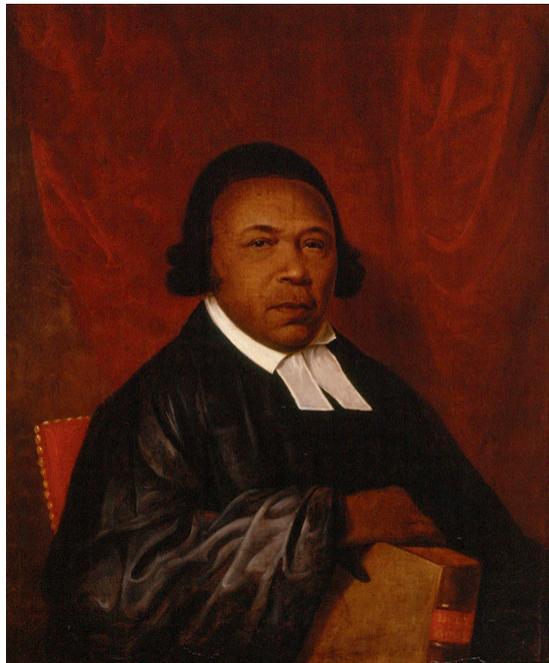
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

13 February 2021 • 10:00 a.m.

**Morning Prayer • The Feast of Absalom Jones**

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ECUMENICAL CELEBRATION  
*of* THE MINISTRIES *of*  
THE REVEREND ABSALOM JONES  
&  
THE REVEREND JEHU JONES, JR.



*Absalom Jones*  
*Raphaelle Peale, 1810*

PRELUDE

*Listen to the Lamb*

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

# MORNING PRAYER

**Video Presentation**

Black Pioneers of the Church  
prepared by Darrell Powell

*Please stand*

**Opening Hymn**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*  
sung by Malcolm Hines, baritone

*Lift ev'ry voice and sing,  
till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
let our rejoicing rise  
high as the list'ning skies,  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
facing the rising sun  
of our new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chast'ning rod,  
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat,  
have not our weary feet  
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over away that with tears has been watered;  
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;  
out from the gloomy past,  
till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who hast by thy might,  
led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee,  
shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
may we forever stand,  
true to our God, true to our native land.*

*Officiant* I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. –*Isaiah 49:6b*

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All* **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**

*Officiant* 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.**

**Reflection**

**The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow**  
*Bishop of the Southwestern PA Synod, ELCA*

## THE INVITATORY *and* PSALTER

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*All* **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!**

**Venite** *Psalm 95:1–7*

*All* **Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

## Psalm 126

*said responsively by half verse*

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
**then were we like those who dream.**
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
**and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
**“The Lord has done great things for them.”**
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
**and we are glad indeed.**
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
**like the watercourses of the Negev.**
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
**will reap with songs of joy.**
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
**will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

*All*

**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.**

## THE WORD *of* GOD

### The Lesson

*Isaiah 42:5–9*

**T**hus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the LORD, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

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

**Canticle**

*The First Song of Isaiah*

*Isaiah 12:2–6*

**S**urely, it is God who saves me; \*  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say, \*  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of 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.

## The Gospel

*John 15:12–15*

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 servants any longer, because the servant does not know 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.”

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

## The Homily

**The Rev. Charles L. Fischer, III**  
*Vice-president for Seminary Advancement*  
*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*

*please stand*

## Hymn

*Blessed Absalom*

LAUDA ANIMA

*Sung by Malcolm Hines, baritone*

1. *Born in bondage, born in shackles,  
born stripped of all dignity,  
Abs'lom Jones was bound, determined,  
that he would one day be free.  
Blessed Abs'lom, leads us, guides us,  
in the bonds of unity.*

2. *Seeking to expand horizons,  
bible, primer he did find  
to each word he was attentive,  
learning, lest he fall behind.  
Blessed Abs'lom, liberates us  
from the prison of our mind.*

3. *When in Philadelphia settled,  
he sought persons in great need,  
dedicated to empowerment,  
his own people did he lead.  
Blessed Abs'lom, pray that we from  
all indifference may be freed.*

4. *One fine morning, while at worship,  
wrested from his knees in prayer;  
he, his friends, were thus evicted:  
“You no more may praise God here.”  
Blessed Abs'lom, pray that we may  
stand steadfast and persevere.*

5. *Founded he Saint Thomas' church for  
Afric's sons and daughters blest;  
full-fledged members of Christ's Body,  
they no longer were oppressed.  
Blessed Abs'lom, pray that we may  
be the church at Christ's behest.*

6. *Blessed Abs'lom Jones, first priest of  
Afric's stock within our fold;  
may we, inspired by your witness  
raise up priests with hearts of gold!  
Blessed Abs'lom, pioneer, prophet  
may your story long be told!*

7. *Praise to Christ the Liberator;  
praise Creator ever blest;  
praise the Spirit, Source of comfort,  
north to south, and east to west:  
Blessed Abs'lom, priest, exemplar,  
in God's bosom now at rest.*

Text: Harold Lewis, © 1992.  
Music: John Goss, 1869.

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS

*Leader* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Leader* Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

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.

## Suffrages

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**And grant us your salvation.**

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**Let your people sing with joy.**

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**For only in you can we live in safety.**

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth;

**Your saving health among all nations.**

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

*Leader* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church universal: especially for Michael and Elizabeth, our Presiding Bishops; Dorsey and Kurt, our bishops; for all lay and ordained ministers; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world.

*People* **God of love, hear our prayers for the church.**

*A moment of silence, add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader* God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: for peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; and for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred and to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

*People* **God of freedom, hear our prayers for the world.**

*A moment of silence, add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader* God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: for the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own.

Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

*People*     **God of justice, hear our prayers for the earth.**

*A moment of silence, add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader*     God of peace, we pray for this community: for our local leaders; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people, beginning here at home.

*People*     **God of peace, hear our prayers for our community.**

*A moment of silence, add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader*     God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: for those whose lives are closely linked with our, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and the suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; and for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons.

*People*     **God of mercy, hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

*A moment of silence, add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader*     God of grace, we pray for those who have died: for the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who have called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

*People*     **God of grace, hear our prayers for those who have died.**

*A moment of silence, add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Officiant*   O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

Set us free, heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servants Absalom Jones and Rufus Jones, Jr., 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.**

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*All*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

*Officiant*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

# THE SENDING FORTH *of* GOD'S PEOPLE *for* MINISTRY *in the* WORLD

## Reflection

**The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell**  
*Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh*

## Closing Hymn *In Christ There is No East or West*

McKEE  
*soloist Malcolm Hines*

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.*

3  
*In Christ now meet both East and West,  
in him meet South and North,  
all Christly souls are one in him,  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

2  
*Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as his child  
is surely kin to me.*

Text: John Exenham (1852–1941), alt.

Music: African-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866–1949)

## The Blessing and Dismissal

*Bishop* May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All* **Glory to God whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:  
Glory to him from generation to generation  
in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Fugue*

David Hurd (b. 1950)

## PARTICIPANTS

- Crucifer* The Rev. Linda Tardy Wilson,  
*Commission on Race and Reconciliation*
- Officiant* The Rev. Canon Eric McIntosh,  
*Beloved Community Initiative*
- Lectors* The Rev. Ryan Pusch,  
*Pastor, Hebron Lutheran Church, Leechburg*  
*and St. Paul's Highfield Lutheran Church, Vandergrift*  
Sekia Ondunyo, *Church of the Holy Cross, Homewood*
- Homilist* The Rev. Charles Fischer, III  
*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*
- Dean* The Very Rev. Aidan Smith, *Trinity Cathedral*
- Intercessors*  
Joe Macklin, *Trinity Cathedral*  
Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggin, *Trinity Cathedral*
- Bishops* The Right Rev. Dorsey McConnell  
The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow
- Introductory video*  
Darrell Powell, *St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Oakmont*
- Organist* David Schaap, *Trinity Cathedral*
- Soloist* Malcolm Hines, *Trinity Cathedral*
- Video production*  
Paul Schaap, *Trinity Cathedral*

Prayers of the people for the Ministry of Justice and Reconciliation,  
TEC <https://standingcommissiononliturgyandmusic.org/2018/01/03/prayers-for-racial-reconciliation-and-justice/>

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