Like a Mighty Stream, Let Justice Roll.
Absalom, Jehu and Beyond…

The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
For Social Justice

7:00 p.m. Monday, July 24, 2017

Youth and Young Adults
African Descent Lutheran Association & The Union of Black Episcopalians
Welcome...

On the behalf of all the members of the Union of Black Episcopalians and African Descent Lutheran Association through the world, we bid you *welcome*.

We are gathered in this space as a one people reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. We gather to celebrate the many traditions and heritages of our Episcopal and Lutheran identities. We come from intimate rural parishes and sprawling urban ones, as longtime church members and newcomers to the faith. As we gather, we bring our diverse gifts: gifts of music, dance, prophecy, teaching, preaching, and friendship. We present these gifts in the form of our most precious offering to God, our very selves, that all we do may be for God’s glory in the unity of Christ’s church.

We “gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God” as we are united one to another in the stream of baptism. As we come together at the font and renew our baptismal vows, we affirm the promise of our faith: that we are made in God’s image to do God’s work, that we are members of Christ’s one body, and that, empowered by the Spirit, we are participants in a divine mystery. The covenant that we remember today is a sign of God’s unfailing love for all creation, as well as a call to take our part in God’s transforming work.

On this joyful occasion, we invite all present in this place, to pray for guidance for our community of faith, our Presiding Bishops, the Union of Black Episcopalians and African Descent Lutherans as we seek to envision the reign of God in our midst. May our celebration today unite us as a sacramental community, and may we leave this place filled with new energy for God’s work in the world.
GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Drumming entrance of the altar party. All standing.

WELCOME & GREETING

The Presider welcomes the community to worship and states the purpose of our gathering.

Presider Dear friends in Christ, God has called us to this time and place to rekindle the fire of justice and reclaim the mantle of the prophets; to proclaim once again that God stands with the widowed and the orphaned, the oppressed and rejected, the outcast and the refugee. We come believing that God commands us to seek peace founded on justice and knowing that costly reconciliation is at the heart of the Gospel. As followers of Christ it is our call to work for a world in which every person, created in the image and likeness of God, has the quality and dignity of a full life, free of oppression, poverty, injustice and fear. Therefore as we the Body of Christ come to this time of worship, I invite our youth and young adults to gather the water from our communities to be a symbol of God’s gathering of this holy people, as we kindle a to recall once more our burning passion for justice.

The youth and young adults bring forward water to be poured into the font. The youth and young adults have gathered the water from different communities of the diaspora.
Blessing of Fire & Water

A simple fire is kindled near the font of water.

Presider Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People The Maker of heaven and earth.

Presider God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give thanks and praise.

Presider Elohay Mishpat, your Spirit moved over the waters of creation, and kindled the flame of hope at Pentecost.


Presider In Christ, you drive away the darkness of this world that we may, with pure minds, come to you, the Light that never fails. You are the purifying flame of justice + bless this fire, and grant that it may enflame our minds, our hearts and souls with a passion for justice.

People Come, Holy Spirit, come as a refining fire. | Ven, Espíritu Santo, ven como un fuego refinador.

Presider In the waters of rebirth you renew us and by the power of your life-giving Spirit ever cleanse and sanctify your people. In these waters we are buried and raised with Christ our Savior. + Bless, we pray you, this water for the service of your holy Church; and grant that it may be a sign of the cleansing and refreshment of your heavenly grace.

People Come, Holy Spirit, come wash us with grace. | Ven, Espíritu Santo, ven a lavarnos con gracia.

Presider You are the burning flame of justice and the cooling waters of salvation; Enflame us, fill us, use us and in Jesus call us to new life in you. To Christ, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and for ever. Amen.

Presider As you are sprinkled with the waters of justice and peace, may you be rekindled and strengthened for the work and ministry of social justice.

*Elohay Mishpat is the Aramaic word for “God of Justice from Isaiah 30:18*
THE GREETING

Presider Blessed be the just name of our God.
People From this time forth and forever more. Amen.
Presider Holy God, lead us that we may stand firm in faith for justice. Teach us love. Teach us compassion. Above all, out of love and compassion, teach us to act; in the name of Jesus the Anointed One. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: “I WILL REJOICE”

Refrain
I will rejoice, I will be glad. I will praise God who holds my life in his hands.

Verses
1. I will praise my Father each and every day.
2. I will praise the Father, I will praise the Son.

1. O and I will sing his love songs for ever more.
2. O and I will praise God’s Spirit for ever more.

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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God is with you.  
Celebrante El Señor sea con ustedes
People And also with you.  
Pueblo Y con tu espíritu.
Presider Let us pray.  
Celebrante Oremos

Silence is kept for a time.

Presider Almighty God, who created us in your image:

People Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

All are seated.

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 42:1-7

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus 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.

Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God’s people.
All Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 72

Voice 1 O God, give your anointed one your judgment and your justice.
Voice 2 Teach your chosen one to govern your people rightly and bring justice to the oppressed.
Voice 1 The mountains will bring the people peace and the hills justice!
Voice 2 Your anointed will defend the oppressed among the people, save the children of the poor, and crush the oppressor.

Lord, send out your Spirit.  
Lord, send out your Spirit.  
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

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Voice 1 The reign of your anointed will endure as long as the sun and moon – throughout all generations.
Voice 2 The rule of the chosen one will be like rain coming down on the meadow, like showers watering the earth.
Voice 1 In your chosen the nations of the earth will be blessed, and they will bless the anointed in return.
Voice 2 Justice will flower through the days, and profound peace, until the moon is no more. ANTIPHON

Voice 1 Your anointed will rescue the poor when they cry out, and the oppressed when there is no one to help them.
Voice 2 Your chosen one will take pity on the lowly and the poor, and will save their lives.
Voice 1 Blessed be Our God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds!
Voice 2 And blessed forever be God’s glorious Name; may the whole earth be filled with God’s glory. ANTIPHON
A reading from the Letter of James 2:5-9,12-17

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader  
Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church.

All  
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: South African Alleluia

All stand as able and sing.

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The Proclamation of the Holy Gospel

Deacon  
God is with you.

People  
And also with you.

Deacon  
Hear the Good News of our Savior Jesus the Christ according to Matthew.

People  
Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said ‘Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ‘Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ‘Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’

Deacon  
The Gospel of the Lord.

People  
Praise to you, O Christ.
**AFFIRMATION: MAGNIFICAT**

*Presider* Let us stand and affirm God’s call to a world redeemed and reconciled towards justice and peace, in the song of Mary the Godbearer.

*Deacon* My heart praises you, O God,  
*People* My spirit rejoices in you, my savior.  
*Deacon* You have remembered me in my lowliness,  
*People* And now I will be called blessed.  
*Deacon* You have done great things for me,  
*People* And shown mercy to all those who trust you.  
*Deacon* You have stretched out your arm,  
*People* And scattered the proud with all their plans.  
*Deacon* You have brought down the mighty from their thrones,  
*People* And lifted up the lowly.  
*Deacon* You have filled the hungry with good things,  
*People* And sent the rich away with empty hands.  
*Deacon* You have kept your promise to our mothers and fathers,  
*People* And come to the help of your people, to Abraham and Sarah, and to all generations for ever. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Remain standing as you are able.  
The Prayers of the People have been written by our youth and young adults.

After each petition the Intercessor says:  
*Intercessor* My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
*People* Let the fires of justice burn.  
The Presider adds a concluding prayer.

**EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE**

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
The people greet each other with a sign of Christ’s peace.

*Celebrante* La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.  
*Pueblo* Y con tu espíritu.

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERTORY**

Praise Dancers: “That Name” by Yolanda Adams

Instrumental music.
GATHERING AT CHRIST’S TABLE: THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

At the invitation of the Presider all who are able stand.

Presider God is with you. Celebrante El Señor sea con ustedes
People And also with you. Pueblo Y con tu espíritu.
Presider Lift up your hearts. Celebrante Elevemos los corazones.
People We lift them to the Lord. Pueblo Los elevamos al Señor
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Celebrante Demos gracias a Dios nuestro Señor
People It is right to give thanks and praise. Pueblo Es justo darle gracias y alabanza.
Presider Reconciling God, you draw together heaven and earth, and in the death and resurrection of Jesus you break down the dividing wall of hostility. Your Holy Spirit draws all people to yourself, in one race and nation, and heals the cancer of prejudice, injustice and fear, within the hearts of children. You judge us not by the color of our skin but by the content of our character, and you turn the truthful story of our past into a hopeful story for our future in you. And so you draw us into the company of your angels around your eternal throne, singing their hymn of unending praise.

SANCTUS: LEVAS II 255 “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”
People Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Presider God the three-in-one, as we bring our diverse gifts to the altar of your sacrifice, transform them into your food that never runs out. Sanctify us by your grace, that we may enjoy the unity of your Spirit in the bonds of peace, and that this bread of the field and wine of the hillside may be for us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ;

Presider Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” After supper Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “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. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Presider Great is the mystery of faith.
People Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Presider God of justice and mercy, bless your whole creation. Be close to all who know their need of you. Succor those living in the midst of death, and dying in the midst of life. Flood this earth with your kingdom, that justice may roll down like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream, until we see you face to face and recognize our diverse faces in the face of your Son, through whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are your, now and for ever. AMEN.

THE LORD’S PRAYER
Presider The Risen Christ is in our midst, and so standing with our sisters and brothers before us and behind us, let us pray in the way our Savior taught us.

People 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

People Padre nuestro, que estas en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; Venga a nosotros tu reino, Hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día, Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdónamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en la tentación y libranos del mal porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la Gloria por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.
BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia!

FRACTION

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast.

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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider Christ’s table is made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor, the outcast and the oppressed, those with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table. Come be strengthened and renewed, it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

SHARING OF SACRED ELEMENTS

Music during communion: “O HAPPY DAY” YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT SINGERS

HYMN: “JUST AS I AM WITHOUT ONE PLEA”

1. Just as I am, without one plea,
   But that thy blood was shed for me,
   And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee,
   O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

2. Just as I am, tho’ tossed about,
   With many a conflict, many a doubt,
   Fightings within and fears without,
   O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

3. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind,
   Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
   Yea, all I need in Thee to find,
   O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

4. Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
   Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
   Because Thy promise I believe,
   O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

5. Just as I am, Thy love unknown,
   Hath broken every barrier down;
   Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
   O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

6. Just as I am, of thy great love,
   The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
   Here for a season, then above:
   O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

HYMN: “HE’LL UNDERSTAND AND SAY ‘WELL DONE’”

1. He'll Understand and Say "Well Done"
   If when you give the best of your service,
   Telling the world that the Savior is come;
   Be not dismayed when men don’t believe you;
   He understands; and say, "Well done."

Refrain:

Oh when I come to the end of my journey,
Weary of life and the battle is won;
Carrying the staff and the cross of redemption,
He’ll understand and say, "Well done."

2 Misunderstood, the Savior of sinners,
   Hung on the cross; He was God’s only Son;

3 If when this life of labor is ended,
   And the reward of the race you have run;
   Oh! the sweet rest prepared for faithful
   Will be His blest and final, "Well done." [Refrain]

4 But if you try and fail in your trying,
   Hands sore and scarred from the work you’ve begun;
   Take up your cross, run quickly to meet Him;
   He’ll understand; and say, "Well done." [Refrain]
POST COMMUNION PRAYER
At the invitation of the Presider all stand as able.

Presider God is with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Let us pray.

Celebrante El Señor sea con ustedes
Pueblo Y con tu espíritu.
Celebrante Oremos

Silence is kept for a time.

People Blessed God, help us, whom you have fed and satisfied in this Eucharist, to hunger and thirst for what is right; help us, who here have rejoiced and been glad, to stand with those who are persecuted and reviled; help us, who here have glimpsed the life of heaven, to strive for the cause of right and for the coming of the kingdom of Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING
The Presider blesses the people as a reminder of God’s extravagant love.

CLOSING HYMN: “TABLE OF THE WORLD”

1. From the table of Christ Jesus to the
table of the world, now to live the Gospel
table of the world, we are nourished by this
table of the world, we return to daily

2. From the table of Christ Jesus to the

vision of a land where goodness reigns—not to
banquet; may we nourish all we meet. Sing of
labour, lives of hunger, fear, and need. All trans-

3. From the table of Christ Jesus to the

seek the beggar’s “thank you,” not for
grace and sing of mercy, sing of
formed here in our meeting, all who

earthly, vain reward, but to do the work of
love that brings forth peace. May we humbly serve all
struggle to believe: Let us go forth from this

justice, laying down the angry sword.
people, share the richness of this feast,
table to become what we receive.

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SENDING

Deacon  Go forth into the world where people hunger and thirst, to share the bread of life and the wine of refreshment. Go forth into a world where people are abused and oppressed to be God’s compassion and strength. Go forth into a world filled with wars and rumor of war, to be the reconciling waters of peace. Go in love, go in hope, go in peace.

People  Thanks be to God!

Like a Mighty Stream, Let Justice Roll.
Absalom, Jehu and Beyond…

AFRICAN DESCENT LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION
UNION OF BLACK EPISCOPALIANS

JULY 2017