

Union of Black Episcopalians presents

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & CONFERENCE



SHAPING A NEW TOMORROW

June 18-21, 2024 | Louisville, Kentucky

CLOSING FESTIVAL EUCHARIST



**Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral.
421 S 2nd St, Louisville, KY 40202**

**Friday, June 21, 2024
1:00 P.M.**

The ministers of the liturgy gather at the baptismal Font.

LIBATION TO THE ANCESTORS

(Libation: Honoring Those That Came Before Us by Oshiyemi Adelabu)

The libationist addresses the elder of the gathered community:

Dear _____ I ask your permission as an elder of our Union to continue forth with offering.

Elder: I grant you permission, praying that our ancestors be in your heart and God's grace be upon your lips.

The libationist goes to the baptismal font and from there addresses the community:

Hello, my name is _____ and I have the honor of pouring Libation. Libation is giving honor, reverence, respect, and recognition to our ancestors whose shoulders we stand on and our elders whose shadows we walk in.

I greet you in the name of the Union of Black Episcopalians, in the ancient language of Kemit (which the Greeks call Egypt). HOTEPE, which means Peace.

HONORING YOUR ANCESTORS

(Opening Libation Acknowledgements)

It is customary in Libation ceremonies, as water is poured and acknowledgements are spoken to the ancestral spirits, that names of those that have passed before us are called out, names of persons who were instrumental in our lives.

These could be historians, relatives, friends, co-workers, children or strangers whose presence somehow made a difference...someone truly special.

We pour Libation to honor the past, so that we may learn from it. We use water because water has no enemies.

We use water to freshen the road our ancestors traveled to be here with us today. We use water as a symbol of the continuity of life, to purify and to nourish our souls...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to GOD, for all that GOD has done and for all that GOD will do...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to Mother Africa, the birthplace of all humanity...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to the great civilizations of Africa...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to the remembrance of our ancestors who died during the Middle Passage (*the trip from Africa to the Americas*), ancestors who suffered enslavement, who were uprooted from their homes and homeland and who set sail on a horrifying voyage. We do not know their names but it is because of them that we are here today...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to the men and women who fought and resisted enslavement to help free our people. Men and Women like:

- Harriet Tubman, a runaway captive from Maryland who became known as the “Moses” of our people.
- Denmark Veazie of South Carolina, who in 1822 formed a complicated and tremendous plan for the liberation of his fellow men.
- Nat Turner, an American captive who started the largest slave rebellion in the southern United States in Southampton County, Virginia.

...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to the brothers and sisters of the 60's who understood what it meant to struggle and fight for civil and human rights, those who had the courage to exercise BLACK POWER...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers, our fathers, grandfathers and our great grandfathers, uncles, aunts and cousins -- the foundations of our families, immortalized in our thoughts...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour libation to the bishops, priests, deacons and lay leaders of the African Diaspora of The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion who have preceded us in the struggle for justice within the Church and in the world...let us say ASE.

People: Ase

We pour libation to:

Absalom Jones, James Theodore Holly, Alexander Crummell, Artemisia Bowden, George Freeman Bragg, Pauli Murray, Barbara Harris, Harold Lewis ...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

We pour Libation to those yet unborn, our future leaders, our future heroes and heroines that will continue the struggle to be a free, proud and productive people, those who will not let our legacy and our efforts for progress die...let us say ASE'

People: Ase

Let's now call out the names of those that have gone before us...

The Right Reverend Clarence Nicholas Coleridge, Hibbert A. Duncan, Krisita Anne Jackson, The Rev. Canon Benjamin K. Musoke-Lubeg, The Rev. Earl A. Neil, The Rev. Canon Edward “Ed” Willis Rodman, Gwendolyn G. Simmons, Marguerite Smith, The Rev. Laughton Dennis Thomas, The Very Rev. Dr. C. David Williams

Let us say ASE'

People: Ase

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Sung by all

**AMHH 409 & 410
Faith of our fathers and mothers**

Faith of our fathers, living still
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword,
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our fathers, we will strive
To win all nations unto thee;
And through the truth that comes from God
Mankind shall then indeed be free.
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our mothers, living yet
In cradle song and bedtime prayer;
In nurs'ry lore and fireside love,
Thy presence still pervades the air:
Faith of our mothers, living faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,
For youthful longing, youthful doubt,
How blurred our vision, blind our way,
Thy providential care without:
Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,
Were still in heart and conscience free;
And blest would be their children's fate,
If they, like them should die for thee:
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee, too, as love knows how
By kindly words and virtuous life.
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our mothers, lavish faith,
Fount of our childhood's trust and grace,
Oh, may thy consecration prove
The wellspring of a nobler race:
Faith of our mothers, lavish faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,
In truth beyond our human made creeds,
Still serve the home and save the Church,
And breathe thy spirit through our deeds:
Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Bishop Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Bishop

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.

People **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Sung by all

LEVAS 241
Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Bishop God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Bishop Let us pray.

Almighty God, by whose grace and power your holy martyr Alban triumphed over suffering and was faithful even to death: Grant us, who now remember him in thanksgiving, to be so faithful in our witness to you in this world, that we may receive with him the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

All sit.

THE FIRST READING

1 John 3:13-16

Do not be astonished, brothers and sisters, that the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

LEVAS 111

Come, Thou fount of every blessing

Come, Thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, O fix me on it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Surely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God.
He, to save my soul from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace, Lord, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Here's my
heart, Lord, take and seal it,
Seal it from thy courts above.

Robert Robinson (1735-1790)

These words are in the public domain.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10:34-42

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “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, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rt. Rev. John Harmon
Bishop, Diocese of Arkansas

A period of silence is kept following the sermon.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence. All kneel as are able.

Minister 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.

The Bishop stands and says

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

All stand.

Bishop We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and build up our common life. The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Holy Communion

OFFERTORY HYMN

LEVAS 198
Love Lifted Me

I was sinking deep in sin,
Far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within,
Sinking to rise no more;
But the master of the sea
Heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me
Now safe am I.

Chorus:

Love lifted even me, Love lifted even me,
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.

All my heart to Him I give,
Ever to Him I'll cling,
In His blessed presence live,
Ever His praises sing.

Love so mighty and so true
Merits my soul's best songs;
Faithful, loving service, too,
To Him belongs.

Souls in danger, look above,
Jesus completely saves;
He will lift you by His love
Out of the angry waves.
He's the master of the sea,
Billows His will obey;
He your savior wants to be,
Be saved today.

James Rowe (1865-1933)

This selection is in the public domain.

All stand as the Bishop raises the offerings and together sing.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Hymnal 380
Music: Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise

him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye

heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est

The people stand or kneel and the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all. When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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." Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Hymnal S-140

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks
to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Michael, our Presiding Bishop and all who minister in your Church.

Remember the members of the body of Christ who will gather for The Episcopal Church's General Convention this coming week.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all those in need, the suffering and the oppressed.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Bishop then continues,

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEVAS 264

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed

be thy name, Thy king - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in

heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly

bread. And for - give us our debts as we for - give our

debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, But de - liv - er us from

debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, But de - liv - er us from

e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the

glo - ry, for - ev - er. A - men.

*The Bishop breaks the bread.
A period of silence is kept.*

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

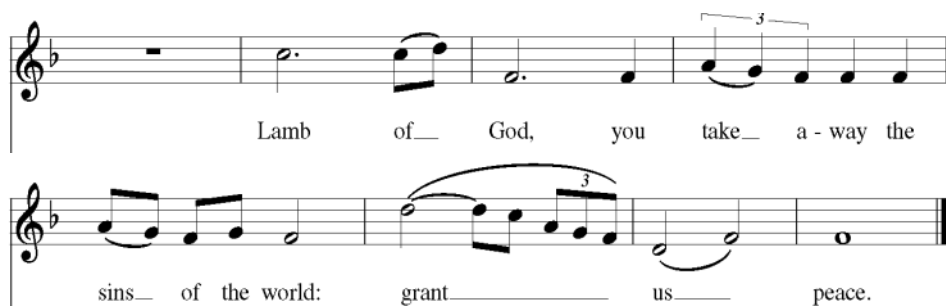
LEVAS 269

Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.



The Bishop invites all to God's table saying

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.

All are welcome at the Lord's table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. To receive Communion in your pew, please ask an usher to notify the ministers on your behalf. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please ask at the altar rail.

COMMUNION MUSIC

**LEVAS 151
ONE BREAD, ONE BODY**

Chorus:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more.
One Lord.

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all.
One Lord.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all.
One Lord.

*Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28;
The Didache 9
These words are in the public domain.*

**LEVAS 154
TASTE AND SEE**

Chorus:

Taste and see.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
O Taste and see.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the
Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times.
His praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord;
for He has been so good to me.

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us all praise His name.
I called the Lord and He answered me;
from all my troubles He set me free.

Worship the Lord all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that God is good;
in Him we need put all our trust.

*Psalms 34
These words are in the public domain.*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After all have received Communion, people stand or kneel as the Bishop says

Let us pray.

Bishop and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop blesses the people.

All **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

**LEVAS 120
SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT**

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in
praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been
revived
when we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive
Till you know Him in His fullness, and believe.
You're the one to profit when you say,
'I am going to walk with Jesus all the way.'

If you say He saved you from your sin,
Now you're weak, you're bound, and cannot enter
in,
you can make it right if you will yield;
You'll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel.

Doris Akers (b. 1922)

To reproduce this selection for any purpose, you
must contact:

Clearbox Rights LLC
P.O. Box 1547
Brentwood, TN 37024

Your gifts will be used for supporting the work of UBE



Serving the Assembly Today

Presider & Celebrant	The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church
Con-Celebrants	The Rt. Rev. Terry Allen White Bishop of the Diocese of Kentucky The Rt. Rev. Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, Diocese of Southwark, Church of England
Homilist	The Rt. Rev. John Harmon Bishop of the Diocese of Arkansas
Asssiting Deacons	The Very Rev. Matt Bradley, The Rev. Dr. Mauricio J. Wilson The Rev. Jamesetta Hammons, The Rev. Linda Wilson The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham
Libationist	Ms. Maya Latimer
Lector	Mr. James Pierce
Acolytes	U.B.E. Y.A.Y.A.C. members
Musicians:	Dr. Mark Kano, choir director Ms. Denise Whittington, organist Christ Church Cathedral Choir

Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE)

The Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) stands in the continuing tradition of more than 200 years of black leadership fighting racism in the Episcopal Church. Beginning with the establishment of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas by Absalom Jones in 1792 in the city of Philadelphia, through the appointment and election of more than 35 Black Bishops, there has always been a strong corps of black leaders in the Episcopal Church.

Organized in 1968 as the Union of Black Clergy and Laity, the Union is the proud inheritor of the work of these people and earlier organizations, the convocation of colored clergy, the conference of church workers among colored people, all dedicated to justice and the ministry of blacks in the Episcopal Church. The name was later changed to the Union of Black Episcopalians.

The Union of Black Episcopalians fights racism by encouraging the involvement in the total life of the church on every level and in every way—mission, stewardship, evangelism, education, leadership, governance and politics. The Union is committed to translating these words into Christian action for all Episcopalians at all levels of the church.