

# FEAST DAY OF ABSALOM JONES



FEBRUARY 17, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Christ Church Cathedral  
900 Broadway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203  
[christcathedral.org](http://christcathedral.org)

# Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818

## Solemn Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Voluntary

Paraphrase on Psalm 40

Craig Phillips  
(b. 1960)

“I waited patiently upon the Lord; He stooped to me and heard my cry...  
He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall  
see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.”

### The Word of God

*All stand for the Entrance of the Ministers into the church.*

Levas II 44

1. Born in bond-age, born in shack - les, Born stripped of all dig - ni - ty,  
2. Seek - ing to ex - pand hor - i - zons, Bi - ble, pri - mer he did find;  
3. When in Phi - la - del - phia set - tled, He sought per - sons in great need,  
4. One fine morn - ing, while at wor - ship, Wrested from his knees in pray - er;

1. Abs' - lom Jones was bound, de - ter - mined, That he would one day be free.  
2. To each word he was at - ten - tive, Learn - ing, lest he fall be - hind.  
3. Ded - i - ca - ted to em - pow' - ment, His own peo - ple did he lead.  
4. He, his friends, were thus e - vic - ted: “You no more may praise God here.”

1. Bless - ed Abs' - lom, leads us, guides us, In the bonds of u - ni - ty.  
2. Bless - ed Abs' - lom, lib - er - ates us From the pri - son of our mind.  
3. Bless - ed Abs' - lom, pray that we from All in - diff' - rence may be freed.  
4. Bless - ed Abs' - lom, pray that we may Stand stead - fast and per - se - vere.

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.

*The Celebrant says*

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

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

### **Collect for Purity**

### **Song of Praise**

Great is the Lord  
*Sung by the choir*

Richard Waters  
(b. 1973)

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
There is no end to His greatness.  
One generation shall praise Your works to another,  
And shall declare Your power.  
I will ponder the glorious splendor of Your majesty,  
And all your marvelous works.  
Out of the deep have I cried to You, O Lord.  
Lord, hear my voice,  
Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.  
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for Him.  
My mouth will forever sing the praise of the Lord,  
Will sing His praise!

*Psalms 145 & 130*

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*   The Lord be with you.

*People*     **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*   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.**

### **The Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 61:1-4**

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

*Lector*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 137:1-6

The image shows a musical score for Psalm 137:1-6. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "You are my help - er, and my de - liv - er - er;". The second system also has a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "O LORD, do not tar - - ry." The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature.

Word: Psalm 70:6. Music by David Madeira. © 2017 David W. Madeira. Used by permission.

### Lector:

By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept,  
when we remembered you, O Zion.  
As for our harps, we hung them up  
on the trees in the midst of that land.  
For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,  
and our oppressors called for mirth:  
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”  
How shall we sing the LORD’S song  
upon an alien soil?

### Antiphon

#### Lector:

If I forget you, O Jerusalem,  
let my right hand forget its skill.  
Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth  
if I do not remember you,  
if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

### Antiphon (2x)

### The New Testament Lesson – Galatians 5:1-5

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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

All stand.

### How Wide the Love of Christ

Festal Song

1. How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race,  
 2. How long the love of Christ! Its pa - tience will not cease  
 3. How high the love of Christ! Be - yond all thought it soars,  
 4. How deep the love of Christ, de - scend - ing to a cross!  
 5. All praise to You, O Christ, for love whose depth and height,

but holds our one hu - man - i - ty with - in its broad em - brace.  
 un - til this bro - ken world is bound in ev - er - last - ing peace.  
 and yet up - on our pass - ing lives un - meas - ured mer - cy pours.  
 He bears with - in His wound - ed hands all hu - man pain and loss.  
 whose length and breadth fill time and space with end - less life and light!

Words: Herman Stuempfle. © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission, OneLicense.net

### The Gospel Lesson – John 15:12-15

*Gospeller*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ ac - cord - ing to John.

*People*

Glo - ry to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.”

*Gospeller*

The Gos - pel of the Lord.

*People*

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### Gospel Fanfare

**The Sermon**

The Right Reverend Jeffery N. Leath  
*AME Bishop of the 13th District of Kentucky and Tennessee*

**Nicene Creed** (*BCP p. 358*)

*All stand.*

**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.**

## A Litany for the Feast of Absalom Jones

*Lector* O God, the world is yours and your love extends from sea to sea for every nation. Free us from our fear and pride and remind us of your goodness, so that we may learn to live joyfully together in this land and be thankful.

*Lector* For clouded mountains, fields, and woodland; for shoreline and running streams, for all that makes our nation good and lovely;

*People* **We thank you, God.**

*Lector* For explorers, planners, laborers; for prophets who speak out, and for silent faithful people; for all who love our land and guard our freedom;

*People* **We thank you, God.**

*Lector* From brassy patriotism and blind trust in power;

*People* **Deliver us, O God.**

*Lector* From divisions among us of class and race; from wealth that will not share, and poverty that deadens us;

*People* **Deliver us, O God.**

*Lector* From neglecting rights; from overlooking, the hurt, the marginalized, the misunderstood, the imprisoned, and the forgotten among us;

*People* **Deliver us, O God.**

*Lector* The cause of equality for all people is alive today for us as it was for Absalom Jones. We honor his courage and seek liberation from the same bonds of racism, prejudice, and fear that he suffered.

*People* **With hope in our time let us strive for equality and freedom from the sins that divide us.**

*Lector* We will not be free until all are free.

*People* **Let us celebrate in a world where everyone is free. Amen.**

## Confession of Sin and Absolution (BCP p. 360)

### The Peace

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

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

# Holy Communion

## Offertory

## Anthem

Stand by me, Lord

Charles Albert Tindley  
(1851-1933)  
Arr. Ruth Butterfield-Winter

When the storms of life are raging, stand by me.  
When the storms of life are tossing me  
Like a boat out on the sea,  
Lord who rules the wind and water, Lord,  
Stand by me.  
When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me.  
When I've done all I can,  
And my friends don't understand, stand by me.  
When the storms of life are tossing me  
Like a boat that's lost at sea,  
And my friends don't understand,  
Stand by me.

*The St Bartholomew's Chamber Singers  
Guest soloist, George Rowe*

Presentation Hymn 542 – Christ is the World's True Light

*St. Joan*

## Eucharistic Prayer (BCP p. 361 A)

The musical notation is set in a single system with four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant, and the second is for the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant, and the fourth is for the People. The lyrics are: "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." The notation includes a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing.

*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. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.



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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of p'wer and might, —  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. — Ho - san - na in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*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:

*Celebrant and People together say*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.**

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

*Celebrant 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.**

Breaking of the Bread (*BCP, p. 364*)

*A period of silence is kept.*

Fraction Anthem

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 Celebrant says

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 baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. You may receive the Bread and drink the Wine from the chalice or you may receive the Bread alone with the assurance of every benefit of the Sacrament.

### Music During Communion

Let us break bread together

*Traditional Spiritual*

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)  
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)

*Refrain*  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me, (on me). *1st x to v.2*  
*2nd x go on*

3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)

*to Refrain*  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)

God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him

*Nettleton*

1. God is Love, let heav'n a - dore him; God is love, let earth re - joice;  
 2. God is Love; and love en - folds us, all the world in one em - brace:  
 3. God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all hu - man life,  
 let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him and ex - alt him with one voice.  
 with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us, ev - ery child of ev - ery race.  
 God's e - ter - nal lov - ing kind - ness guides us through our earth - ly strife.  
 God who laid the earth's foun - da - tion, God who spread the heav'ns a - bove;  
 And when hu - man hearts are break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod,  
 Sin and death and hell shall nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain;  
 God who breathes through all cre - a - tion, God is Love, e - ter - nal love.  
 then we find that self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.  
 God is love, so Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt. Music: *Nettleton*, from Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813; arr. David Madeira, 2011

This is my Commandment

*David Madeira*

This is my com - mand - ment: Love one an - oth - er.  
 I have ap - point - ed you to go and bear fruit.

Words (based on John 15:12,16) and music by David Madeira. © 2018 David W. Madeira. Used by permission.

*Refrain*



Lord, make us in - stru - ments of Your peace; where there is ha - tred, let Your  
 love in - crease; Lord, make us in - stru - ments of Your peace;  
 walls of pride and pre - ju - dice shall cease, when we are Your in - stru - ments of peace.

1. Where there is ha - tred, we will sow His love, where there is in - jur - y,  
 2. Where there is blind - ness, we will pray for sight, where there is dark - ness,

we will nev - er judge, where there is striv - ing, we will speak His peace  
 we will shine His light, where there is sad - ness, we will bear the grief

to the peo - ple cry - ing for re - lease, we will be His in - stru - ments of peace.  
 of the mil lions cry - ing for re - lease, we will be His in - stru - ments of peace.

Words (based upon the Prayer of St. Francis) adapted and music by Kirk & Deby Dearman  
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*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
 you have graciously accepted us as living mem -  
 bers 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 cour -  
 age to love and serve you  
 with gladness and singleness of heart;  
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Blessing

May Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate this festival of Absalom Jones be now and evermore your guide and companion in the way. **Amen.**

May God, who has bound us together in the company of the elect, in this age and the age to come, attend to the prayers of his faithful servants on your behalf, as he hears your prayers for them. **Amen.**

May God, who has given us, in the lives of his saints, patterns of holy living and victorious dying, strengthen your faith and devotion, and enable you to bear witness to the truth against all adversity. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

### Lift Every Voice and Sing

*J. Rosamund Johnson*

Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the  
Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod, felt in the  
God of our wear - y years, God of our si - lent tears, Thou who hast  
har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; let our re - joic - ing  
days when hope un - born had died; yet with a stead - y  
brought us thus far on the way; Thou who hast by Thy  
rise, high as the lis-tening skies, let it re-sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
beat, have not our wear - y feet, come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed?  
might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us, sing a  
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered, we have  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met Thee. Lest our

song full of the hope that the pres-ent has brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing  
 come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered; out from the gloom - y  
 hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get Thee; shad - owed be - neath Thy

sun of our new day be - gun, let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 hand, may we for - ev - er stand true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Words: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938). Music: J. Rosamund Johnson (1873-1954).  
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## Dismissal

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Sonata I  
*Allegro assai vivace*

Felix Mendelssohn  
 (1809-1847)

**OFFICIANT**

The Right Reverend John Bauerschmidt, *Bishop*  
*The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee*

**PREACHER**

The Right Reverend Jeffery N. Leath, *Bishop*  
*The African Methodist Episcopal Church*  
*13th District of Kentucky and Tennessee*

**DEACON**

The Venerable Roger Saterstrom, *Archdeacon*  
*Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville*

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*Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville*

The Reverend Matthew W. Lewis, *Assistant to the Rector*  
*Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville*

The Reverend Cynthia Seifert, *Priest In Charge*  
*Church of the Epiphany, Lebanon*

The Reverend Richard Wineland, *Assistant Rector for Youth and Family*  
*St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Nashville*

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