



PHOTO BY ELODY CRIMI

THE DEDICATION AND BLESSING OF THE
NOW AND FOREVER WINDOWS

BY KERRY JAMES MARSHALL

WITH THE ORIGINAL POEM **AMERICAN SONG**

BY ELIZABETH ALEXANDER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

11 AM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

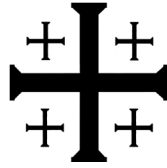
In 1953, Washington National Cathedral dedicated two stained glass windows memorializing Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee (1807–1870) and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson (1824–1863). The windows contained scenes from the lives of both men along with images of the Confederate battle flag. Memorial tablets with inscriptions lauding these men were embedded in the walls beneath. The windows were donated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy as part of a larger campaign to memorialize and honor Confederate leaders and soldiers. The installation remained largely unchanged for 60 years.

In 2015, nine Black worshippers at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, were murdered by a young white man who envisioned launching a race war. When images of the shooter emerged online with the Confederate battle flag and hate-filled messages towards Black Americans, then-Cathedral Dean Gary Hall called for the removal of the windows, which featured that same flag. What followed Dean Hall’s announcement was a multi-year process that pushed the Cathedral to consider the stories told and untold within this building and its sacred iconography.

Concluding that the windows told an incomplete and misleading account of history, the Cathedral committed to finding ways to offer a richer, more balanced expression of our nation’s story. The Confederate battle flags had been removed in 2016. The windows themselves were removed and deconsecrated in 2017 after a years-long process of discussion and discernment within and outside the Cathedral community.

In 2021, the Cathedral announced that acclaimed artist Kerry James Marshall had agreed to create new racial justice themed stained glass windows and celebrated poet and author Dr. Elizabeth Alexander would compose a new poem to be inscribed in stone tablets alongside Marshall’s windows. As artists adept at capturing the lived experience of Black Americans, Marshall and Alexander now add a new and important chapter to the Cathedral’s history. Our prayer is that these new installations reflect the Cathedral’s aspirations to be a sacred gathering place where all Americans can see themselves reflected in its expanding art and iconography.

Today, at the dedication of the newly installed Now and Forever Windows, with original poem “American Song,” this Cathedral aims to tell a fuller, more inclusive narrative. We hope to widen the circle to include missing faces and voices. In this House of Prayer for All People, we want to tell the stories of all people.



THE DEDICATION & BLESSING OF THE NOW AND FOREVER WINDOWS

September 23, 2023 • 11:00 AM

The people's responses are in bold.

PRELUDE

Balm in Gilead

Negro spiritual; arr. Harry T. Burleigh (1866–1949)

Your Love

DeJaughn Murphy (b. 1982), William Murphy (b. 1973)

The people remain seated as representatives of the predominantly and historically African American parishes in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, the Union of Black Episcopalians, the historical African American Protestant denominations, and justice organizations are seated.

MUSIC AT THE PROCESSION

Cycle of Processionals

David N. Johnson (1922–1987)

INTROIT

My Lord, What a Mornin'

Negro spiritual; arr. H. T. Burleigh

My Lord, what a mornin',
My Lord, what a mornin',
Oh, my Lord, what a mornin',
When the stars begin to fall.

Done quit all my worldly ways,
Gonna join that heavenly band.

My Lord, what a mornin',
My Lord, what a mornin',
Oh, my Lord, what a mornin',
When the stars begin to fall.

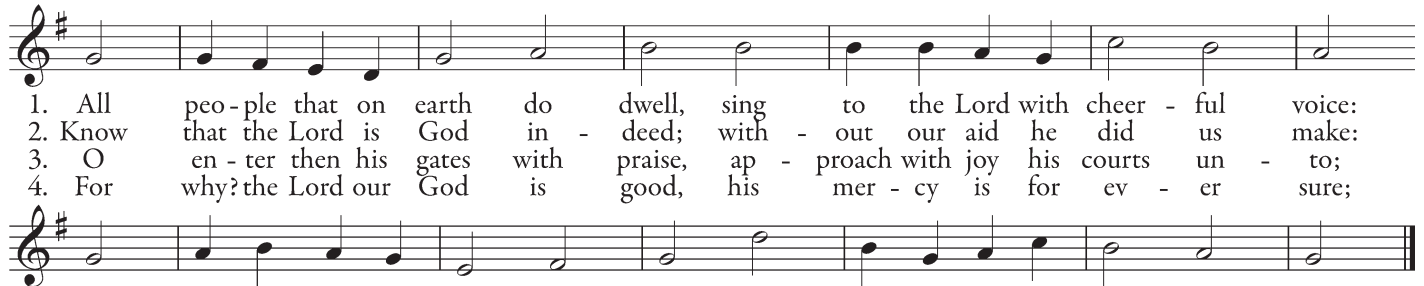
The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Sung by all.

Old 100th



1. All peo-ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheer - ful voice:
2. Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he did us make:
3. O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap - proach with joy his courts un - to;
4. For why? the Lord our God is good, his mer - cy is for ev - er sure;

him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, come ye be - fore him and re - jice.
we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
praise, laud, and bless his Name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
his truth at all times firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

WELCOME & OCCASION

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde
The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Bishop God is in this place.

People **And we are God's people.**

Bishop O God, we love the house in which you dwell

People **and the place where your glory abides.**

Bishop Let us not forget our past and those who have gone before us.

People **We remember our ancestors, our history, and we come to name our future.**

Bishop O God our Creator, be with us now as we praise your Holy Name and let there be love and understanding among us. May every heart which seeks your presence find it here in this sacred space, that this Cathedral Church may be called a house of prayer for the nations.

People **Amen.**

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.

A PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

Dean The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Dean Let us pray.

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.

People **Amen.**

The people are seated.

ANTHEM

Make Us One

Sung by the ensemble.

Carol Cymbala (b. 1947)

Make us one, Lord,
Make us one.
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love show,
So the world will know,
We are one in you.

THE FIRST LESSON

Read by The Honorable Sydney Kamlager-Dove.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Reader For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Read by Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Romans 12:9-18

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Reader For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

People **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Heal Our Land

Sung by the ensemble.

Oscar Williams (b. 1980)

If my people who are called by my name
Would humble themselves and pray,
Seek my face, turn from their wicked ways,
Then I'll hear from heaven,
I'll forgive their sins,
And I will heal their land.

Heal our land, Lord, heal our land.
Heal our land, Lord, heal our land.

I know you can, Lord, and you will, Lord,
So we ask, please heal our land.

THE READING

Excerpts from *Letter from Birmingham Jail*

Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968)

Letter from Birmingham Jail is a seminal text of the civil rights era. On Good Friday, April 12, 1963, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested and jailed for eight days in Birmingham, Alabama, as a leader and participant in the Birmingham Campaign, a series of sit-ins and pickets aimed at bringing an end to the city's municipal segregation ordinances. King's letter from the jail, dated April 16, 1963, was a response to a public statement by eight white religious leaders who questioned the tactics and timing of King and his allies. Addressed to "My dear Fellow Clergymen," but released publicly and published widely, King's letter answers some of the criticisms he received from his colleagues. While expressing his disappointment with white moderates and the white church for failing to stand with him and other activists, King makes the case for nonviolent action to bring about an end to racial segregation in the South.

REMARKS

Kerry James Marshall

THE DEDICATION & BLESSING

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

The principal service participants move to the windows.

HYMN

Christ Is the World's True Light

Sung by all.

St. Joan



1. Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap - tain of sal - va - tion,
2. In Christ all rac - es meet, their an - cient feuds for - get - ting,
3. One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;

the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;
the whole round world com - plete, from sun - rise to its set - ting;
cast out our pride and shame that hin - der to en - throne thee;

new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:
when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,
the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;

free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.
to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.
to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE WINDOWS

The windows are presented by the co-chairs of the Windows Replacement Committee, Dr. Eric L. Motley and Chase Rynd.

THE DEDICATION & BLESSING OF THE WINDOWS

Dean As the people of God, we now come to dedicate and bless these windows to the glory of God.

Bishop All things come from you, O Lord;
People **And from your own gifts do we give to you.**

Bishop Prosper the work of our hands.
People **Prosper our handiwork.**

Bishop Show your servants your works.
People **And your splendor to their children.**

Bishop Almighty God, we thank you that you have put it into the hearts of your people to make offerings for your service, and have been pleased to accept their gifts. Be with us now and bless us as these windows are set apart to your praise and glory. May they be for all who see them a reminder of God's call to us, that we may, by our words and actions, let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, and seek the dignity and freedom of people everywhere; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Dean I will make your windows of agates, and all your borders of pleasant stones.
Look upon the rainbow, and praise him who made it:

People **How beautiful it is in its brightness.**

Bishop Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Bishop O Lord God, the whole world is filled with the radiance of your glory: Accept our offering of these windows which we now dedicate to you for the adornment of this Cathedral as a House of Prayer for All People and for the inspiration of your people. Grant that as the light shines through them in many colors, so our lives may show forth the beauty of your manifold gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The bishop sprinkles the windows with blessed water.

Dean Almighty God, source of creation and fount of beauty: Bless the work of your servants who, through their creativity and skill, reveal to us a glimpse of your perfection in art and literature; continue, we pray, to inspire all people in their artistic expressions; and, in your own time, bring to perfection the work which has begun in us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

DEDICATORY POEM

Read by the poet.

Dr. Elizabeth Alexander (b. 1962)

“American Song”

Imperfect, in struggle, contested, more
than one voice at a time. Onward, multi –

American song, American psalm.

A single voice raised, then another. We
must tell the truth about our history.

How did we get here and where do we go?

Walk toward freedom. Work toward freedom.
Believe in beloved community.

We are not yet close enough to heaven.

Aspire to song. Aspire to the lift
of voices joined to make a mighty noise.

What are the luminous, sacred words?

Courage, evolve, freedom, community,
truth, trust, love, peace, yes, why, agape.

American song, American prayer.

All of our voices combined into song.
Sing sacred words, true and just.

May this portal be where the light comes in.

The people remain standing as the principal service participants move to the crossing.

The people are seated.

ANTHEM

I Dream a World

Sung by the ensemble.

Dave Brubeck (1920–2012)

I dream a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn.
I dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day.
A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every man is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all mankind—
Of such I dream, my world!

(Langston Hughes, 1901–1967)

The people stand as able.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

Said by all.

Gracious and merciful God,
look on us today and see your children,
with ancestors of different races and languages,
descended from many families,
yet bound into one by the Spirit who yet lives in and among us.
We come before you Almighty God,
asking you to lift from us the burdens of our past,
to forgive us our sins,
and to heal in us all the wounds and division of our present time,
that we may find wholeness and peace as your people seeking justice, truth, and reconciliation.
Continue, we pray,
your many mercies in this Cathedral Church
and in our nation,
that we may be conscious at all times of your unchanging love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE PEACE

Bishop The peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

A PRAYER FOR THE DIVERSITY OF RACES AND CULTURES

Cn. Hamlin The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Cn. Hamlin Let us pray.

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

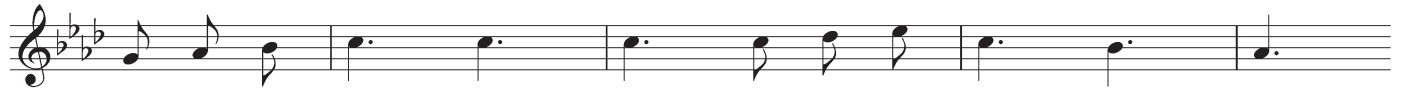
People Amen.

HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Sung by all.

J. Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954)



1. Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, till earth and hea - ven ring,
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod,
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty,
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening skies;
 yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light;



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed?
 keep us for ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out of the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 sha-dowed be - neath thy hand may we for ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

THE BLESSING

The bishop blesses the people, and the people respond, Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Cn. Duncan Be watchful, stand firm in your faith,
be courageous and strong.
Make no peace with oppression.
Practice justice and mercy,
and let all that you do be done in love.
Go in Peace!

People **Thanks be to God!**

RETIRING PROCESSION

Jubilate

Fela Sowande (1905–1987)



THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT PETER & SAINT PAUL

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde
Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith
Dean

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope
Provost

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.
Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion

The Reverend Canon Dana Colley Corsello
Canon Vicar

The Reverend Canon John L. Peterson
Canon for Reconciliation and Global Justice

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas
Canon Theologian

The Reverend Canon Samuel Van Culin
Canon for Anglican Communion Ministry

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon for Worship

The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser
Associate Priest for Worship

CHAPLAIN TO THE BISHOP

The Venerable Steve Seely
Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

WINDOWS ARTIST

Kerry James Marshall

POET

Dr. Elizabeth Alexander
President, Mellon Foundation

PRESENTERS

Dr. Eric L. Motley
Chase Rynd
Co-Chairs, Windows Replacement Committee

READERS

The Honorable Sydney Kamlager-Dove
United States Representative from California
Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
*University Professor & Director of the Hutchins Center
for African and African American Research
Harvard University*

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Choir

The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Canon Michael McCarthy
Canon for Music and Director of Institutional Planning

Michele Fowlin
Associate Director for Contemporary Music

Thomas M. Sheehan
Organist and Associate Director of Music

Rebecca Ehren
Organ Scholar

WINDOWS REPLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Dr. Eric L. Motley

Co-Chair

Deputy Director, The National Gallery of Art

Chase Rynd

Co-Chair

Retired Director, The National Building Museum

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

Dean, Washington National Cathedral

Blake Coleman

National Cathedral School, Class of 2021

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas

Canon Theologian, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan

Canon for Worship, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.

Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion, Washington National Cathedral

Gwendolyn King

President, Podium Prose

Dr. Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw

Class of 1940 Bicentennial Term Associate Professor in the Department of the History of Art

University of Pennsylvania

The Reverend Dr. James P. Wind

Former President, The Alban Institute

PERMISSIONS Scripture texts taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Opening acclamation based on Psalm 26:8 and a prayer from Sabbath Morning Service III, *Gates of Prayer, The New Union Prayerbook*, Copyright 1975, Central Conference of American Rabbis, New York and Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues, London. Lord's Prayer and prayers for the human family and diversity of races and cultures taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain. Dedication rite (adapted) taken from *The Book of Occasional Services, 2022*, Copyright 2022, Church Pension Fund. Used by permission. All rights reserved. "American Song" by Elizabeth Alexander, Copyright Elizabeth Alexander 2023. Used by permission. Concluding collect at the dedication and prayer for healing, Washington National Cathedral, Copyrights 2023 and 2017. All rights reserved. Non-commercial use permitted with attribution. Peace taken from *Enriching Our Worship 1*, Copyright 1998, The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Dismissal based on 1 Corinthians 16:13-14.

All People That on Earth Do Dwell. Text: William Kethe (d. 1594). Music: *Old 100th*. From *Psalmes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt. Public domain. *Make Us One*. Carol Cymbala, Copyright 1994, Carol Joy Music (admin. by ClearBox Rights, LLC) and Curb Word Music (admin. by WC Music Corp.). Reprinted under CCLI License #3058209. *Heal Our Land*. Oscar Williams, Copyright 2021, DistroKid, Songtrust Ave, and Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC. Reprinted under CCLI License #3058209. *Christ Is the World's True Light*. Text: George W. Briggs (1875-1959), alt. Copyright 1931, Oxford University Press. Reprinted under One License #A-709283. Music: *St. Joan*. Percy E. B. Collier (1895-1955), Copyright 1942, Church Publishing Incorporated. Reprinted under One License #A-709283. *I Dream a World*. Langston Hughes, Copyright 1994, The Estate of Langston Hughes. Reprinted under One License #A-709283. *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. Text: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938). Music: J. Rosamond Johnson. Public domain.

All Cathedral worship services are livestreamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please see an usher to be reseated in a more private area.

The work of this Cathedral is made possible entirely through the support of individuals like you. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark and house of prayer for all people.



All are invited to make a gift to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love by scanning the QR code at the left, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

Thank you for your generosity. Please know that your participation with us today has been a blessing.

