



Christ Church Cathedral  
Catedral Iglesia de Cristo  
Springfield, Massachusetts



**-CHORAL EVENSONG-**  
**In Commemoration of Juneteenth**



**Sunday, June 21, 2026 6:30pm**

*Christ Church Cathedral - 35 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA*



The Juneteenth Flag is the symbolic representation of the holiday Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19th since the 1870's and becoming a federal holiday in 2021. The flag was designed by Ben Haith in 1997. Mr. Haith went on to create the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation.

### **Symbolism of the Juneteenth Flag**

The flag's colors of red, white and blue remind us that the enslaved Black Americans and their descendants are, and always have been, American Citizens.

The central star - The white five-pointed star has a dual meaning. First, it represents Texas (the Lone Star State). Second, it signifies the freedom of Black Americans across all 50 States.

The burst (Nova) - The outline surrounding the star represents a nova, an astronomical term for a "new star". This represents a brand-new start and new beginning for Black Americans.

The arc- The curved line that separates the upper blue and lower red halves represent a new horizon. It symbolizes fresh opportunities, hope and a promising future.

Some flags also include the date of June 19th, 1865, which commemorates the exact day Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation - over two years after it was initially signed.

*-Written by Mx. Alex Blenman*

# THE INTROIT: (LEVAS 128) Hush, Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name

*Choir and officiants Process down aisle during the prelude*

## THE PRELUDE

### OPENING HYMN: Hymnal 1982 #24 The Day Thou Gavest Lord Is Ended

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness  
2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls  
3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads  
4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -  
on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is  
on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er  
em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.  
keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.  
si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.  
ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893). Music: *St. Clement*, Clement Cottevill Scholefield (1839-1904).

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Officiant*

Blessed are you, holy and living God.

*All*

**You come to your people and set them free.**

Almighty God, you rescued your people from slavery in Egypt, and throughout the ages you have never failed to hear the cries of the captives; We remember before you our sisters and brothers in Galveston, Texas who on this day received the glad tidings of their emancipation; Forgive us for the many grave sins that delayed that liberating word; Anoint us with your Spirit to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for a time.*

## A PRAYER FOR JUNETEENTH

God of freedom, you have made your faithfulness known from generation to generation. We celebrate Juneteenth, which commemorates the announcement in Texas on June 19, 1865, of the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery, two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Let us reflect on the jubilation that filled the hearts of women and men of African descent as they learned of their deliverance from the bondage of slavery, even as we mourn that the true promise freedom has yet to be fulfilled. We pray now for all whose lives have been traumatized and remain threatened by the legacy of slavery and institutional racism in our nation. As people of hope, we know that the arc of history is long and that it bends toward justice. Help us to commit to the work of ending racism by building the beloved community where all are judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character; in Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
**The maker of heaven and earth.**

## CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

**Almighty God, Source of all that is, Giver of every good gift: You create all people in your image and call us to love one another as you love us. We confess that we have failed to honor you in the great diversity of the human family. We have desired to live in freedom, while building walls between ourselves and others. We have longed to be known and accepted for who we are, while making judgements of others based on the color of skin, or the shape of features, or the varieties of human experience. We have tried to love our neighbors individually while yet benefitting from systems that hold those same neighbors in oppression. Forgive us, Holy God. Give us eyes to see you as you are revealed in all people. Strengthen us for the work of reconciliation rooted in love. Restore us in your image, to be beloved community, united in our diversity, even as you are one with Christ and the Spirit, Holy and undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.**

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 INVITATORY – Craig Phillips

*Cantor*

O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Choir*

***And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.***

O God, make speed to save us.

***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

Praise ye the Lord.

***The Lord's Name be praised.***

# PHOS HILARON: Lamps of Evening One Faith, One Hope, One Baptism

Hum

1. The lamps of ev - 'ning burn at close of day,  
2. Fill Thou each need - ful want, each prayer in - spire,  
3. Em - brace our loved ones in Thy ten - der care,

With - in Thy tem - ple, Lord, we come to pray.  
Kin - dle a flame of love and pure de - sire:  
Guide and sus - tain them where - so - e'er they fare.

Light Thou the tem - ple of our hearts with - in,  
Sup - port the weak, en - cour - age Thou the strong,  
Be Thou the Shep - herd of all pil - grim feet,

*Last time D.C.*  
Let grace de - scend and songs of praise be - gin.  
Bind us in kind - ly serv - ice as in song.  
Till at Thy ev - er - last - ing throne we meet.

## THE COLLECT

Almighty and most loving God, through your Son Jesus, who came among us as a slave choosing rather to serve his disciples than to be served by them; help us in our weakness not to seek to oppress others, nor to make peace with any form of exploitation, but in all things earnestly and of our own free will to seek to serve each other following Christ's good example, this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PSALM 126- tune by Alex Blenman FFSC



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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit\*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

## **THE FIRST READING – Isaiah 58:6-12**

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator\* shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## **MAGNIFICAT**

**Ralph Vaughan Williams**

## **THE EPISTLE – Romans 12:9-21**

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

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. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are

thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

**Ralph Vaughn Williams**

### **THE GOSPEL- Luke 4:14-21**

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,<sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,

to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.<sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

**Mx. Alex Blenman FFSC**

## **THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **THE PRAYERS**

As we remember this Juneteenth holiday celebration, we offer prayers for ourselves and the world.

That those entrusted with authority in our nation may support the changes needed in order to exercise leadership and promote healing in an authentic, responsible, and peaceful manner, we pray . . .

**May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.**

That the fullness of justice and compassion may be extended to the victims and families who have been subjected to violence, abuse, discrimination, murder, or the threat of, we pray . . .

**May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.**

That our communities and our schools may find ways to actively participate in efforts to eliminate violence, especially violence against black and brown people, so that this country may take the lead in fostering conditions for healing racial division, we pray. . .

**May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.**

That all who gather this week to remember Juneteenth be able to freely, peaceably, and in celebration with us, remember together, we pray . . .

**May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.**

That we be courageous in living out the Gospel, we pray . . .

**May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.**

*mp*

Our God,\_\_\_ in hea-ven,\_\_\_ ho - ly is your name,\_\_\_ your

reign come,\_\_\_ your will done,\_\_\_ on earth as in hea-ven.---

*slower*

Give us to-day our dai - ly bread, and help us for- give, as we have been for - giv- en.---

*mf*

In the time of tri-al\_\_\_ lead us in - to light,\_\_\_ for yours is\_\_\_the kin- dom, and the

*f* *mp*

po- wer,\_\_\_ and the glo- ry,\_\_\_ for - e - ver. Our God,\_\_\_ in

hea- ven,\_\_\_ ho - ly is your name, ho - ly is your name.---

*Cantor* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*Choir* And grant us thy salvation.

*Cantor* O Lord, save the State.

*Choir* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Cantor* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

*Choir* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Cantor* O Lord, save thy people.

*Choir* And bless thine inheritance.

*Cantor* Give peace in our time, O Lord,

*Choir* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

*Cantor* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Choir* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## **THE COLLECTS** – *sung by choir*

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

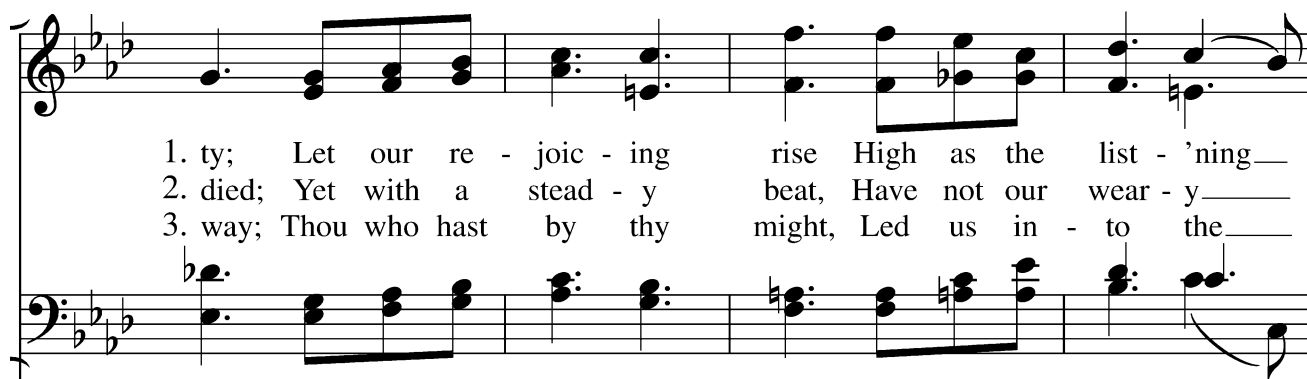
# THE SENDING HYMN: LEVAS # 1 Lift Every Voice and Sing



1. Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heav - en  
2. Sto - ny the road we trod, Bit - ter the chast - 'ning  
3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent



1. ring, Ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
2. rod, Felt in the days when hope un - born had  
3. tears, Thou who hast brought us thus far on the



1. ty; Let our re - joic - ing rise High as the list - 'ning  
2. died; Yet with a stead - y beat, Have not our wear - y  
3. way; Thou who hast by thy might, Led us in - to the



1. skies, Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
2. feet Come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed?  
3. light, Keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

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

1. Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has  
 2. We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the  
 3. Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

1. brought us; Fac - ing the ris - ing sun Of our new  
 2. slaugh - tered; Out from the gloom - y past, Till now we  
 3. get thee, Shad - owed be - neath Thy hand, May we for -

1. day be - gun, Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 2. stand at last Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 3. ev - er stand, True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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

## CLOSING PRAYER

We pray, O Lord, for change. Jesus you revealed God through your wise words and loving deeds, and we encounter you still today in the faces of those whom society has pushed to the margins. Guide us, through the love you revealed, to establish the justice you proclaimed, that all peoples might dwell in harmony and peace, united by that one love that binds us to each other, and to you. And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship and work into genuine encounter with you and our better selves so that our lives will be changed for the good of all. **Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Closing procession begins at the start of the Voluntary*

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

## Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

**Gathered** by God from many cultures | **Reunidos** por Dios de muchas culturas  
**Transformed** by the grace of Jesus Christ | **Transformados** por la gracia del Jesucristo  
**Sent out** empowered by the Holy Spirit | **Enviados fortalecidos** por el Espíritu Santo

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**Service Times on Sundays: 8:00AM, 10:00AM and 12:15PM en Español**  
**Wednesday Service at 12:00 Noon**

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### Cathedral Leaders

The Right Rev. Douglas Fisher  
The Very Rev. José Reyes  
The Rev. Canon Jerry True  
The Rev. Dr. Kate Derose  
Dr. Colin Britt  
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Mx. Alex Blenman  
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Music Director  
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[dfisher@diocesewma.org](mailto:dfisher@diocesewma.org)  
[dean@cccspfld.org](mailto:dean@cccspfld.org)  
[jerry5185@gmail.com](mailto:jerry5185@gmail.com)  
[kpderose@gmail.com](mailto:kpderose@gmail.com)  
[colinbritt@gmail.com](mailto:colinbritt@gmail.com)  
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[ccccalendarinfo2025@gmail.com](mailto:ccccalendarinfo2025@gmail.com)  
[gmg85@aol.com](mailto:gmg85@aol.com)  
[peterpappas2@icloud.com](mailto:peterpappas2@icloud.com)

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