SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

WELCOME
The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith
Dean, Washington National Cathedral

OFFICIANTS
The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon for Worship, Washington National Cathedral
The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser
Priest Associate, Washington National Cathedral

SPEAKERS
The Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson
IX Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire (retired)
Dennis Shepard
Co-Founder, Board Member Emeritus
Matthew Shepard Foundation
Judy Shepard
Co-Founder, Board Chair/President
Matthew Shepard Foundation

READERS
The Reverend Cathy Alexander
Associate Pastor, Metropolitan Community Church of Washington DC
Caleb Nelson Amaker
Director of Children and Family Ministries, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
Charlotte Clymer
Meghan Foster
Member, Washington National Cathedral LGBTQIA Alliance
Hazel Monae
Missioner for Equity and Justice, Episcopal Diocese of Washington
Natalie
National Cathedral School, Class of 2022
Larry Neff
Lay leader at Bet Mishpachah, the LGBTQ synagogue of Washington, DC
Mildred J. Reyes
Missioner for Latino/Hispanic Ministries & Diocesan Initiatives, Episcopal Diocese of Washington
The Reverend Dr. Yolanda Rolle
Episcopal Chaplain, Howard University
Spencer
St. Albans School, Class of 2023
Sister Cheeky Teeta
Mistress of Manifestation, The D.C. Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

MUSICIANS
George F. Fergus
Associate Director of Music and Chorister Program Director, Washinton National Cathedral
Daryl L. A. Hunt
Associate Director of Music for Contemporary Worship, Washinton National Cathedral
Jasmine Jacobs, singer
HONORING
Matthew Shepard
remember • reflect • resolve

December 1, 2021 • 5:30 PM

The people's responses are in bold.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME
The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

OPENING ANTHEM

Love

Love,
A word that comes and goes,
But few people really know what it means to really love somebody.
Love,
Though the tears may fade away,
I'm so glad your love will stay,
'Cause I love you, and you show me, Jesus,
What it really means to love.
The nights that I cried, you loved me.
When I should have died, you loved me.
I'll never know why you love me.
It's a mystery to me, now I'm glad to see Jesus.

When all hope was gone, you loved me.
You gave me a song that you loved me.
Now I can go on 'cause you love me.
It's a mystery to me, now I'm glad to see Jesus.

What it really means to love.

The people stand as able.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Love one another,
for love is of God,
and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.
GATHERING PRAYER

Said by all.

God of love, hold us as we remember our beloved brother Matthew who now rests in the peace and safety of your eternal home. Surround us as we reflect on the meaning of his legacy and the enduring injustices that call out to us for action. Stand with us in our resolve to walk the path of righteousness as we seek to build a world that embraces and uplifts the human family in all its beautiful and life-giving diversity. Amen.

HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Sung by all.

Nettleton

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2. Here I raise my Eben-ezer, hither by thy help, I'm come;
3. Oh, to grace how great a debt or, daily I'm constrained to be;

streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, surely to arrive at home.
let that grace, Lord, like a fetter, bind my wondering heart to thee:

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God;
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.
he, to save my soul from danger, interposed his precious blood.
here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.
Remember

A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR QUEER SOULS
We remember those who walked before us and those who walked beside us.
The silenced and the shamed.
The brave and the bold.
The exiled and the estranged.
The role models and the revolutionaries.
The beaten and the bruised.
The loved and the lost.
The pioneers and the proud.
We remember them, our beloved sisters, siblings, and brothers.
We mourn their struggles. We give thanks for their gifts. We honor their legacies.

The people are seated.

READING OF NAMES
We remember especially today our transgender and non-binary sisters, brothers, and siblings murdered in 2021 and whose names are known to us.

Names are read aloud.

The people are then invited to offer names of departed LGBTQIA+ loved ones and siblings.

May all of these beloved children of God now rest in peace, in that place where there is no pain or grief but life everlasting. Amen.

PSALM 3:1-6
Lord, how many adversaries I have!
How many there are who rise up against me!
How many there are who say to me,
“There is no help for you in your God.”
But you, O Lord, are a shield about me;
you are my glory, the One who lifts up my head.
I call aloud upon you, O Lord,
and you answer me from your holy hill.
I lie down and go to sleep;
I wake again, because you, O Lord, sustain me.
I do not fear the multitudes of people
who set themselves against me all around.
I will lift up mine eyes to the hills,
From whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord,
The Lord which made heaven and earth.
He said He will not suffer thy foot,
Thy foot to be moved.
The Lord, which keepeth thee,
He will not slumber nor sleep.
Oh, the Lord is thy keeper,
The Lord is thy shade,
Upon thy right hand,
Upon thy right hand.
No, the sun shall not smite thee by day,
Nor the moon by night.
He shall preserve thy soul,
Even forever more.
My help,
All of my help cometh from the Lord.
REFLECT

REFLECTION

The Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson

READING IN HONOR OF BLACK TRANS LIVES

“Blessings of our ancestors, our praying grandmothers” Déjà Baptiste

You are not alone
You are not the first, or the only
There is a lineage you are inheriting
It is your courage, your faith, your spirit that sets you apart
We are not doomed, We are not Cursed
We are the blessed ones, the blessing
We are blessed to know our spirits are not only bound in our skin
(flesh)
that bodies, like names, are expressions
Manifesting the soul we bear outside of time and beyond infinity
There is a lineage here
You were never the first time your family,
your hometown,
your faith,
your lovers
loved
and were loved
by us
The blessed ones,
we heard and nurtured our ancestors’ dreams
and came forward to create and dream,
imagine and plant,
live in the physical what is celebrated
and cherished
and renewed
in the spiritual
PRAYER

“A Prayer for Wanderers” Fr. Shannon TL Kearns

God of the seekers and dreamers, the disaffected and disillusioned, the worn out and burnt out, the rejected and leavers.

We ask for blessings as we travel, as we doubt, as we meander.

We ask for the grace to leave when necessary, to come home when we can, to create new homes when we need to.

We ask for protection of our souls from those who don’t understand, who judge, who mock.

We ask for the fortitude to undertake the journey even when it’s scary (or, maybe, especially when it’s scary).

We know that as we wander we are not alone and as Tolkien says that “Not all who wander are lost”. We know that sometimes we have to leave the confines of what we knew to see the truth, to hear Your voice, to find out what to do next.

We pray you lead us where we need to go, by whatever route it takes. We pray for new ways to see You, to understand new ways of being in the world. We pray for healing and for redemption, and, where possible, reconciliation.

We pray for all of this so we can know wholeness, know our bodies, know each other, know You.

And be found.

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

HYMN

Spirit of the Living God

Sung by all. Daniel Iverson (1890–1977)

The people are seated.
Resolve

**READING**

1 John 4:16b-19

We have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us.

**REFLECTION**

Dennis and Judy Shepard

**PRAYER**

“A Prayer for My Queer and Trans Siblings”

Here you are.
Here, in this holy space,
on this ground that is holy
because you are here.
Here you are, in flesh and bone,
filling up this body that belongs to you alone.
Your pumping heart is a wonder
because it keeps you alive.
Your loving heart is a blessing
because it keeps all of us alive.
The Spirit of Love has a home in you.
May we all see that love in you
and let our hearts become mirrors
for the compassion at your core.
The Spirit of Justice has a home in you.
May we light our wicks
from one another until we are all aflame,
until we burn out every prejudice
we carry in these bones.
Here you are.
Holy as you are.
Blessed be.

**HONORING OUR INSPIRATION**

We give thanks for those, like Matthew, who embody for us love, persistence, vulnerability, transcendence, and leadership in the creation of a just world.

*The people are invited to offer names of those in LGBTQIA+ community who inspire them.*
The people stand as able.

PRAYER

“A Prayer for the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia”

The Reverend Kittredge Cherry

Loving God of the rainbow promise,
Thank you for creating us in your holy image, with a wide range of genders and sexualities that reflect your own sacred diversities. May we hear your voice and embody your love today and always.

Loving God of the rainbow promise,
We pray for an end to hatred and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex people in every nation. Bring strength and comfort to the LGBTQ people who experience violence, poverty, job loss, homelessness and other forms of discrimination because of who they love and who they are.

Loving God of the rainbow promise,
We acknowledge our own brokenness and invite you to heal the wounds, ease the pain and calm the fears in every human heart. Be known to us even in the midst of every storm and illuminate a way in our wilderness.

Loving God of the rainbow promise,
We pledge to help build a world where love means love, a world where justice and peace kiss each other. As a rainbow community, we give thanks for friends, families and allies who join us in the journey to protect and celebrate sexual and gender diversities worldwide. In your many names we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

We know we shall pass this way but once. If there is any kindness we can show, or any good thing we can do, let us do it now. Let us not defer or neglect it, for we shall not pass this way again. And the blessing of God, remain with us now and for ever. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, fight for justice, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Guide My Feet

Sung by all.

Negro Spiritual

1. Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race. Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race.
2. Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race. Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race.
3. Stand by me, Lord, while I run this race. Stand by me, Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race, ’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race, ’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

Stand by me, Lord, while I run this race, ’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

About The Matthew Shepard Foundation

The Matthew Shepard Foundation’s mission is to amplify the story of Matthew Shepard to inspire individuals, organizations, and communities to embrace the dignity and equality of all people. Through local, regional, and national outreach, we empower individuals to find their voice to create change and challenge communities to identify and address hate that lives within our schools, neighborhoods, and homes.

Our work is an extension of Matt’s passion to foster a more caring and just world. We share his story and embody his vigor for civil rights to change the hearts and minds of others to accept everyone as they are.

www.matthewshepard.org

Thank you for worshiping with Washington National Cathedral, your National Cathedral.

The work of the Cathedral in service to the city, the nation, and the world is made possible entirely through private support. 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. It is only through your generosity that the Cathedral can fully live into its priorities of welcoming, deepening, convening, and serving.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. **You may text the dollar amount you wish to give to (202) 856-9005 or visit cathedral.org/support to donate. You may also mail a check to Washington National Cathedral, P.O. Box 98283, Washington, DC 20090-8283.**

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