

A GATHERING
OF U.S. RELIGIOUS LEADERS
IN
A SERVICE OF PRAISE, THANKSGIVING AND COMMITMENT
ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST VISIT OF
NELSON MANDELA
TO THE UNITED STATES

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1990
NINE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

A SERVICE OF PRAISE, THANKSGIVING AND COMMITMENT
ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST VISIT OF
NELSON MANDELA

TO THE UNITED STATES

NINE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

JUNE 21, 1990

CARILLON RECITAL

MUSICAL PRELUDE

The Riverside Choir
The Inspirational Choir
The Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble
The Sechaba Singers of the African National Congress

SWINGING PEAL

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Rabbi Alexander Schindler
(accompanied by the sound of the shofar)
The Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky

PROCESSIONAL

Olatunji and his African Drummers
Congregation will remain seated

HYMN OF PRAISE

To Each Woman, Man and Nation James Russell Lowell
Congregation stands with the choir

To each woman, man, and nation
Comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of truth with falsehood,
For the good or evil side;
Some great cause, God's new messiah,
Offering each the bloom or blight,
And the choice goes by forever
Twixt that darkness and that light.

Though the cause of evil prosper,
Yet 'tis truth alone is strong,
Truth forever on the scaffold,
Wrong forever on the throne.
Yet that scaffold sways the future,
And still hidden from our view,
God is standing in the shadow,
Keeping watch above the true.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Al-Haaj Dawud Assad
The Most Rev. John H. Ricard, S.S.J.
Dr. Thelma Adair
Congregation remains standing

CHORAL INTROIT

The Lord God
Omnipotent Reigneth George Thalben-Ball

CALL TO PRAYER

His Eminence
Archbishop Iakovos

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Joan Brown Campbell
The Rev. Jesse Jackson
The Rev. Daniel F. Romero

MUSICAL SELECTION

Patricia Ann Barnes

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 61:1-11 Bishop Frank C. Cummings
Psalm 100 Cantor Ellen Stettner Math
I Corinthians 13 Sister Luise Ahrens, MM

HYMN

The God of Prophets Praise
Congregation stands with the choir

The God of prophets praise,
All praised be God's name,
Who was and is and is to be,
For aye the same!
The one eternal God,
Ere aught that now appears;
The First, the Last: beyond all thought
Through timeless years!

God's spirit flowing free,
High surging where it will,
In prophet's word was known of old,
And calls us still.
Established is God's law,
And changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart,
On sea or land.

God has implanted life
Eternal in the soul;
God's love shall be our strength and stay,
While ages roll.
Praise to the living God!
All praised be the name
Who was and is and is to be,
For aye the same!

WELCOME The Honorable David N. Dinkins

READING The Rev. Herbert Daughtry

CELEBRATION IN MUSIC Simon Estes
The Lord Is My Light (Psalm 27) Allitsen

PRESENTATION IN PRAISE
AND THANKSGIVING Dr. Gardner C. Taylor

MESSAGE TO THE U.S.
RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY Nelson Mandela

NKOSI SIKELEL' I AFRIKA: The National Anthem

Congregation standing

Nkosi sikelel' i Afrika
Maluphakamiso phondo lwayo
Yiva nemithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo. (x2)

Wosa moya sikelela nkosi sikelela
Wosa moya sikelela nkosi sikelela
Yisa moya oyingcwele
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapholwayo.

Morena boloka sechaba sahesu
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho. (x2)

O se boloke, O se boloke
O se boloke morena 'se boloke
Sechaba sa heso
Sechaba sa Afrika.

CALL TO ACTION The Most Rev.
Edmond L. Browning

OFFERING The Rev. M. William Howard

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Combined choirs
"Hallelujah" from Messiah George Frideric Handel

AT THE PRESENTATION

Now Thank We All Our God
Congregation stands with choir

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom this world rejoices,
Who from our parents' arms,
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

LITANY OF COMMITMENT

Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., and religious leaders

The Rev. Dr. Lowell Almen
We are a people who affirm a world where all persons
protect the dignity of others as their own, and where all
races live under the same law of love and honor.

The Rev. Yvonne V. Delk
We are a people who affirm a world where all the children
of the earth sleep safe in their mothers' arms, and never
know fear of abuse.

Bishop J. Clinton Hoggard
We are a people who envision a world where rulers
extend their hands in justice rather than reach for the
sword, and where peace reigns in the hearts of all.

Dr. Donald E. Miller
We are a people called to remember those who are
oppressed, and broken, and battered, and jailed, and
murdered in the name of apartheid; that their suffering
may not have been in vain.

The Rev. Dr. Edwin Mulder
We are a people called to end apartheid, to stand beside
brothers and sisters whose struggle for freedom has been
bloody and long, and is not yet over.

The Rev. Dr. Syngman Rhee
We are a people called to confession, repentant of our
complicity with the powers of evil, prayerfully seeking
forgiveness and a deepening awareness of what the
struggle for freedom requires of us.

The Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson
We are a people called to the promise of a new dawn of
justice, peace and love, and to a new South Africa and a
new world, nonracial, democratic, and free.

Dr. Patricia Rumer

We are a people called to a deepening awareness of and involvement in the struggle for which sisters and brothers sacrificed their lives for a just South Africa.

Ms. Audrey Shenandoah

We give thanks for leaders like Nelson Mandela, a man of faith and courage who, though imprisoned was not silenced; and who has become a rallying point for the hopes and aspirations of millions for freedom, justice, and peace.

The Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry

We pledge ourselves to oppose all policies and attitudes which allow apartheid to continue, and to commit our minds and bodies to ever more effective ways of eliminating all systems of racial, ethnic, and religious oppression.

Bishop Melvin G. Talbert

We pledge ourselves to make the government of our nation aware that we will no longer tolerate official disregard for the lives of persons who are trampled underfoot by the idolatrous system of apartheid.

The Rev. Dr. Daniel E. Weiss

We pledge to call upon all people to work for liberation of all the peoples of the earth, especially for our brothers and sisters in South Africa. We call upon others to join us in this struggle until South Africa is free.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Soloist:

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a soul like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was bound, but now I'm free.

Congregation joins:

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

BENEDICTION

Bishop Ithiel C. Clemmons
The Right Rev. Richard F. Grein

RETIRING PROCESSION, Hymn 366

God of Grace and God of Glory
Stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5

Congregation remains seated until the procession has left the nave

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Final, Symphonie I

Louis Vierne

PARTICIPANTS

- Dr. Thelma Adair
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
- Sister Luise Ahrens, MM
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
- The Rev. Dr. Lowell Almen
Secretary, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Al-Haaj Dawud Assad
President, Council of Masajid of North America
- Patricia Ann Barnes, soprano
- Francis Bonny, trumpet
- The Most Rev. Edmond L. Browning
Presiding Bishop and Primate, Episcopal Church
- The Rev. Joan Brown Campbell
Executive Director, U.S. Office
The World Council of Churches
- Alice Carter, soprano
- Bishop Ithiel C. Clemmons
Prelate, Church of God in Christ
Eastern New York, First Jurisdiction
- Bishop Frank C. Cummings
First Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church
- The Rev. Dr. Herbert Daughtry
Nat'l. Presiding Minister of the House of the Lord
Pentecostal Churches
- Joseph Davis, carillonneur
- The Rev. Yvonne V. Delk
Commissioner, WCC Program to Combat Racism
- The Honorable David N. Dinkins
Mayor of the City of New York
- Simon Estes, bass-baritone
- Garfield Fobbs, trumpet
- Bettye F. Forbes, director, The Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble
- The Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr.
Senior Minister, The Riverside Church
- Elaine Goins, soprano
- The Right Rev. Richard F. Grein
Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of New York
- Bishop J. Clinton Hoggard
Third Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
- The Rev. M. William Howard
Executive Director of the Black Council of the Reform Church
in America
- His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos
Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church
- The Rev. Jesse Jackson
President, National Rainbow Coalition
- Joseph Joubert, accompanist The Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble
- The Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky
President, National Council of Churches U.S.A.
- Mr. Nelson Mandela
Deputy President, African National Congress of South Africa
- Cantor Ellen Stettner Math
Stephen Wise Free Synagogue
- Makea McDonald, soprano
- Dr. Donald E. Miller
General Secretary, Church of the Brethren
- The Rev. Dr. Edwin Mulder
General Secretary, Reformed Church in America
- Michael Neal, trumpet
- Nedra Neal, director, Inspirational Choir, and pianist
- Porter Poindexter, trombone
- The Rev. Dr. Syngman Rhee
Associate Director, Global Mission Ministry Unit
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
- The Most Rev. John H. Ricard, S.S.J.
The United States Catholic Conference
- The Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson
General Secretary, National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- William Rohdin, trombone
- The Rev. Daniel F. Romero
General Secretary, United Church of Christ
Mission Program Unit
- Dr. Patricia Rumer
General Director, Church Women United
- Rabbi Alexander Schindler
President, Union of American Hebrew Congregations
- Ms. Audrey Shenandoah
Clan Mother, Drondoga Nation
- The Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry
President, The United Church of Christ
- Andre Solomon-Glover, baritone
- Michele Sorel, soprano
- Arlan Sunnarborg, associate organist
- Bishop Melvin G. Talbert
Secretary, Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church
- The Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor
Pastor, Concord Baptist Church
- John Walker, director of music and organist
- Patricia Washington, mezzo-soprano
- The Rev. Dr. Daniel E. Weiss
General Secretary, American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.

THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE ECUMENICAL SERVICE
FOR NELSON MANDELA

Luise Ahrens
Diana Aviv
Joan B. Campbell
Herbert Daughtry
James A. Forbes, Jr.
M. William Howard, Chair
Donna Katzin

Willis Logan
Sonia Omulepu
Patricia Rumer
Diana Scott
Mbongiseni C. Tshabalala
Wyatt Tee Walker

Special thanks to Riverside Church Staff Members,
Board of Ushers, Flower Committee and Unique Food