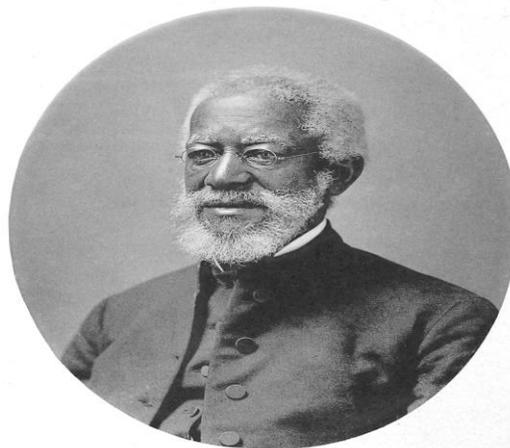
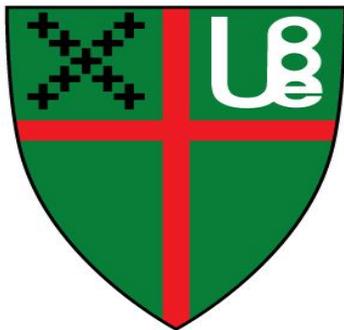


**St. Philip's Episcopal Church**  
*Worship at Home: During Our Blessed Interruption*  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Morning Prayer - Rite II**

**UBE Sunday and the Feast of Alexander Crummell Sunday**

**September 13, 2020**



*Alex Crummell*

**The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest**  
***Priest-In-Charge***

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# THE WORD OF GOD

## Opening Sentence

Officiant: Blessed be God Father Son and Holy Spirit

*People: And Blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen*

Officiant: Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for your servant Alexander Crummell, whom you called to preach the Gospel to those who were far off and to those who were near. Raise up in this and every land evangelists and heralds of your kingdom, that your Church may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant: The psalmist tells us that when we turn to God in our hearts, God speaks peace to the faithful. As we turn to God in true confession of our sin, we trust in God, whose shalom makes us whole

Confession of Sin      *Silence may be kept.*

**Gracious God, you call us to step out in faith, trusting in you for all things. We respond to your command but then sink and doubt and fear. We hide from the challenges of bold discipleship. We are not able to fulfill your commandments, for our purposes are never in full accord with yours. Forgive us, we pray, when we confess with our lips but do not believe in our hearts. Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Lift us out of sin into the arms of your mercy. Though we are distracted by noise all around, allow us to hear your voice even when it is the sound of sheer silence... *(A time of silence is kept.)* We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Absolution

Brothers and sisters, Jesus is Lord! God raised him from the dead and we are saved through him. This is the good news we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! This is good news to share with all people! *Amen.*

## Invitatory

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

*People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

**All: 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. Alleluia.**

## Jubilate      *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**Old Testament**      ***Genesis 50:15-21***

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

***Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.***

**The Epistle**      ***Romans 14:1-12***

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

***Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.***

**Psalm 103:1-13**      *Benedic, anima mea*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.

He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;

He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

## The Gospel

### *A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 18:21-35*

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.”

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you Lord Christ.*

## The Homily

**Dr. Sandra Montes, Episcopal Church Foundation and  
Union Theological Seminary/EDS,  
New York**

## 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**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

*People: And also with you.*

Officiant: Let us pray.

*Officiant 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.***

### **Suffrages B**

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

*R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.*

V. Day by day we bless you;

*R. We praise your name for ever.*

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

*R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.*

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

*R. For we put our trust in you.*

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

*R. And we shall never hope in vain.*

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful we pray for the church the world and all who are in need.

**Collect for Proper 19, The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

We pray for the nations, especially the United States. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from patriotism that hinders relationship-building. Lead us to expansive love for all our neighbors as we welcome all. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed, especially Judith Anderson, Floyd Higgs, Clarissa Martin, Johnetta Merritt, Lura E. Otteson, Beblon Parks, Frank Saunders, Patty Sydnor, Mary Little and all those recovering from COVID-19. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. Energize ministry volunteers, church administrators, Vestry and those who maintain our building and grounds. Shine in this place that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

We give thanks for those who have died in faith especially those in our congregation we have lost this year, and those who have died at the hands of violence, injustice and COVID-19. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

## A Litany for the Feast of Alexander Crummell and Annual UBE Sunday

**Leader:** For the commemoration of the life and legacy of Alexander Crummell, priest and pastor, theologian, missionary, abolitionist and educator in the Church of God, we invite your prayers. We pray also for all who continue in his witness to Jesus Christ, especially the Union of Black Episcopalians. Let us pray that God's justice and peace is established throughout the world and in the Church.

*Leader:* O Holy God, the ground of all creation and source of mercy,

**People:** **Have mercy on us.**

*Leader:* O Holy Jesus, the companion of all humanity and liberator of the oppressed,

**People:** **Have mercy on us.**

*Leader:* O Holy Spirit, the strength of souls and lover of justice,

**People:** **Have mercy on us.**

*Leader:* For Alexander Crummell, prophetic leader for justice and reconciliation and faithful servant of Jesus Christ.

**People:** **Grant him rest and eternal peace.**

*Silence is kept*

*Leader:* For Alexander and all our ancestors whose works and prayers continue to shelter our lives from danger and degradation.

**People:** **May their presence and witness inspire us.**

*Leader:* For his vision of Pan-African unity, self-governance and restorative justice for the peoples of Africa and the Diaspora,

**People:** **Deliver and restore us with hope.**

- Leader:* For parting the sea of ignorance, for inspiring his generation and generations to come toward their spiritual and intellectual liberation.
- People:** **Encourage our Soul and set us free.**
- Leader:* For the intellectual heritage of the American Negro Academy; and for the continuing work of Black Scholarship and the education of our people.
- People:** **Liberating Christ, we praise you.**
- Leader:* For his ministry as church planter and local pastor in America and in Africa.
- People:** **Inspire and strengthen our local works of ministry.**
- Leader:* We thank you for the nurture and example of Alexander's parents, educators and abolitionists. May we be nurturers of learning and models of courage for our youth.
- People:** **Good God, we give you thanks.**
- Leader:* We thank you for his courage as he faced racist violence at Noyes Academy (*New Hampshire*), and denial of admission at General Theological Seminary (*New York*), and full inclusion in the Diocese of Pennsylvania.
- People:** **Good God, we give you thanks.**
- Leader:* We thank you for Oneida Institute, a Quaker School *in New York*, where his mind was sharpened and intellect affirmed.
- People:** **Good God, we give you thanks.**
- Leader:* We thank you for his undiminished hunger for theological education, becoming the first person of African Descent to graduate from Cambridge University (England); and for the white laymen of the Diocese of Pennsylvania who provided for his various needs.
- People:** **Good God, we give you thanks.**
- Leader:* We thank you for his twenty years of ministry in Africa; his articulated vision for Pan African unity in Africa, the West Indies and the Americas; and for preserving him in safety when African detractors sought to take his life.
- People:** **Good God, we give you thanks.**
- Leader:* From the deep divisions that diminish all humanity, from the pain and cruelty inflicted by race and ethnicity, gender and class, sexual identity and orientation,
- People:** **Forgiving God, have mercy on us.**
- Leader:* From leaders who seek to separate and threaten the unity of the Church and human community.
- People:** **Protect with your gracious love.**

*Leader:* From laws that deny and reject the gifts and worth of all your people.

*People:* **Defend with your liberating power.**

*Leader:* From a culture which often does not care for or protect black bodies and souls; from fearful hatred that distort and devalue the dignity of black lives.

*People:* **Teach us to respect the dignity of every human being.**

*Leader:* From our disunity, tribalism, classism, self-hate, unforgiving memories, uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors and from all that divides the human family.

*People:* **Let us not become instruments of our own oppression.**

*Leader:* For the legacy of our forebears; for their gifts of organizing, self-determination, courage and dignity in the struggle against oppression: the Protestant Episcopal Society for Promoting the Extension of the Church among Colored People (1856); the Society for the Promotion of Church Work Among the Colored People (1867); the Conference of Church Workers among Colored People (1882); and the Union of Black Clergy and Laity (1968).

*People:* **Healer of Souls, we bless you.**

*Leader:* For their successor body, the Union of Black Episcopalians; may we in our own time work to heal and be healed, to boldly witness for racial justice, and promote the Gospel of Peace.

*People:* **Savior of Souls, we bless you.**

*Leader:* For the witness of the Black Diaspora in the Anglican Communion, together with the church throughout the world we commit our lives and ministries to the mission of Christ.

*People:* **To you Holy Spirit, lover of souls, we offer our hearts, minds, body and strength.**

*Leader:* Creator God, in your grace,

*People:* **Bless our spirits.**

*Leader:* Nurturing God, in your peace,

*People:* **Strength our lives.**

*Leader:* Redeeming God, in your love,

*People:* **Clothe our souls.**

*Leader:* Sustaining God, in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayers.**

*Silence is kept.*

*Leader and People: Let us pray (may be said in unison)*

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. *Amen.* [BCP p. 840]

*[Litany written by the Rev'd Canon John T.W. Harmon; and the Rt. Rev'd Nathan D. Baxter, 2016]*

### **A General Thanksgiving**

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

### **Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

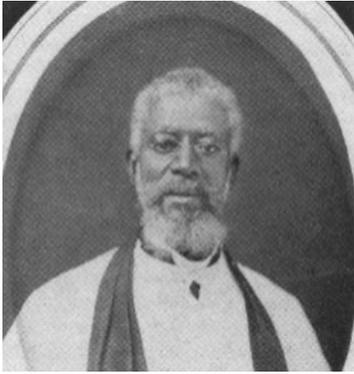
*People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia''*

### **Blessing**

Brother and Sisters, siblings in Christ, may the steadfast love and faithfulness of God surround you; the peace of Christ in fold you; and the Holy Spirit encourage you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## *The Feast of Alexander Crummell and UBE Sunday*



On September 10, The Episcopal Church celebrates the life and legacy of a notable saint: the Reverend Alexander Crummell. This day is also designated as Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) Sunday to commemorate the racial justice ministry of this organization which was an outgrowth of Crummell's advocacy.

The Rev. Alexander Crummell was born March 3, 1819, in New York City to Charity Hicks, a free woman of color, and Boston Crummell, a former slave. Both parents were active abolitionists. The first African-American newspaper, *Freedom's Journal*, was published out of their home.

As a young man, Crummell was driven out of an academy in New Hampshire, dismissed as a candidate for Holy Orders in New York, and rejected for admittance to General Seminary because of his race. He was eventually ordained in 1844 as a priest in the Diocese of Massachusetts, but left for England after being excluded from diocesan convention.

Ever determined, Crummell studied at Queens' College, Cambridge and was the first officially black student recorded as graduating. Soon after, he traveled to Liberia as a missionary to convert native Africans to Christianity and educate them, as well as to persuade American black community of their duty to go to Africa to spread Christianity across the continent. Crummell lived and worked for 20 years in Liberia. Finally, political opposition, lack of funding, and the potential for life-threatening violence forced him to return to the United States.

Upon return to the U.S., he was first called to St. Mary's Episcopal Mission in the Foggy Bottom area of Washington, DC. In 1875 he and his congregation founded St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the first independent black Episcopal church in the city. When in 1882 southern bishops proposed that a separate missionary district be created for black congregations, Crummell was a founding leader in establishing national black convocation to fight the proposal. That organization became known as Conference of Church Workers Among Colored People and is a predecessor body to Union of Black Episcopalians.

After retiring from St. Luke's in 1894, Crummell taught at Howard University until 1897. He died September 10, 1898, at the age of 79. Crummell was an important voice within the abolition movement and a leader of Pan-African ideology, influencing other black nationalists. In fact, W.E.B. Du Bois paid tribute to Crummell with a memorable essay entitled "Of Alexander Crummell" collected in his 1903 book, *The Souls of Black Folk*. His feast day in the Episcopal Church is September 10.

The Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) is a national faith-based advocacy organization whose goal is to address racial and social injustices and disparities within and outside our church. Visit UBE's website, [www.ube.org](http://www.ube.org), to support their ministry of justice and racial reconciliation.



Virtual Worship, Prayer, Bible Study + More	Time	Phone	St. Philip's Website or Facebook Live	Zoom
Sunday Bible Study	9 AM	Dial: 978-990-5000 Access code: 656298 #	-	-
Sunday Morning Worship	10 AM	Dial: 1-301-715-8592 ID: 937 9611 8377 Password: 074878	Go to our website: stphilipsrva.org  or	See Saturday Worship News email for log-in
Tuesday Night Prayer	8 PM	-	our Facebook page: St. Philip's Episcopal RVA	-
Wednesday Circle of Love Noonday Prayer	12 PM	Dial: 978-990-5000 Access code: 870051 #	-	-
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday Virtual Coffee Hour	12 PM	Dial: 1-301-715-8592 ID: 160 914 381 Password: 873302	-	See Saturday Worship News email for log-in
Thursday Virtual Office Visits with Rev. Marlene	10AM- 12PM 1PM-3PM	To schedule a private meeting with Rev. Marlene, call church office at 804-321-1266 or email Rev. Marlene at <a href="mailto:pastoralcare@stphilipsrva.org">pastoralcare@stphilipsrva.org</a>		
General emails from church – <b>Please check often and READ.</b> Lots of church and Diocesan information included!!				