

THE SERVICE OF RETIREMENT FOR BISHOPS AND GENERAL OFFICERS

**Saturday, July 9, 2016
8:00 P.M.**

**Bishop McKinley Young
Worship Leader**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Bishop McKinley Young

Bishop Young: The Bible instructs us to give honor to those to whom honor is due. Today we gather to pay tribute to five bishops for their years of service and labors of love in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. We salute them for a job well done.

People: **For them, O God, we give Thee thanks.**

Bishop Young: We thank you, O God, for their strength to bear burdens and their grace to share blessings.

People: **For them, O God, we give Thee thanks.**

Bishop Young: For their ministries, sacrifices, lives touched, services rendered, and sermons preached,

People: **For them, O God, we give Thee thanks.**

Bishop Young: For one-hundred collective years of Episcopal Service of Bishops John R. Bryant, William P. DeVeaux, T. Larry Kirkland, Richard F. Norris and Preston W. Williams, we praise God for them: and in celebration of our Bicentennial,

People: **We affirm their ministries, lives touched, sermons preached, and churches dedicated have all been done to the glory of God.**

Bishop Young: For twenty-eight collective years of service as a General Officer in the personhood of Dr. Johnny Barbour, Jr. and Dr. Calvin H. Sydnor,

People: **For them, O God, we give Thee thanks.**

**Bishop Julius H.
McAllister, Sr.:**

**May Christ be honored and Your name be praised, both
now and forevermore. Amen.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Bishop Clement Willie Fugh

How Great The Wisdom
AME HYMNAL NO. 91

How great the wisdom, power and grace Which in redemption shine!
The heavenly host with joy confess
The work is all divine, The work is all divine,
The work is all divine.

Before His feet they cast their crowns, Those crowns which Jesus gave,
And, with ten thousand thousand tongues,
Proclaim His power to save, Proclaim His power to save,
Proclaim His power to save.

They tell the triumphs of His cross, The sufferings which He bore;
How low He stooped, how high He rose,
And rose to stoop no more, And rose to stoop no more,
And rose to stoop no more.

O let them still their voices raise, And still their song renew;
Salvation well deserves the praise
Of men, and angels, too, Of men, and angels, too,
Of men, and angels, too.

THE INVOCATION

Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels, Jr.

THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Bishop John Franklin White

We come now in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to give God the praise for the life and labors of these servants who are retiring from the offices of Bishop and General Officer, and acknowledge their service in this special ministry of the church.

THE PRESENTATION OF RETIRING BISHOPS

Reverend Dr. Jeffrey Cooper

Members of the General Conference desire formally to recognize at this session the completion of the active service of these officials. As General Secretary I present unto you these faithful Servant Leaders for their service of recognition and honor, in appreciation of their untiring labors in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The General Secretary will then read the names of those to be retired, pausing after each name while the person shall rise and present himself before the Presiding Bishop

THE RESPONSES

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

THE MESSAGE OF TRIBUTE

Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson

THE MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Bishop Clement Willie Fugh

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
AME HYMNAL NO. 647

THE BENEDICTION

Bishop Zedekiah Lazett Grady