

Litany of Celebration – 141st Anniversary of the CME Church

Leader: For the grace to worship today, as Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) witnesses with grateful hearts, and to give thanks to Almighty God for one hundred and forty-one years of the gifts of salvation, education, and liberation in Jesus Christ our Lord

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For the dedicated, visionary, and prayerful forty-one good men who, 141 years ago, journeyed to Jackson, Tennessee in the cold of the winter to participate in the founding of the CME Church

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For the builders and sustainers of CME churches in the USA, Africa, and the Caribbean, who did so much, with so little, to bequeath us a rich and blessed heritage.

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For the determination to be free, and for Black prophets, and all who affirm the fatherhood and parenthood of God in the brotherhood and sisterhood of humanity.

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For the host of dedicated Bishops, General Officers, Presiding Elders, pastors, circuitriders, evangelists, local preachers, laity, and missionaries who called and still call us to a “faith that will not shrink”.

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For the gracious loyalty, commitment, and support of thousands of dedicated lay people born of the Holy Spirit through the CME Church.

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leaders: For visionary leaders who over the past 141 years have understood the value of education and founded Lane, Miles, Mississippi Industrial, Paine, and Texas Colleges, and Phillips School of Theology; that have produced leaders for the Church, local communities, the nation, and the world.

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For the thousands of children, youth and young adults who received lessons for Christian living in a wide variety of CME Church discipleship programs and ministries

Congregation: We praise you O God with grateful hearts, Hallelujah!

Leader: For granting us, by your Spirit, the spiritual potential to walk together in unity of love and purpose; to help one another by work and example; to live in faithful obedience to your will; and to express justice and mercy toward one another, may your name be praised, through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

ALL: We praise you O God with grateful hearts forever and ever, Hallelujah!