



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MAINE
199TH ANNUAL CONVENTION
THE WAY OF LOVE

DISCERNMENT

*As we begin our day, we focus on our calling to live faithfully,
for who knows what today holds? We stop now to accept God's grace.*

Bishop We are called in the morning
People **To turn our hearts to you.**

Bishop God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to
change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. Living one
day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardships as the
pathway to peace; taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I
would have it; trusting, O God, that you will make all things right if I
surrender to you will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life and
supremely happy with you for ever in the next.
People **Amen.**

Hymn *He who would valiant be*

Reader *Mark 2:13-14*
Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around
him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of
Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And
he got up and followed him.

Bishop *Call to Order*
According to Article 2, Section 1, of the Constitution of the
Episcopal Diocese of Maine, I call this regular meeting of the 199th
Convention to Order.

Bishop Convention Address

Hymn *In Christ alone my hope is found*

Bishop As we begin our day,
People **Give us your peace.**

Bishop As we pause this morning,
People **Give us your peace.**

Bishop As we do the work you have given us to do,
People **Give us your peace.**

Bishop For all the places of need in this world,
People **Give us your peace.**

Bishop In trusting you, O God, to care for you children,
People **Give us your peace.**

Bishop As we seek wholeness,
People **Give us your peace.**

The people may add their own intercessions and thanksgiving.

Bishop As we reflect on your presence.
People **Let us be peace for others.**

Bishop As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray,
Together **Our Father in heaven,**
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

Bishop Holy One, we are too often blinded by trivial matters. Lord, may our attention be diverted now from these things, and may we become as little children, trusting and seeking with love to cross bridges that we have not crossed in the past.

People **Amen.**

Bishop God of unchanging power and eternal light, loving God, who is Mother and Father of us all; Grant to your people in the Episcopal Diocese of Maine grace and courage to be a new church for a new day. Give us vision and wisdom to discern you will in a changing world and persistence to go out to our neighbors and live your Good News in new and creative ways. Help us to trust the companionship of your Spirit on this journey even as we experience confusion and difficulty. Lead us, we pray, to that future, still unseen by us, where you are already waiting for our arrival and where, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Together **God of Grace, we give you thanks for all of the blessings of our common life and ministries as the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, and for our leaders who are guiding us through this season of change. Grant to the Discernment and Transition Committees open hearts, minds, and spirits as they receive the Holy Spirit's gifts of faith, hope, and love to aid their work. We ask also that you send courage and vision to our next Bishop of Maine as she or he discerns your call.**

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.