



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, 10th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine Formally Seated at the Cathedral of Saint Luke**

**Portland, ME:** The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, 10th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, was formally welcomed at the Cathedral of Saint Luke in Portland Saturday afternoon, October 26<sup>th</sup>, and seated in the cathedra, or bishop's chair, as part of a traditional ceremony that recognizes and invests a newly ordained and consecrated bishop. Bishop Brown was ordained and consecrated June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Portland Cathedral of St. Luke with the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, serving as chief consecrator. Saturday's seating of Bishop Brown and service concluded the 200th Convention of the Diocese and marked the year-long Bicentennial Celebration Kick-off.

In his first formal address, Bishop Brown reflected on the past four months serving the more than 10,000 people in 59 churches and ministries across Maine, commenting "The Diocese of Maine is a community with highly-developed skills in creating and sustaining relationships. We are a relational diocese, in a relational state. This is among God's biggest blessings." Acknowledging the many uncertainties that lie ahead he affirmed "a changing church comes with blessing and honor and glory. And a swiftly changing society, in an environment where people understand and relate to the sacred in a variety of ways, is a challenge, for sure, but nothing is insurmountable when we stand on the rock of Jesus Christ." In concluding his remarks Bishop Brown stated "Today, we discern only a few of the opportunities that grace will put before us; we intuit only some of the challenges that will test our faith, our generosity, even our resolve. But through it all, there are constants too. We stand on Christ the solid Rock, a firm foundation. Growing in the knowledge and love of God is our aim, the Golden Rule is our guide, and openness to honoring the Spirit in all whom we meet is the way forward."

Bishop Brown presided at the service which was livestreamed and attended by clergy, lay members and choirs from throughout the diocese.

Bishop Brown succeeded the Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane who retired in June. The Bishop and his spouse, Rev. Thomas Mousin, reside in Portland. For the video of Bishop Brown's formal Seating service and address visit: <https://www.episcopalmaine.org/>.

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