



The Installation Service for

**BISHOP
KENNETHA J. BIGHAM-TSAI**



February 19, 2023

Ames, Collegiate United Methodist Church & Wesley Foundation

3:00 p.m.



Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai was elected to the episcopacy by the North Central Jurisdiction in November 2022. She is the first Black female bishop to be assigned to Iowa.

Before her election to Iowa, Bishop Bigham-Tsai was the Chief Connectional Ministries Officer for the Connectional Table, which is the visioning body of the United Methodist Church and the steward of resources to carry out that vision worldwide.

Bigham-Tsai served local congregations in East Lansing and Kalamazoo, MI, bringing a pastor's heart and strategic visioning to her appointments. While there, she served on many boards and has been active in justice issues, was a member of Black Methodists for Church Renewal and on the board for Justic for Our Neighbors.

Bigham-Tsai grew up in the Baptist church in Austin, Texas. She is the second oldest of five children in her family, and she credits her mother with helping her learn to preach by teaching her a love for words.

After earning a degree in sociology from Harvard University, Bigham-Tsai served in lay ministry with urban youth in the A.M.E. church in Boston and pursued a career in public relations and writing before responding to God's call to professional ministry. She was ordained in The United Methodist Church in 2009.

Bishop Bigham-Tsai and her husband, Kee, have been married since 1994, have two children and a dog. They are committed to a ministry of inclusion that begins at home.

Thank you for joining in this worship celebration, whether you're in the room or joining by livestream. Here is our order of worship. We'll stand at the times marked with an asterisk (*). Words to be read or sung together will appear on the screen; **words in bold** are read together. You will find the United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) and The Faith We Sing songbook (FWS) near your seat if you want to follow along with those selections. We're glad you're here!

Gathering

Prelude

Patrick Gagnon, organist

Amazing Grace—Emma Lou Diemer

The King of Love My Shepherd Is—Emma Lou Diemer

Voluntary on Thaxted—Albert L. Travis

*Processional Hymn

Gather Us In (FWS 2236)

GATHER US IN

*Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Mary Bellon

Senior Pastor, Collegiate UMC and Wesley Foundation

We come from farmland and rivers, from city streets and grassy paths.

We gather from sunshine and thunder, from blackberries and sweet corn.

We come remembering who we are.

We come from tricycles and soft blankets, from dinosaurs and unicorns.

We gather from schoolbooks and piano lessons, from "owies" and hugs.

We come recalling what makes us who we are.

We come from Sunday School teachers and lock-ins, from mission trips and potlucks.

We gather from hymnals and praise music, from sermons and prayers.

We come remembering all that has shaped us.

We come from love and connection, from learning and letting go.

We gather from loss and resurrection, from the table and the water.

We come remembering God's life in our lives.

We come from hope and promise, from passion and purpose.

We gather with despair and longing, from grace upon grace.

We come remembering who we are.

*Opening Prayer

Xavier Johnson, Collegiate/Wesley

**Eternal God, by your grace you have set us together in your Church,
whose foundation is your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Grant your continuing grace, we pray,
to all who exercise leadership in your Church,
that they may with diligence and faithfulness
fulfill their various ministries;**

**and grant that we your people may follow them where you lead
and minister faithfully in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

Response

Collegiate/Wesley Band

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Mary Bellon

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Keeton Bigham-Tsai

From the cowardice that dares not face new truth,
from the laziness that is contented with half-truth,
from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth,
Good Lord, deliver us. **Amen.**

—"For the Spirit of Truth," from Kenya (UMH 597)

Responsive Psalter Reading—Psalm 139.1-18 (UMH 854)

Bishop Linda Lee

O Lord, you have searched me and known me!
**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**
You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
**Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord,
you know it altogether.**
You pursue me behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high, I cannot attain it.**

Whither shall I go from your spirit,
Or whither shall I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
**If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell at the uttermost parts of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.**
If I say, "Let only darkness cover me,
and the light about me be night,"
**even the darkness is not dark to you,
the night is bright as the day;
for darkness is as light with you.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts,
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for you are fearful and wonderful.
Wonderful are your works!
You know me very well;
**my frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately wrought in the depths of the earth.**
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance;
**in your book were written
the days that were formed for me,**

every day, before they came into being.

How profound to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

When I awake, I am still with you.

New Testament Reading—Titus 1.7-9

Kee Tsai

Anthem

Here I Am, Lord (arr. Ovid Young)

Chancel Choir, directed by Patrick Gagnon
Collegiate/Wesley

Presentation and Covenant

Introduction of Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai

Erica Shannon Stueve and Rev. Dr. Barrie Tritle,
North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai,

you have been consecrated to be a shepherd and servant,

and you have been assigned

as bishop of the Iowa Area of The United Methodist Church.

As the Iowa Area representatives

of the North Central Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy,

we certify that Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai

was duly elected a bishop of The United Methodist Church

at the 2022 Jurisdictional Conference, and has been assigned

by the North Central Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy

to the Iowa Area.

With great joy and thanksgiving we therefore present Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai

to be welcomed to this area to which she has been assigned.

The Covenant Service

Margaret Borgen
Iowa Conference Lay Leader

Leader:

The Church is the community of those called by God,

justified by grace, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

We who are baptized into Christ's death

and raised with Christ in the resurrection

are living members of the body of Christ

who return thanksgiving to God

in ministries of worship, nurture, witness, and service.

A bishop has been ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament;

and to represent Christ's servanthood

in a special ministry of oversight.

A bishop is called to guard the faith, to seek the unity,

and to exercise the discipline of the whole Church;

and to supervise and support the Church's life, work, and mission

throughout the world.

As a servant of the whole Church,

the bishop is called to preach and teach

the truth of the gospel to all God's people;

to lead the people in worship,
in the celebration of the Sacraments,
and in their mission of witness and service in the world,
and so participate in the gospel command
to make disciples of all nations.

The bishop is to lead and guide
all persons entrusted to her supervision;
join in the consecration of bishops,
ordain deacons and elders,
consecrate diaconal ministers,
and commission all other persons in ministry
for service to the Church and to the world,
and provide for the ministry of Word and Sacrament
in the congregations committed to her care.

Let the shepherd who has been called
now affirm these ministries in our midst.

Bishop Kennetha:

With God's help, I promise faithfully to hear and to proclaim God's Word,
and rightly administer the Sacraments, as your pastor and servant.

Community:

**With God's help,
we promise to join with you in the life of praise and thanksgiving,
and in the faithful use of the means of grace that God has given us.**

Bishop Kennetha:

By the grace of Christ,
I promise to be among you as a teacher of the faith,
a pastor of souls, and a means to the unity of the body of Christ.

Community:

**By the grace of Christ,
we promise to join with you in the life of learning,
in the nurturing of God's people,
and in the seeking of that oneness in Christ
which is Christ's gift to us.**

Bishop Kennetha:

In the power of the Holy Spirit,
I promise to be for you a means of reconciliation and healing,
that all those who are burdened or oppressed may be made whole
and able to rejoice in the new life in Jesus Christ.

Community:

**In the power of the Holy Spirit,
we promise to be, with you, faithful witnesses,
serving justice, showing mercy,
and in all things proclaiming the acceptable year of the Lord.**

Leader:
Let the people say, "Amen."

Community:
Amen and amen!

Response

Collegiate/Wesley Band

Presentation of Signs of Episcopal Ministry

*Signs of the episcopal office are presented to Bishop Kennetha.
Her response to each one is "Amen."*

Bishop Kennetha, take this pastoral staff,
and be upheld and sustained by Christ the Good Shepherd
as you exercise the ministry of a shepherd among us in Christ's Name. Rev. Katie Dawson
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this Bible,
and proclaim fearlessly the prophetic Word
in the cause of justice and peace for all people. Shannon Meister
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this water,
be renewed in your baptism and renew us in ours. Diana Sagastizado
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this bread and cup,
and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church. Deacon Brent Hamilton
and Alex Johnson
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this towel and basin,
and be among us as one who serves. Rev. Nate Nims
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this stole,
and be our pastor, preacher, and teacher;
encourage and support all baptized people in their gifts and ministries,
and pray for them without ceasing. Rev. Chad Jennings
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this Book of Discipline,
guard the faith, seek the unity,
exercise the discipline of the whole Church,
and supervise the Church's life, work, and mission throughout the world. Rev. Brian Oliver
Amen.

Bishop Kennetha, take this gavel,
and preside in our Annual Conference;
appoint pastors and assign diaconal ministers to their ministries,
and guide us in our common mission of love and justice,
witness and service. Rev. Dr. Heecheon Jeon
Amen.

Leader: Rev. William Poland, Interim Assistant to the Bishop
and Director of Connectional Ministries

Bishop Kennetha, these are the signs of your ministry
among the people of the Iowa Area of The United Methodist Church.

Faithfully administer discipline, but do not forget mercy,
that when the Chief Shepherd shall appear,
you may receive the never-fading crown of glory.

Bishop Kennetha:

In the name of Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church,
I gladly assume, with you and among you,
this ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Order,
of pastoral supervision, government, and service.
Strengthened by the love of God
and the remembrance of my consecration to the episcopacy,
I am resolved to serve faithfully and well
the congregations and people of the Iowa Area
as bishop, pastor, and friend.

Community:

**On behalf of the congregations and people,
we receive you, Bishop Kennetha,
with joy and thanksgiving, as our bishop and pastor.
We pledge to you our prayers, our loyalty, and our support
as you lead us in the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to us all.**

*Welcome and Acclamation

Leader:

Welcome your bishop!

Introduction of the Ecumenical Representative

Rev. LaTonya Calderon
Director of Leadership Excellence & Inclusion

Ecumenical Greeting

Bishop Amy Current,
Southeast Iowa Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Marking This Moment of Women in Leadership

with Rev. Katie Dawson

Response

Collegiate/Wesley Band

Proclamation & Response

Gospel Reading—Matthew 16.13-18

Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Thompson

Sermon—Remembering Who We Are

Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai

*Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing (UMH 519)

LIFT EVERY VOICE

Prayer

Dawn Wiggins Hare, General Secretary
General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**O God, Shepherd and Ruler of the faithful,
look with favor on your servant Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai,
whom your Church has appointed bishop
and chief pastor of the Iowa Area.
Grant that, by word and example,
she may assist those among whom she is placed,
so that she and the people entrusted to her care
may fulfill the promises that they have made this day,
grow together in unity, love, and service,
and at last attain everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Introduction to the Offering

Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula,
Superintendent, Camp Clear Lake District

Bishop Kennetha has designated Africa University Scholarships as the recipient of today's offering. Your generous gifts are appreciated.

Offering

Be Still, My Soul (arr. Cathy Moglebust)

Chancel Handbell Choir, directed by
Dee Dreeszen, Collegiate/Wesley

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (UMH 94)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Offering Prayer

Rev. Dr. Lundula

Thanksgiving and Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai & Bishop Deborah Lieder Kiesey
Our congregational responses will be sung; your words will be on the screen and you can find the music at FWS 2257.

The Lord's Prayer

Please join in the prayer Jesus taught, using the words most familiar to you, or choose one of the texts at UMH 894-96.

Invitation

The Bread of Life for All Is Broken

Lindsay Drake, vocalist
SHENG EN

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Today's Communion elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice to make this sacrament accessible to all. We will receive by intinction. You can touch the bread (and not your fingers) to the juice and consume them together. Each station will also have pre-packaged elements available for those who prefer them.

Music During Distribution

A Place at the Table (on screen)

PLACE AT THE TABLE

One Bread, One Body (UMH 620)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

Christian People, Raise Your Song (UMH 636)

AVE VIRGO VIRGINUM

**We thank you, gracious Lord, for giving yourself to us,
and for uniting us in the communion of your Holy Spirit.
We bless you for raising up among us
your faithful servant Kennetha
for the ministry of a bishop in your Church.
We pray that she may be to us an effective example
in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life.
Grant that we, with her,
may glorify you by giving ourselves to others;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Sending Forth

*Benediction

Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai

*Recessional Hymn

This Is a Day of New Beginnings (UMH 383), stanzas 1-4

BEGINNINGS

*Postlude

Toccata for a Joyful Day—Emma Lou Diemer

Patrick Gagnon, organist

You are cordially invited to a reception in honor of Bishop Kennetha immediately following today's service. Follow signs to Wesley Hall in the lower level of the church. Please write your name on and wear your nametag so that Bishop Kennetha can greet you personally.

Many thanks to

- the people and staff of Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation, Ames, for their hospitality. A special thanks to the musicians of Collegiate/Wesley, including organist Patrick Gagnon, the Chancel Choir, the Chancel Handbell Choir, and the Band, comprised of Ed and Lynn Kaiser and Patrick Gagnon.
- Bishop Kennetha's son Kamden Bigham-Tsai, who is carrying the cross in the processional and recessional.
- our communion servers: Rev. Ron Carlson and Angela Hansen-Abbas (Riverview Park District), Rev. LaTonya Calderon and Diana Sagastizado (Golden Valley District), Rev. Melissa Drake and Shannon Meister (Aldersgate District), Rev. Dr. Moody Colorado and Cal Nicklay (Pictured Rocks District), and Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula and Robin Wissink (Camp Clear Lake District).
- the worship planning team for today's service: Rev. Mary Bellon, Beth Carlson, Deacon Brent Hamilton, Courtney Levin, Rev. John Louk, Rev. Lee Schott, Erica Shannon Stueve, Liz Winders



Bishop Deborah Lieder Kieseey

Retired; United States, North Central Jurisdiction

Deborah Lieder Kieseey was born in Sioux City, Iowa, to Reverend Dr. Lyle and Betty Lieder. She is the middle child of five. Her father served, and therefore she lived, in a variety of places in Iowa, including Hornick, Sioux City, Odebolt, Eagle Grove, Spencer and Mason City, where she graduated from high school. She attended Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where she graduated with honors with a double major in Religion and Piano Performance. She was named Outstanding Alumna of the Year for Morningside College.

Deb first felt a call to the ordained ministry while a student at Boston University School of Theology and she earned her Master of Divinity degree there. Upon her return to Iowa, she married D. Bradley Kieseey, an attorney from Washington, Iowa.

Upon ordination, she served the following Iowa churches: Richland/Ollie, Washington, Mt. Pleasant, and Iowa City. In 2001 she was appointed to the Waterloo District and served there until her election to the episcopacy in 2004 by the North Central Jurisdictional Conference and appointed to the Dakotas Area. Deb has been a delegate to General Conference since 1988, and was the first elected clergy from the Iowa Conference in 1992, 1996, 2000, and 2004. Throughout her ministry she has had the privilege of serving on a wide range of committees and boards, including the Board of Trustees for Iowa Wesleyan College, Morningside College and Dakota Wesleyan University. After serving eight years in the Dakotas Area, she was assigned to the Michigan Area in July 2012. From April 2 - December 31, 2022, Bishop Kieseey was assigned as interim bishop to the Iowa Area and Dakotas-Minnesota Area (supervising the Dakotas Annual Conference).

Deb's husband D. Bradley Kieseey passed in 2021. They were blessed with two adult sons, Joel and Aaron.



Bishop Linda Lee

Retired; United States, North Central Jurisdiction

Linda Lee was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She was ordained deacon by Bishop Dwight E. Loder and was ordained elder by Bishop Edsel A. Ammons. A graduate of United Theological Seminary (M. Div. and D. Min.), Lee began her ministerial career as a chaplain intern at Adrian College prior to her graduation from seminary. She was appointed to serve Residence Park United Methodist Church, Dayton, Ohio, and then served as assistant to the dean for educational administration at Methodist Theological School.

She also served as an associate pastor at Central United Methodist Church, Detroit, and as pastor of Conant Avenue United Methodist Church, Detroit, prior to being named to the Detroit Conference cabinet (1995-2000). Lee served as chair of Black Clergywomen of the United Methodist Church (1996-98) and has been a member of a number of annual conference committees including the Board of Ordained Ministry. She has served as a speaker for numerous schools, retreats, and conferences, and is a two-time delegate to General Conference. She is a contributing writer in several publications and has served as an adjunct professor of spirituality at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, Michigan.

Linda Lee was elected to the episcopacy by the North Central Jurisdictional Conference on July 14, 2000, in Middleton, Wisconsin, the first African American woman to be elected bishop in the North Central

Jurisdiction. Her first assignment was to her home area of Michigan, an unusual action which had not occurred for 40 years and that required special action of the Jurisdictional Conference. Linda Lee was assigned to the Wisconsin Area in 2004, after one quadrennium of service in Michigan.

She is married to Lamarr V. Gibson, and they have three children: Garvey, a registered nurse; Amon, an educator; and Afi, a banker; and twelve grandchildren.



Dawn Wiggins Hare

General Secretary, UMC General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

Dawn Wiggins Hare is an attorney and the first woman elected in the 35th Judicial Circuit as circuit judge in Monroeville, Alabama. Hare was named General Secretary of The United Methodist Church's General Commission on the Status and Role of Women in January 2013. She served on the governing board of the UMC's General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits from 2008 to 2012, where she was recording secretary and a member of the appeals committee. Hare was a General Conference delegate in 2008, 2012, 2016, and 2019, elected from the Alabama-West Florida Annual

Conference. She served as delegate to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in 2004, 2008, 2012 and 2016. She served on the Appeals Committee and chaired its Investigation Committee. In 2012, Hare received the Alice Lee Award from the Alabama West Florida Commission on the Status and Role of Women. She has been a member of First United Methodist Church of Monroeville, Alabama since 1988 and holds Bachelor of Science and law degrees from the University of Alabama. She and her husband, Nicholas S. Hare, Jr., are the parents of two adult sons.



Bishop Amy Current

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Southeastern Iowa Synod

Rev. Amy Current is a pastor in The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and has served the Southeastern Iowa Synod in the office of bishop since 2020. She is a graduate of Concordia College, Moorhead, MN (B.A.) and Wartburg Theological Seminary (M.Div.).

Prior to her role as bishop, Current served as vice president for admissions and student services at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. She also served in various leadership roles at Wartburg Seminary including director for financial aid and stewardship formation, director for public communications, and interim director of the Center for Youth Ministries. Born and raised in North Dakota, Amy was honored to serve as pastor of Maple Sheyenne Lutheran Church in Harwood, N.D., as pastor of Golden Ridge Lutheran Church, Fargo, N.D., and Congregational Lutheran United Church, Gardner, N.D.

Bishop Current serves on the boards of Grand View University, Lutheran Services in Iowa, Wartburg College, and Unity Point Health - Des Moines.

Bishop Current is married to Rev. Dr. Samuel Giere, who serves as professor of biblical interpretation at Wartburg Theological Seminary. They have two children, Isaac and Shonagh Current Giere. The family has two miniature Australian shepherds, Archie and Otis. Bishop Current enjoys reading novels, kayaking, snowshoeing, walking, sharing meals, lingering in conversation, watching tv, and exploring through travel.