

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

January 19, 2019

To the people of God at Church of the Transfiguration:

At last! Today, Episcopalians across our church rejoice with you that justice has finally come to Church of the Transfiguration. My prayers are with all of you, and especially with faithful LGBTQ Episcopalians who for far too long have been asked to bear the burden of the church's historic struggle to embrace the Gospel promise of inclusion.

For those of you whose unions are blessed today, I realize that the celebration cannot fully compensate for the sadness of being unable to be married in your own church. But I know that having my friend and trailblazing colleague Bishop Gene Robinson with you will deepen both your joy in today's celebration and the knowledge that you are making history as you renew your vows in the sight of God and one another. As I rejoice with you, I remember with particular gratitude the saints who labored for decades to bring God's justice to God's church, but who went on before us without seeing their dream come true today.

I send you my warmest greetings and my great gratitude for your witness, your faith, and the rich and wonderful evidence of God's blessing in your commitment to one another and to our beloved church.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings
President, House of Deputies

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PRESIDENT of the HOUSE OF DEPUTIES

