

INSTALLATION WORSHIP

*for*

The Reverend  
Dr. Valerie L. Jackson

Sunday, November 6, 2016

*“H.O.M.E. for a  
Beautifully Diverse World”*



Photo: © 2016 Diane Felt



University Park  
United Methodist Church  
Denver, Colorado

# Installation of Reverend Dr. Valerie L. Jackson

## Order of Worship

November 6, 2016

10:00 AM

Presiding Rev. Dr. Melanie Rosa, District Superintendent

Praise and Worship Daryl J. Walker, Morgan Lowe, Christine Ware, Caran Ware Joseph

Greetings and Welcome Rev. Dr. Melanie Rosa

**\*Call to Worship**  
Leader: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth.  
Rev. Dr. Jennifer S. Leath  
*The Iliff School of Theology  
Campbell Chapel AME Church*

**All: Serve the Lord with gladness; come before God with joyful singing**

Leader: Know that the Lord Godself is God; it is God who has made us, and not we ourselves;

**All: We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.**

Leader: Give thanks to God; bless God's name.

**All: And, we do give thanks, O God, for Rev. Dr. Valerie Jackson's charge to minister among and with your people here at University Park United Methodist Church!**

Leader: And, we do give thanks, O God, for University Park's charge to minister as a congregation among and with your people in Denver, in Colorado, in the United States, in the world, and as part of your beautifully unfathomable creation.

**All: We come to worship now, for You, God, are good; Your lovingkindness is everlasting, and Your faithfulness to all generations.**

Opening Prayer Rev. Dr. Eugene M. Downing, Jr.  
*Hope Baptist Church*

**\*Opening Hymn #117** O God, Our Help in Ages Past *St. Anne*

Solo I Want Jesus to Walk With Me  
Dianne Reeves  
*Grammy-winning Jazz Artist*  
Bennie L. Williams  
Accompanist  
*Spiritual Voices, Director*

## Installation Ceremony

### Commitment

**Will Gonnella:** Pastor Valerie Jackson, you have been sent to the congregation of University Park as a preacher of the Word of God; a minister of communion and baptism; and a sustainer of the love, service and discipleship of the people of God.

*\*Denotes when Congregation stands as able*

*Staffed Nursery available for infants through 3½ years old*

**Tom Gonnella:** We celebrate Pastor Jackson's appointment as senior pastor of this congregation to serve the peoples of southeast Denver. We believe that she is well qualified and has been prayerfully appointed by our bishop.

**Rev. Valerie Jackson:** University Park United Methodist Church, I commit to be your pastor and be in ministry with you to the peoples of southeast Denver.

**Jo Morgan:** Sisters and brothers in Christ, as people committed to participate in the ministries of University Park, by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, will we who celebrate this new beginning, support and uphold Pastor Jackson in these ministries?

**All: *Pastor Jackson, we commit to support and be in ministry with you so that in the places where we work and play the welcoming love of God is made real to all people.***

## Symbols of Ministry

**Liza Stoltz Hanson:** Pastor Jackson, today the congregation of University Park offers symbols of ministry to you as we commit to journeying together. Through these symbols we pledge to be in ministry with you and ask you to lead us as our pastor.

**Mark, Mary Ellen, Wyatt Ernst and baby boy due in January**

**Mark Ernst:** Pastor Jackson, take this **baptismal bowl and water** and baptize new disciples to our faith. As you renew lives through water and the Spirit, we will renew our covenant to nurture one another in the Christian faith.

**All: *Amen.***

**Hazel Hanson, William Hussain, Christopher Hussain, Abby Long**

**Abby Long:** Pastor Jackson, take this **bread and cup**, and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church. As you bless the meal for us, we will welcome all who come to the Table.

**All: *Amen.***

**Jim and Jo Morgan, Larry Grauberger**

**Jo Morgan:** Pastor Jackson, accept this **Bible** that over the last six weeks has been inscribed to you as it moved from Sunday School class to Youth Gathering to Choir Rehearsal and more. As you study and teach these Scriptures, we also will read and study in order to walk in the way of Christ.

**All: *Amen.***

**Darlene Bandy, Barry Bandy, Liz Beindorff**

**Liz Beindorff:** Pastor Jackson, receive this **towel and basin** to model servanthood and equality. As you challenge us to acts of care and service, we will cherish the gifts and abilities of all people.

**All: *Amen.***

**Dorothy Lagger, Tom Vanden Bosch, Sharon Sanita**

**Tom Vanden Bosch:** Pastor Jackson, use this **Hymnal and Book of Worship**, to guide us in our prayer and praise. As you inspire us in creative worship, we will lift our voices that they may be heard far beyond these walls.

**All: *Amen.***

**Rev. John Blinn, Rev. Marla Kauerz**

**Rev. Marla Kauerz:** Pastor Jackson, receive this **Book of Discipline** that guides our Church practices and polity. As you study our history and dream of our future, we will keep the covenant of our connections as United Methodists.

**All: *Amen.***

**Frank Philipp, Lori Colleran**

**Lori Colleran:** Pastor Jackson, receive this **offering plate** as a symbol of stewardship, trust, and hope in the future. As you guide our lives for the building of the Kin-dom, we will generously share that with which we have been blessed.

**All: Amen.**

**Hope and Les Law**

**Hope Law:** Pastor Jackson, take this **plumb line**, that ensures intentions are just and true. As you faithfully call us toward ministries of compassion and justice, we will boldly respond with courage for what is right.

**All: Amen.**

**Abby Bobotis, Miles Kahn**

**Miles Kahn:** Pastor Jackson, receive this **globe**, and lead us in our mission to this community and all the world. As you challenge us to love outside these walls, we will declare, "The world is our parish!"

**All: Amen.**

**Aidan Schachterle, Dayton Bedin**

**Dayton Bedin:** Pastor Jackson, accept this **golden burrito** which represents the opportunity for UPark Youth to participate in mission trips. As you nurture our hearts for service and leadership, we will respond with dedication and hard work, to build faith and strengthen communities.

**All: Amen.**

**Rev. Dale Beck**

Pastor Jackson, receive this **stole** signifying your consecration, and shepherd this congregation as their pastor. As you and University Park United Methodist Church partner to make disciple leaders, we will hold you all in our prayers.

**All: Amen.**

**Rev. Paul Kottke**

Pastor Jackson, take this **chalice** carved from Jerusalem olive wood. As you offer the cup of new life to this beloved community, be reminded of the history on which we stand, and boldly step forward into a new vision of the future.

**Rev. Valerie Jackson:** I accept these symbols as a sign of our journey and ministry together. I am blessed to lead University Park as your pastor.

Laying on of Hands by Children and Youth

Kate Schultz, Nathan Daylie

Special Music

Father, I Adore You

Choristers

*Children 3½ years through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are invited to exit for Children's Church following the offering.*

## Commitment and Offering

Pastor: University Park, we, you and I, have been called to this place for such a time as this.

Rev. Valerie Jackson

**All: We believe.**

Pastor: After 122 years of groundbreaking ministries and accomplishments, God is still calling this faith community to serve its members and residents; the students, educators, scholars, staff, and business owners of the University Park community, particularly the University of Denver and the Iliff School of Theology. We are **HOME** for a beautifully diverse world.

**All: We are ready to answer God's call.**

Pastor: It is time to remember. It is time to rededicate our minds, bodies and souls to God's movement of extravagant love and generosity. It is time to commit our time, visions, dreams, talents, passions and finances to the present and future of University Park UMC.

**All: We remember. We are ready to commit to extravagant generosity. We are ready to commit our resources. Together, we will “do all the good we can, by all the means we can, in all the ways we can, in all the places we can, at all the times we can, to all the people we can, as long as ever we can.” Amen.**  
 John Wesley, *Letters of John Wesley (Revised.)*

Presentation of Pledges and Offerings  
 Musical Offering

UPark Youth Group

**\*Doxology #94**

**Commitments from our Partnerships**

Rev. Dr. Thomas Wolfe, President <i>The Iliff School of Theology</i>	Rev. Dr. Donald E. Messer, Executive Director and Dr. Bonnie J. Messer <i>Center for Health and Hope</i>
Rev. Dr. Gary Brower, Chaplain <i>University of Denver</i>	Dr. Debora Ortega, Associate Professor of Social Work <i>Latina/o Center the Latino Center for Community Engagement and Scholarship at University of Denver</i>
Rev. Amanda Henderson, Executive Director <i>The Interfaith Alliance of Colorado</i>	Dr. Tayana Hardin, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English <i>Journey Women Writers at University of Denver</i>
Ms. Joyce Lisbin, Executive Director <i>Colorado Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice</i>	Rev. Tawana Davis <i>Soul 2 Soul and Celie’s New Song</i>
Mr. Adrian Miller, Executive Director <i>Colorado Council of Churches</i>	

**Hearing the Word**

Anthem	Here I am, Lord	Choir and Peniel Band
Scripture		Rev. Dr. MarKeva Hill <i>MultiCultural Counseling Center</i>
Sermon		Bishop Karen Oliveto <i>Resident Bishop, Mountain Sky Episcopal Area, UMC</i>
Solo		Dianne Reeves

**Responding to the Word**

Communion <i>All communion elements are free of gluten, wheat, dairy, corn and soy</i>		Bishop Karen Oliveto Rev. David Williams <i>Abyssinian Christian Church, Fort Collins</i>
<i>Children will return to their families for Communion</i>		
Anthems	In This Very Room O Sacrum Convivium (O Sacred Banquet)	Ron and Carol Harris Dan Locklair
	Inscription of Hope (from an inscription on cellar walls in Cologne, Germany– WWII) Peace I Give to You (text: John 14:27, 16:33)	
<b>*Hymn #133</b>	What a Fellowship/Leaning on the Everlasting Arms	Showalter
Closing Remarks		Rev. Valerie Jackson
<b>*Benediction</b>		Bishop Karen Oliveto
<b>*Benediction Response</b>	May the Peace of the Lord	Choir
Postlude	Trumpet Tunes	<i>Francesco Manfredini</i>

# CONGRATULATIONS REV. VALERIE JACKSON!

*Michael B. Hancock*  
Mayor



*City and County of Denver*

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY AND COUNTY BUILDING  
DENVER, CO 80202-5390  
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November 6, 2016

Rev. Dr. Valerie L. Jackson  
University Park United Methodist Church  
2180 South University Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80210



Dear Rev. Jackson:

It is my pleasure to send this letter of congratulations on the occasion of your installation as Senior Pastor of the historic University Park United Methodist Church. As the first African American female Pastor, you symbolize a historical change in the church as it relates to diversity and leadership. You have prepared yourself for the task and I know that with prayer and determination, nothing can stand in your way.

The University Park United Methodist Church has a long history of service to the community that includes ministry programs that reach out to not only the local community, but has benefited people in countries around the world. The congregation is intergenerational and embraces the international and interfaith communities. Your charge and challenge will be to find ways to serve the needs of the people while consistently following the will and direction of God.

The journey ahead is exciting and with love, prayer and faith, the victory is certain. May God be with you every step of the way!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Hancock".

Michael B. Hancock  
Mayor



**OF HOPE**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
TRANSFORMING YOUR WORLD  
Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale, Senior Pastor

October 5, 2016

Rev. Dr. Valerie Jackson  
University Park United Methodist Church  
2180 S. University Boulevard  
Denver, Colorado 80210


Dear Rev. Jackson:

I want to extend my heartfelt **"Congratulations"** to you on your installation as the Senior Pastor of University Park United Methodist Church. Although, I am unable to attend, I know it will be a joyous occasion. I am so godly proud of you!

As you transition into this next exciting chapter of ministry - keep living the dream, continue to answer the Call and always allow the Lord to use you as He sees fit. Remember Jeremiah 29:11, "for I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

I wish you well as you go forth in impacting and transforming the lives of the people in Denver - the best is yet to come! If I can be of service to you or your ministry, please let me know.

All the best,

  
Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale  
Senior Pastor

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Mina Nau, President  
Candise Woods, Vice-President  
Rahdearra A. Paris Woods, Secretary  
Rahdearra A. Paris Woods, Chaplain  
Eldon Greer, Treasurer  
Dora DeVan, Community Resource Coordinator  
Dr. Jennifer Leath, Faculty Advisor



Iiff School of Theology  
2323 E. Iiff Ave.  
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[iiff.napas@gmail.com](mailto:iiff.napas@gmail.com)

NAPAS

## National Alliance of Pan African Seminarians

Dr. Rev. Valerie Jackson,

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!” ~Romans 10:15

You have been a shining light to the Iiff School of Theology, a beacon of hope and love to the students and a continued inspiration to the members of the National Alliance of Pan-African Seminarians (NAPAS). Your spirit has been uplifting, encouraging and caring. You have touched the lives of so many and have left an impact and imprint on the hearts of those you come in contact with. Whenever we need guidance you are there. Whenever we need encouragement you are there. Whenever we need chastisement you are able to give it in such a way that we see our faults but also feel your love. You have been more than an advisor; you have been a mentor, teacher, confidant and parental figure.

It is a distinguished honor to witness such an amazing moment in history that you are more than deserving of. As you continue forth in the ministry God has ordained to your hands may you always remember the community that stays connected to you and the love that follows you everywhere you go. Continue to allow God to use you and work through you. Truly you were Chosen for a time such as this. In a world that sometimes seems dark and lonely you are the anointed vessel that hears the cries of the people and are able to attend to their needs.

We pray God’s covering over you and wish you all the best. We pray that God will continue to bless all that your hands touch and everywhere your feet step. We pray that God will continue to give you vision, prosper you and give back to you what you give to us!

“Proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.” ~2 Timothy 4:2

With Love and Honor,

NAPAS Village

***What will We do with the mantle?***





Rev. Dr. Sam Davis, Pastor

October 25, 2016

Rev. Valerie L. Jackson, D.Min.  
Senior Pastor  
University Park United Methodist Church  
2180 S. University Boulevard  
Denver, Colorado 80210

Greetings and Congratulations Dr. Jackson!

As the Psalmist wrote: *I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD" (NKJV)*; and it is good to be able to celebrate this milestone in your ministerial journey. You've got something to praise God for . . . .

Beulah Grove and I are excited to share in this momentous occasion with you. We pray that your ministry will flourish and in the days to come that God will bless you through your service.

Continue to press forward. Grow and keep in mind the new possibilities, new challenges and exciting opportunities that await you. The "I remember when's" are good; but don't stay there. Move forward and go with God.

A Steward of Christ,

Dr. Sam Davis, Pastor  
Beulah Grove Baptist Church

Seek, Save, Support, Shape & Serve

# Campbell Chapel

African Methodist Episcopal Church

Denver, CO

[www.campbelldenver.org](http://www.campbelldenver.org)



The Reverend Jennifer S. Leath, Ph.D., Pastor  
Assistant Professor of Religion & Social Justice,  
Iliff School of Theology

## *Congratulates*

**The Reverend Valerie Jackson, D. Min.  
& The University Park United Methodist Church**



## *Greets*

**Bishop Karen Oliveto, Presiding Prelate of  
The Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences of  
The United Methodist Church**



*Rev. Dr. Jackson, we give thanks to G\*d for your great and innumerable gifts. We celebrate the charge that you have to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with G\*d as you serve at University Park UMC. May G\*d strengthen and keep you in the path ahead! We love you!*

# THANK YOU FROM PASTOR JACKSON

**From the moment** our impending covenant together was announced on February 14 of this year, I understand you welcomed me with a resounding “yes” in the voice of **Rev. Dr. Cathie Kelsey** in the 8:30AM worship and a soprano shriek from the choir stand in the voice of **Mary Sue Alexander** in the 11:00AM worship. Again, you welcomed me with joy and enthusiasm at our 2016 Metro District Annual Celebration (MDAC) through the tenderness and joy of **Moyna Hudgens, Cindy Smith, Carol Jansch and Rev. Debby Lawrence**. Again, during my first days here in July, you showered me with warm hospitality and generosity; an eagerness to help me move in via **Joshua Rousis and Duane Buys**; acceptance as we shared in our first communion on Bluegrass Sunday during that beautiful 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend; and we sealed the excitement of our new beginnings with a multitude of selfies after the benediction on the lawn of Iliff School of Theology. And yet, again, **JoAnn Gudvangen-Brown, Bob Penn, Renae Gudvangen** and the **Chancel Choir** welcomed me with several musical pieces written and sung in my honor as senior pastor.

Moreover, you opened your homes to introduce me to each and every person within this wonderful community. For these meet & greet opportunities, I give thanks to **Amy and Jeff Flynn, Mary Ellen and Mark Ernst, the Meridian Englewood family, PEGS, Cornerstone II Sunday School Class with MaryAnn and Duane Buys, Susan and Don Livingston, Carol and Chuck Jansch (twice), Youth ministry with MaryAnn and Duane Buys, Joan Buresh; and Peniel, Young Adults and STEPS.**

Then there is today; today is simply icing on an already delicious cake. Today, we acknowledge and celebrate the grace and goodness of our God. We celebrate each other and the history we are making together. Today, we commit our time, talents and finances to the prophetic work of **H.O.M.E** that we are called to do in the University Park community and beyond. Today, we honor our conference leaders, colleagues, and community partners; we have the pleasure of their presence and participation in this Installation Service; and we renew our commitments to each other. For this, I give thanks to **Bishop Karen Oliveto, Rev. Dr. Melanie Rosa**, all worship participants, all mentors, present and in abstentia; and **Rev. Dr. Dale Beck and Rev. Paul Kottke** for symbolically, but also prayerfully and sober-mindedly, passing the mantle of courageous leadership and service.

Last, but certainly not least, I give thanks to the best staff ever and the Installation Planning Committee for making my vision and dream a reality. I salute you: **Rev. Dr. Cathie Kelsey, Laurie Day, Andriette Jordan-Fields, Ree Brown, Cooper Bedin, Heidi Frazier, Caran Ware Joseph, Daryl J. Walker, Liza Stoltz Hanson, JoAnn Gudvangen-Brown, Mary Sue Alexander; Duane Buys, Joshua Rousis, Kevin Garman, Jessica Carmer, and Rev. Debby Lawrence.**

In the words of a very familiar spiritual sung by Mahalia Jackson and others, “My Soul Looks Back and Wonders How I Got Over...” All I can say is, Lord, I thank you... and to God be the Glory!!!

I love you all, and wish you infinite blessings...

# WELCOME!

**Welcome to University Park United Methodist Church.** We are very happy to have you visit and share in the experiences we offer at University Park UMC. UPark has a vivid history dating to 1891 when our first Sunday School met in what is now the Stailey Insurance Building on Evans St. On September 16, 1894, the University Park Methodist Episcopal Church was founded with 56 members. For a time, members worshipped in the Buchtel Chapel on the D.U. campus, but by 1928 the first permanent building was constructed.

## Sunday Services

- ◆ 8:30am: Informal Worship in Wasser Chapel (Casual dress welcomed)
- ◆ 10:30am: Peniel Service in Wasser Chapel, with Praise Band
- ◆ 11:00 am: Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary (Chancel Choir sings September-May)
- ◆ Nursery is available for infants to age 3 1/2 during services.

*Holy Communion is served at all three services on the first Sunday of the month.*

## Christian Education

We offer a variety of classes for all ages from children to adults on Sunday morning from 9:30am to 10:30am.

Our children enjoy the Rotation Model in which they rotate among four areas each week (music/games, drama/theater, art/science, and computer lab).

Junior and Senior High Youth Fellowship meets on specified Sundays. Please check out the calendar on our website for meeting dates and to find out more about each class. Exciting activities are planned for the youth, including retreats, bowling, summer mission trips, and other events.

## Fellowship

UPark has several interest groups and circles meeting on various days. These include United Methodist Women (UMW), Men's Faith & Fellowship, Post Employment Group Seniors (PEGS), Steps (Young Adults), Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, and Prime Time Live.

## Faith in Action

UPark has a strong outreach committee working with community organizations, including CROP Hunger Walk, Denver Inner City Parish, Denver Urban Matters (DenUM), Fair Trade Coffee (Equal Exchange), Family and Senior Homelessness Initiative (FSHI), Denver Rescue Mission, The Foundation Campus Ministry, Loaves & Fishes, A Coalition of Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver, Family Promises of Great Denver (Interfaith Hospitality Network,) Metro CareRing, Building Bridges for Peace, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Urban Peak, and Warren Village.

Mission trip opportunities include: adults go to UMCOR Depot, Sierra Leone, Salud y Paz in Guatemala; junior high youth go to Alamosa to serve various agencies; and senior high youth partner with Sierra Service Project to participate in service projects.

UPark supports several other outreach endeavors within the walls of the church building including various 12-Step programs, RAFT (Refugees and Asylees Facilitation Team), and Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, just to name a few.

# CONTACT US

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INCLUSIVE

INTERGENERATIONAL



INTERNATIONAL

INTERFAITH

## BISHOP KAREN P. OLIVETO

**BISHOP KAREN OLIVETO** is the new bishop for the Mountain Sky Area of The United Methodist Church which includes the Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences. She began her term as bishop in September 2016 after serving as senior pastor of the 12,000-member Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco for eight years. She is the first woman to be senior pastor at Glide, the fifth largest United Methodist congregation in the U.S. She is the first woman to serve as senior pastor in one of the denomination's 100 largest U.S. congregations.

Prior to Glide, Bishop Oliveto served as the associate dean of academic affairs/director of contextual education at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. She has held pastorates at Bethany UMC in San Francisco and Bloomville UMC in Bloomville, New York, as well as being the campus minister at the Ecumenical House Campus Ministry at San Francisco State.

Bishop Oliveto earned a Ph.D and a M.Phil. from Drew University, a M.Div. from Pacific School of Religion, and a BA from Drew University.

"My dream is that we live into beloved community. My dream is that we live boldly as the body of Christ and love so fully, so completely, that the neighborhoods in which United Methodist Churches stand in are utterly transformed by the love that spills out of these communities," Bishop Oliveto said in a recent pastoral letter to the members of the 400 churches in the Mountain Sky Area.

Bishop Oliveto is the first openly lesbian bishop in The United Methodist Church. Her wife, Robin Ridenour, a nurse anesthetist, is a deaconess in The United Methodist Church.



## DIANNE REEVES



**DIANNE REEVES** is the pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world. As a result of her virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B stylings, Reeves received the Grammy for *Best Jazz Vocal Performance* for three consecutive recordings — a Grammy first in any vocal category.

Featured in George Clooney's six-time Academy Award nominated "Good Night, and Good Luck," Reeves won her fourth of five *Best Jazz Vocal* Grammys for film's soundtrack.

Reeves has recorded and performed with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. She has also recorded with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Daniel Barenboim and was a featured soloist with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic. Reeves was the first Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles

Philharmonic and the first singer to ever perform at the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall. Reeves has performed at the White House on multiple occasions including President Obama's State Dinner for the President of China as well as the Governors' Ball.

[www.diannereeves.com](http://www.diannereeves.com)

# ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**THANK YOU to all those who put in the time,  
resources, and effort to make today happen!**

**Sanctuary Flowers:** Given by Frank Philipp in memory of his parents, Francis and Dorothy Philipp

**Ushers:** Frank Philipp, Larry Fagan, Matthew Frazier, Embra Daylie, Ron Justiss, Les Law, Hugh Alexander, and Joann Beiler

**Greeters:** Lola Ozman, Don Whitford, Carole and Dean Rollins, Carolyn Junod, Terry and Mary Erculiani, George Gramer, and Joan Buresh

**Parking Lot:** Nick Shade, Brian Scherf, and Hayden Brink

**Generalist Volunteers:** Kathy Wood, Phyllis Ward, Pat Mauro, Reda Walsh, Brittaney Nelson, and Cliff Creswell

**Communion Servers:** Bishop Karen Oliveto, Rev. David Williams, Rev. Debby Lawrence, Rev. Arthur Tredwell, Rev. Nancy Rosa, Liza Stoltz Hanson, Bruce Cratty, Barbara Creswell, Dr. Edward Antonio, Dr. Gladys Antonio, Lucas Frazier, and Brett O'Connor

**Acolytes:** Sophie Lemire and Zach Lemire

**Reception Committee:** Katherine Schultz, Lisa Schachterle, Steve Rohs, and members of Cornerstone II Sunday School Class

**Music:** JoAnn Gudvangen-Brown, Renae Gudvangen, Daryl J. Walker, Morgan Lowe, Christine Ware, Caran Ware Joseph, Dianne Reeves, Bennie Williams, Jenna Clark, Choristers, Kevin Garman and Peniel Band, UPark Youth, and Chancel Choir

**Youth, Children's Church, and Nursery:** Bethany Hader, Meghan Henry, Hannah Westra, Brittny Yepson, Barbara Pollock-Walker

**Cover Design:** Mary Sue Alexander

**Photography:** Diane Felt and Cameron Ryan

**Bulletin Production and Editing:** Laurie Day, Liza Stoltz Hanson, and Jessica Carmer

**Installation Planning Committee:** Rev. Dr. Cathie Kelsey, Chairperson; Laurie Day and Andriette Jordan-Fields, Worship Coordinators; Liza Stoltz Hanson, Caran Ware Joseph, Daryl J. Walker, JoAnn Gudvangen-Brown, Mary Sue Alexander, Ree Brown, Cooper Bedin, Heidi Frazier, and staff; Rev. Debby Lawrence, Duane Buys, Joshua Rousis, and Jessica Carmer

## REV. DR. VALERIE L. JACKSON, D.Min.

**REV. DR. VALERIE L. JACKSON** is a passionate, unapologetic Womanist proclaimer, visionary and faith leader. She has lived in Denver since 2009. She is a native of Boston, MA, and the daughter of the late Deacon Lula L. and Deacon Willie Axson; and the late Lovell Barnes. Rev. Jackson has three sisters, Tara Danielle, Patricia and LaVerne; and one brother, Anthony Lovell. In addition, in the earthly absence of Valerie's mother, one of her fathers and all grandparents, God has blessed Valerie with a very faithful family and support system in persons such as today's program participants, Valencia and Rev. John Thompson, Sharon Daniels, Bennie Williams, Carlotta and Ike LaNier, Marla Petrin and Kelly Triplett, John Riley and Ilse Hoffman, Alison Wisneski and Betsy Lay, and most especially, Willie M. Jordan, Alana Fields, Brittany Fields, and Andriette Jordan-Fields.

Rev. Dr. Jackson has worked and served as the senior pastor of First United Methodist Church of Aurora; preaching pastor for the Abyssinian Christian Church in Fort Collins; academic advisor at the Iliff School of Theology and other leadership roles with the Augusta Housing Authority, Department of Family & Children Services in Augusta, GA; The City of Aiken, South Carolina; The City of Boston and the Boston Five Cents Savings Bank. She also shares her time, talents and passion with the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, The Center for Health and Hope, Colorado's Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice, Interfaith Alliance of Colorado, Religious Advisory Coalition, Celie's New Song and Journey Women Writers.

Rev. Dr. Jackson earned her Doctor of Ministry degree from the Iliff School of Theology with research in Homiletics, Womanist Theology and Black Church Studies. The project title is: A Critical Analysis of Preaching in the National Baptist Convention, USA, Incorporated: The Socio-Cultural and Existential Reality of Women. She has a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia; and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Tufts University. She is the founder/CEO of Triple Threat Ministries, a ministry to empower women to maximize their potential, fulfill their purpose and live their dreams. Prior to joining The United Methodist Church, Rev. Jackson was the first woman licensed to preach and the first full time Director of Christian Education at the Beulah Grove Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia. She is the co-author with Rev. Dr. Sam Davis of a very practical book in Christian Education entitled "*Building Capacity to Build the Kingdom: Shaping the Church through Christian Education*".

