

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

May 23, 2020

Dear Deputies, alternate deputies, and beloved friends in the Diocese of Ft. Worth:

Since 2009, when I first had the good fortune to visit you as we planned CREDO's Strength for the Journey program, the Episcopal Diocese of Ft. Worth has held a special place in my heart. For more than a decade, against all odds, you have proclaimed God's vision of Beloved Community for all people, and I have looked forward to every opportunity to see first-hand the energetic rebirth you have brought about in your congregations and worshipping communities. Your witness helped inspire a movement that has brought the entire Episcopal Church closer to justice and full inclusion, and I am deeply grateful.

I wish I could be with you in person to share the disappointment of the Texas Supreme Court's decision. Instead, let me assure you that I, along with deputies across the church, are with you in spirit, praying for you and supporting you as you discern your future. Your ministry—truly blessed by the gifts of laypeople, clergy and your faithful bishop—is a gift to the entire Episcopal Church and a testament to our hope in the Risen Christ.

During the days and decisions to come, know that we and generations of faithful Episcopalians who have gone before us are walking with you in solidarity and love.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings
President, House of Deputies of The Episcopal Church

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PRESIDENT of the HOUSE OF DEPUTIES

