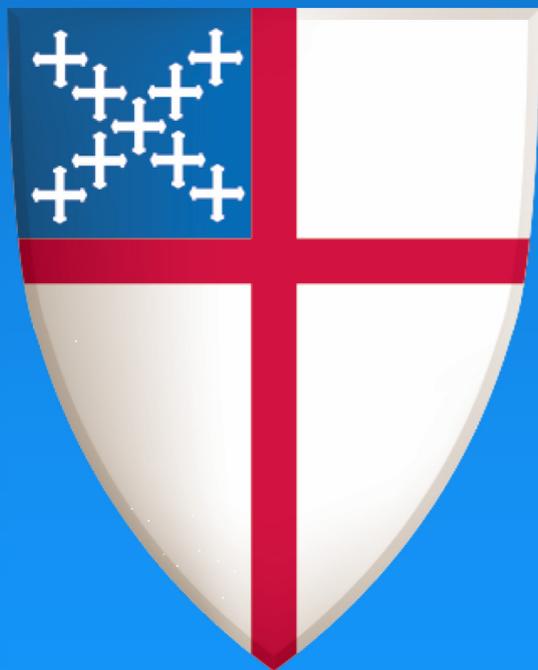
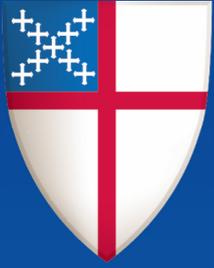


The Distinctiveness of the Episcopal Tradition

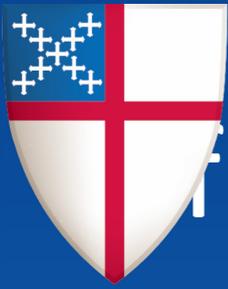


Session #1: Origins



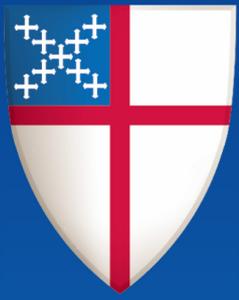
“The King’s Matter”

- More complex than Henry VIII’s desire for a divorce.
- Legitimate concerns about the succession:
 - Wars of the Roses: 1455 - 1487, between the Houses of Lancaster and York
 - Conflict ended with Henry Tudor’s victory in 1485. Crowned Henry VI, and established the House of Tudor
 - Henry VIII had no legitimate male heir; feared a return to civil war, and the end of the House of Tudor.
- Long-standing power struggle between monarchs and Popes: Henry II and Thomas Becket in 12th century.
- Henry VIII established himself as head of the Church of England; commissioned a new prayerbook.



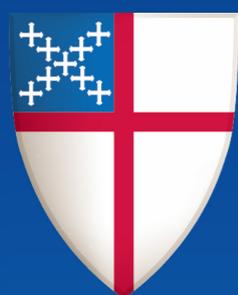
Influence of the Continental Reformation

- The Protestant Reformation began with Martin Luther in 1517, gained traction in Germany. Other reformers such as Calvin, Knox, Zwingli, and Hus, spread ideas to other countries.
- Henry VIII not sympathetic to Protestant views; wrote a tract against Luther and was given the title “Defender of the Faith” by the Pope. Considered himself a Roman Catholic all his life.
- Due to the printing press, reformations ideas spread to Britain. Archbishop Cramner and eventual Chancellor Thomas Cromwell aided in the Reformation’s spread.
- Two slogans of the Reformation: “Sola Scriptura” and “Sola Fides.”



After Henry VIII

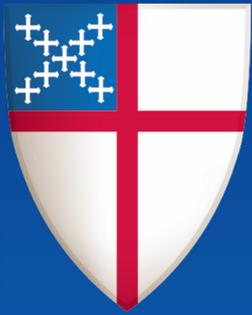
- Edward VI, Henry's son, succeeded in 1547 at age 9. Under the influence of Protestant advisors, reform advanced quickly. 1552 Book of Common Prayer was much more Protestant in its theology. Died at age 15.
- Mary I, Edward's successor, attempted a Catholic restoration. Was called "Bloody Mary" due to mass execution of Protestants. Her reign lasted 5 years.
- Elizabeth I, Mary's successor, had no desire to see England swallowed up by the religious wars plaguing Europe. Was the architect of the reformed Church of England.



Elizabethan Settlement

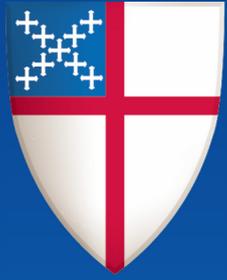
1558-1559

- Aimed for a state religion that was neither Catholic nor Protestant.
- Act of Supremacy (1558) reestablished independence of the Church of England from Rome. Monarch as Supreme Governor of the Church.
- Act of Uniformity (1559) outlined the form of the Church, and reestablished the Book of Common Prayer. This 1559 version combined elements of earlier books to create one which contained Catholic and Protestant elements.



The Birth of “Anglicanism”

- The “Via Media” (middle way) is its foundation.
- Outward sign of unity not doctrinal conformity, but our liturgy, symbolized by Book of Common Prayer.
- Theologian Richard Hooker’s “Three Legged Stool:” Scripture, Tradition, and Reason.
- All theology is provisional, subject to reinterpretation.
- Creeds and councils of early Church of foundational importance.
- A creative tension is inherent.



The Anglican Communion

- A union of national churches born from the Church of England as a result of colonization.
- The Episcopal Church is part of the communion.
- The Archbishop of Canterbury is “first among equals,” does not have same authority as Roman Catholic Pope.
- The continued existence of the communion is in question today.