REV. DR. CYNTHIA A. WILSON "Enlivener of song" – Dr. Ruth C. Duck

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia A. Wilson is an ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church and member of the Kansas West Annual Conference. She holds degrees from Dillard University-New Orleans, La., Southern Methodist University/Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Tx, and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

Dr. Wilson is a popular lecturer, preacher, teacher, conductor, and concert artist, and has provided benefit concerts across the United States, including Carnegie Hall (New York), and abroad (Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and South America). In 1996, Dr. Wilson served as Co-Director for the General Conference of the United Methodist Church (Denver), and was selected as the first female and first person of color to serve as Director of Music in 2000 (Cleveland) for the church's quadrennial gathering.

Dr. Wilson was invited to join the National Task Force (1979) that produced the <u>Songs of Zion</u>, and Co-Chaired the task force that produced its sequel (2007), <u>Zion Still Sings! For Every</u> <u>Generation</u> with Dr. William B. McClain, Professor Emeritus of Wesley Theological Seminary. Both of these United Methodist Publishing House resources can be found in bookstores across the United States and abroad as they continue to enrich 21st century worship for all generations, cultures and denominations.

Dr. Wilson served as the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean of Students from 2010 - 2017. She was named as Director for the new Center for Music and Worship in the Black Church Experience at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in 2016. Presently, Wilson serves as Associate General Secretary for Leadership Ministries at Discipleship Ministries, a General Agency of the United Methodist Church in Nashville Tennessee.