



# The Sheaf

A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota  
Advent and Christmas Season ~ 2022  
(November and December 2022)

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## *Songs for the Cycle*

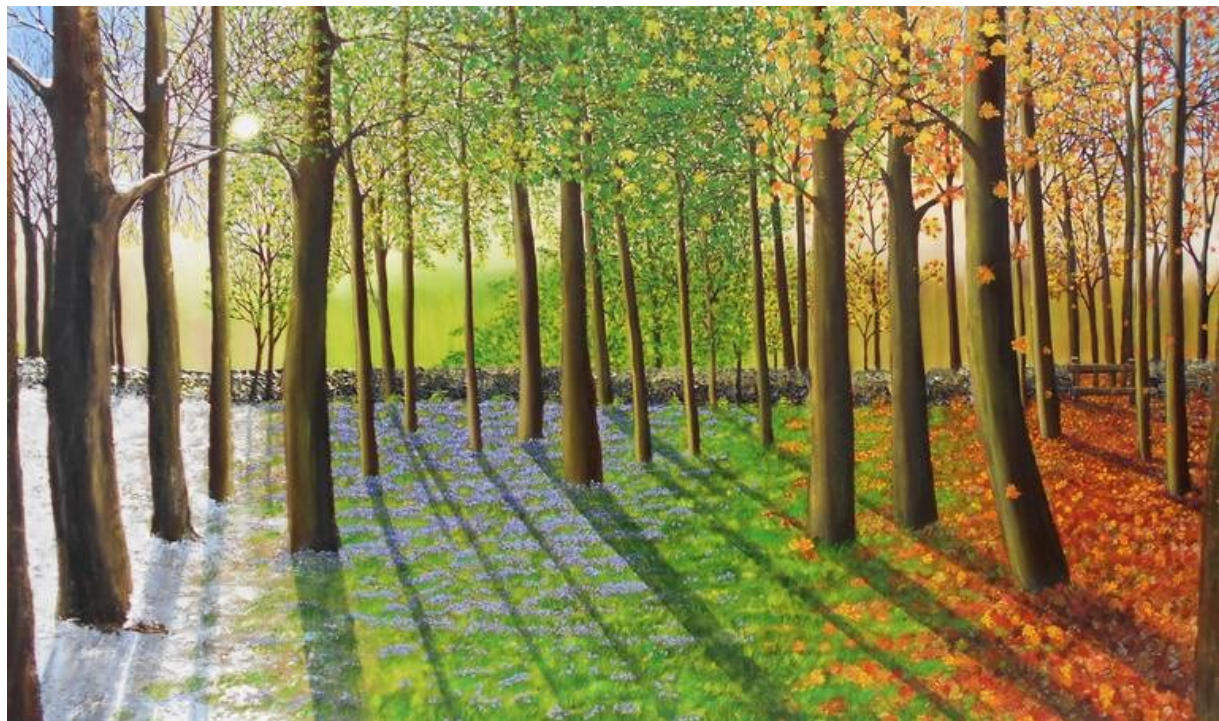
*Tune: Ratisbon Author: Michael Hudson*

At the turning of the year  
we return to contemplate  
seasons, cycles, signs, and times,  
sacred ground to cultivate.  
Insight often grows more clear  
at the turning of the year.

At the turning of the year  
waxing nights announce  
warmer suns that promise spring,  
even as the sun migrates.  
Hope sleeps in the husk of fear  
at the turning of the year.

At the turning of the year  
we look back and speculate  
on the ebb and flow of life,  
asking what it indicates.  
Wisdom speaks, and some will hear  
at the turning of the year.

At the turning of the year  
we look forward as we wait  
for the grace of God in time,  
never early, never late,  
always distant, always here  
at the turning of the year.



# 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention Wrap-Up

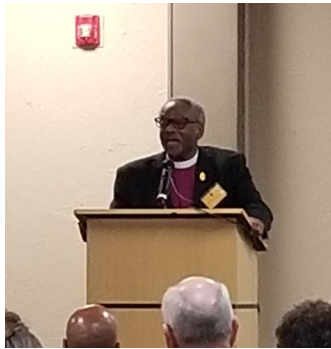
*Submitted by: The Reverend Steve Godfrey, Diocesan Minister*

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of North Dakota took place in Fargo October 21-22, 2022 with the theme of “Living into the Way of Love.” Our annual convention is an opportunity to gather as a diocesan community to celebrate where we have been; address current, common concerns; and prepare for the future by electing leaders and approving a budget for the year to come. Much information about the convention is available [here](#).

Friday afternoon featured several workshops offered by diocesan and community leaders: “The Lakota Story of Place: Living the Way of Love through engaging Native American History and Spirituality,” “Creation Care: Living the Way of Love through Care of Creation,” “Reconciliation: Living the Way of Love through Reconciliation, Reparations, and the Restorative Power of Ceremony,” and “Christian Formation: Living the Way of Love through Christian Formation.”



We were especially blessed this year with the presence of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and two members of his team, the Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, and Sharon Jones. Bishop Curry offered a keynote address Friday evening in which he challenged us to love God, love our neighbors, and love ourselves as living images



of God: to love ourselves and one another into God’s family. In his sermon at the convention Eucharist on Saturday morning, he charged us to be witnesses to God’s love, as articulated in the Baptism and post-communion prayers in *The Book of Common Prayer*, to love like Jesus so when people see us they see God.



Videos of his speech and sermon are available on the convention web page and on our Facebook page. Bishop Curry also preached at the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations at Gethsemane Cathedral Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

Also present on the Friday of convention were Bishop Jeff Fisher and the Rev. Meredith Crigler of the Diocese of Texas, with which we have a companion relationship. They met with members of the New Season of Ministry Task Force, the diocesan Ministry Support Team, the North Dakota Council on Indian Ministries (NDCIM), with Bishop Ely, other diocesan leaders, and also attended workshops, to learn more about the Diocese of North Dakota and consider possibilities for collaboration.





edition of *The Sheaf*, along with elections and the results of deliberations on several resolutions. The diocesan treasurer, Charlotte Peterson, presented the proposed Budget for 2023 along with plans for the 2024 budget. The 2023 budget was adopted following table conversations.



Gifts were presented on Friday evening to Bishop Curry, Canon Spellers, Ms. Jones, Bishop Fisher, and Rev. Crigler by Elaine McLaughlin – bead work and bags from talented Standing Rock artists. Members of St. John the Divine in Moorhead also presented gifts from the Sudanese community to Bishops Curry and Ely during the Saturday Eucharist.



The East and West regions met over lunch to elect representatives to Diocesan Council and share news from the congregations. The afternoon then featured a presentation from the co-chairs of the New Season of Ministry Task Force, Carmine Goodhouse and John Baird, and table conversations responding to their questions. The results of those conversations were reported back to the task force for consideration as they draft recommendations for the future of the diocese to be considered at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention, October 27-28, 2023, in Mandan.

Saturday began with the festive celebration of the Eucharist and then continued with Bishop Ely's address emphasizing the concept of the Sacred Circle and highlighting the theme of the Way of Love. His address is printed in this



# Diocesan Convention Address 2022

*The Right Reverend Thomas C. Ely, Bishop Provisional*

Let us pray: Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the center of this sacred circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. Amen.



I am deeply drawn to the image of the sacred circle. For me it is a profound metaphor for our life as disciples of Jesus Christ. I draw my inspiration for this image of the sacred circle from Andrei Rublev's icon of the Holy Trinity, and from the centrality of the circle or hoop in the culture of our indigenous sisters and brothers. You may have other inspirations for the image of the sacred circle. Without stretching the metaphor too far, I invite us to embrace the idea that we are gathered today in a sacred circle we call Diocesan Convention. I know we are not literally in one circle, and that a convention is not often thought of as a sacred circle, but I invite you to imagine that we are gathered after the fashion of a sacred circle, a circle of love, in which the Good News of Jesus Christ is that which rules and directs our hearts,

our minds, our prayers, our words, and our actions today.

I believe such an orientation to our convention is in line with the hope you expressed, of envisioning a more circular model of leadership and

ministry, when you invited me to serve as your Bishop Provisional.



I see my role in this convention, in the gathering of this sacred circle, to be one of facilitating the work, the business, the agenda before us, that has been crafted by the convention planning team over the course of several months. I am aware that most of the decisions we reach today will be by voting, which can sometimes be divisive, rather than unifying. However, it is generally the way such gatherings are set up, and so I invite you to bring your best self to the conversations and deliberations we have before us today in the spirit of deep listening and sharing and allow our relationships with one another to be central and the outcomes to be as holy as possible. Perhaps this image of the sacred circle might be one for deeper reflection by the New Season of Ministry Task Force and for our Convention Planning Team next year.



The effort before us today is a critical part of our common life and ministry. Decisions we reach and conversations we have will impact our shared life and mutual ministry for the coming year and beyond. We gathered in this sacred circle starting yesterday around the theme *Living into the Way of Love* and many of us participated in workshops related to that theme. I am grateful to our workshop presenters for opening the space for our learning and conversations. Please join me in thanking them.

The Way of Love, as our Presiding Bishop has articulated this focus to our individual and collective life, is all about spiritual practices for a Jesus Centered Way of Life. **Turn – Learn – Pray – Worship – Bless – Go – Rest.** In the brochure that was part of your registration packet and that you can find on your table, Bishop Curry introduced **The Way of Love** to The Episcopal Church with this scriptural reference from Ephesians (3:17-19): *I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*



Bishop Curry, we have indeed been blessed by your living and lively presence among us, and we are grateful to you for inviting us to join you in these spiritual practices that have become so meaningful to so many of us. Thank you for your stimulating Bible Study last evening. I'm

sure we will remember your teaching when we next engage the Gospel according to Matthew. And thank you for your amazing sermon this morning and the call to be witnesses. For those of us who can't get enough of Bishop Michael Curry's preaching, we look forward to your message this afternoon at Evensong and tomorrow at the Eucharist, where you will help us celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Cathedral. For your words, your presence, your witness, and your friendship, I give thanks and invite this sacred circle to express its gratitude, as well.



Bishop Curry, as you know, your presence with us in this sacred circle comes at a time when the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota is deeply engaged in a season of discernment about its future shape, direction, and missional focus as a diocese. We know we are not the only diocese in which God's people and congregations are similarly engaged.

For us that process of discernment began when Bishop Smith announced his resignation, and the Standing Committee became the Ecclesiastical Authority. Shortly after that a Diocesan Discernment Task Force (the DDTF) was formed and after months of hard work and listening conversations around the diocese, they brought recommendations to the Diocesan Convention in 2020 that set us more firmly on the course we are now experiencing. That convention embraced their work and the priorities for mission and ministry set forth in a seminal document known as the DDTF Report. Those priorities have been guiding the work of the Diocesan Council and the diocesan Ministry Support Team ever since.

## Convention Address *(cont'd...)*

A matrix of goals was shared at last year's convention and our progress updated by Council at our September meeting. A copy of that review is available in the pre-convention journal.

Convention's acceptance of the DDTF report in 2020 also set in motion the process that eventually called me, with encouragement from you, Presiding Bishop, to serve as Bishop Provisional, followed by Steve Godfrey as Diocesan Minister and Jessica Thielke as Diocesan Administrator. In addition, the goal of better serving smaller congregations was helped by two Roanridge Grants and other financial support that helped us call Kim Becker to serve as coordinator for the Northwest Ministry, involving the congregations in Minot, Dunseith, White Shield, Williston, and Cartwright. It is my joy to minister with these fine colleagues as members of our diocesan Ministry Support Team.

Presiding Bishop, when you invited the church to embrace the spiritual practices associated with Living the Way of Love, you wrote: *"I pray we will grow as communities following the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus. His way has the power to change each of our lives and to change this world."* I would like for you to take away from your time with us the knowledge that we are faithfully trying to live into that Way of Love, as we navigate this season of discernment with hope and some uncertainty about our future. Please keep us in your prayers as we keep you in ours.

I want to turn now to some of the matters before us today in this sacred circle. First, and perhaps most important, are the table conversations we will have later this afternoon at the invitation of the New Season of Ministry

Task Force. Following their appointment by the Diocesan Council, the Task Force, under the leadership of Carmine Goodhouse and John Baird adopted this **Scope/Purpose Statement**:

- To build on the work of the Diocesan Discernment Task Force;
- To identify, document, and name current realities as a diocese;
- To define our foundation and uniqueness as Episcopalians and a diocese;
- To reimagine and to explore all possible options for the structure, mission and finances of the Diocese of North Dakota and its congregations;
- To determine the best transformational options for the Diocese of North Dakota and its congregations; and
- To make recommendations to Diocesan Council and Diocesan Convention for the future of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota beyond 2024.

Later this afternoon, Carmine and John will bring you a brief report and invite you into some important table conversation. It is my privilege to work with this distinguished group of lay and clergy leaders as their facilitator and coach.



Second, later this morning we will take up the conversation and deliberation related to our diocesan budget. A budget reflects our priorities and ministry commitments. It is a living document. In the budget recommended to you by Diocesan Council we tried to look ahead and so in addition to the proposed 2023 budget, you will see the projected budget for 2024.

Four important things I'd like you to note about this budget:

1. The income side of the budget introduces the idea of an Annual Appeal, beyond the contributions to the diocesan budget from each congregation. The idea here is that in addition to a person's regular giving in support of local congregational ministry, those who are able and wish to do more will have the opportunity to further express their stewardship by contributing to this annual appeal. Diocesan Council has set the theme and title of the Annual Appeal as *WoDakota: Beloved Community, Living in harmony with all of creation*. The members present at the September Council meeting all pledged to make a personal contribution.
2. On the expense side, in collaboration with the North Dakota Council on Indian Ministries, we identified areas where increased financial support from the diocesan budget was necessary to strengthen our ministry among our indigenous faith communities and the wider communities they serve. The proposed budget provides \$25,000 over and above the General Convention Grant we receive for Native American ministry towards those purposes.
3. Programmatically, this budget introduces a new initiative responding to one of the ministry priorities named in the Diocesan Discernment Task Force Report. The proposed budget includes funding that will

enable us to call a part-time Youth/Young Adult Minister for a three-year trial period, with the hope that this new initiative will flourish. There is mention of this initiative in the pre-convention journal, and you will hear more about this later when Leah Henderson reports on the outcome of the working group that was called for by last year's convention, related to the Episcopal Foundation for Ministry in Higher Education.

4. Three additional diocesan-wide programmatic priorities are also funded. These areas include congregational revitalization and renewal, reconciliation, and creation care. Each of the leadership groups, whose focus is in one of these areas of ministry, is committed to moving these important priorities forward.

Thirdly, there are some resolutions that will come before us this afternoon. One is a minor canonical change around setting the date of Convention. A second relates to gun violence. A third to reproductive rights. And the fourth to creation care, if convention votes to add that resolution to our agenda. My hope is that our discernment and deliberation on these resolutions will be honest and respectful of differences that may be present among us.





## Convention Address (*cont'd...*)

Finally, there is before us today the matter of elections and appointments to diocesan-wide leadership ministries. During this critical time of discernment about the future of our congregations and diocese, we need good, capable, and committed leaders to help make wise and informed decisions. If you are nominated for a particular office such as Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, or General Convention Deputy, please make sure you can make the time commitment needed and are willing to engage fully in the work involved. If you are serving by appointment to a committee, commission, task force, board, or foundation, please maintain an active role, since so much depends on and grows from the work of these bodies. If you are not currently serving in an elected or appointed capacity and have a desire to become more involved, please speak to Steve Godfrey or myself and let that interest be known. There is a place for the gifts and talents of anyone who wants to be more active in shaping the direction of our common life as a diocese.

I end this brief address by calling us back to those spiritual practices that shape the theme of our sacred convention circle:

- **TURN** - Pause, listen, and choose to follow Jesus
- **LEARN** - Reflect on Scripture each day, especially Jesus' life and teachings
- **PRAY** - Dwell intentionally with God each day
- **WORSHIP** - Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and draw near God
- **BLESS** - Share faith and unselfishly give and serve
- **GO** - Cross boundaries, listen deeply, and live like Jesus
- **REST** - Receive the gift of God's grace, peace, and restoration

As we now engage the common matters of conversation and deliberation we have before us today, I invite you to do so with the same open and grateful heart I bring to our common life and ministry and join me in singing one of my favorite hymns. *Now Thank we all our God*

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Praise to God

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voice,  
2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day,  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next,  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ever more.

Words: Martin Rinckart (1586-1649); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.  
Music: *Nun danket alle Gott*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662);  
harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

67. 67. 66. 66





# Diocesan Convention Election Results

## **Secretary of Convention**

- Tammy Enockson (St. George's, Bismarck)

## **Diocesan Treasurer**

- Charlotte Peterson (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)

## **Standing Committee, Lay**

- John Baird (St. Stephen's, Fargo)

## **Standing Committee, Clergy**

- The Rev. Hal Weidman (St. George's Bismarck)

## **General Convention Deputies, Clergy**

- The Rev. Kim Becker (NW Coordinator)
- The Rev. Steve Godfrey (Diocesan Minister)
- The Rev. Dn. Angela Goodhouse-Mauai (St. Luke's, Fort Yates)
- The Rev. Hal Weidman (St. George's, Bismarck)

## **General Convention Deputies, Lay**

- John Baird (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- Robert Fox (St. Paul's, White Shield)
- Carmine Goodhouse (St. Luke's, Fort Yates)
- Charlotte Peterson (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)

**Resolution #1:** Amend the Diocesan Constitution—Passed

**Resolution #2:** Gun Violence—Passed

**Resolution #3:** Reproductive Rights—Passed

**Resolution #4:** Creation Care—Passed

# Appointments Announced at Convention

## *Commissions and Committees*

### **Canons Committee**

- Leo Wilking, chair (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- The Rev. John Floberg (Standing Rock)
- Sandy Holbrook (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- Tom Tudor (St. George's, Bismarck)

### **Commission on Ministry**

- The Rev. Harvey Henderson, chair (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)
- The Rev. Dn. John Anderson (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- The Rev. Bart Davis (Grace, Jamestown, and All Saint's, Valley City)
- The Rev. Dn. Sloane Floberg (Standing Rock)
- Joanne Lassiter (St. George's, Bismarck)
- Elaine McLaughlin (St. James, Cannon Ball)
- The Rev. Jamie Parsley (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- Donna Pettit (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)
- The Rev. Hal Weidman (St. George's, Bismarck)
- The Rev. Steve Godfrey (Diocesan Minister)

### **Congregational Development Committee**

- Donna Pettit, chair (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)
- Dr. John Baird (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- Tammy Enockson (St. George's, Bismarck)
- The Rev. Hal Weidman (St. George's, Bismarck)
- Leo Wilking (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- The Rev. Kim Becker (NW Coordinator, ex officio)
- The Rev. Steve Godfrey (Diocesan Minister, ex officio)

### **Episcopal Relief and Development Coordinator**

- Andrea Stomberg (St. George's, Bismarck)

### **Personnel Committee**

- Sandy Holbrook, chair (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- David Lukudu (St. John the Divine, Moorhead)
- The Rev. Robert Hoekstra (Grace, Jamestown)
- Leslie Ross (St. John's, Dickinson)
- The Rev. Steve Godfrey (Diocesan Minister)
- Jessica Thielke (Diocesan Administrator)
- Leo Wilking (St. Stephen's, Fargo, ex officio)

### **Reconciliation Committee**

- Larry Thiele, chair (On Personal Leave)
- Christie Iverson, vice-chair (St. James, Cannon Ball)
- Robert Fox (St. Paul's, White Shield)
- Stephanie Garcia (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- Carmine Goodhouse (St. Luke's, Fort Yates)
- Peter Halbach (Advent, Devils Lake)
- Kathy Hintz (All Saint's, Minot)
- The Rev. Dn. Hellen Lodu (St. John the Divine, Moorhead)
- Amy Phillips (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- The Rev. Kim Becker (NW Coordinator)

### **Title IV Disciplinary Board**

- The Rev. Mary Johnson, through Convention 2023 (Retired Priest)
- Tom Tudor, through Convention 2023 (St. George's, Bismarck)
- The Rev. Dn. John Anderson, through Convention 2024 (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- The Rev. Robert Hoekstra, through Convention 2024 (Grace, Jamestown)
- Donna Pettit, through Convention 2024 (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)
- Dr. John Baird, through Convention 2025 (St. Stephen's, Fargo)
- The Rev. Dn. Beth Lipp, through Convention 2025 (St. George's, Bismarck)

### **UTO Coordinators**

- Vanessa Strobel – East (Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo)
- Mary Massad – West (St. John's, Dickinson)

### **Youth Commission**

- Hannah Gendron (St. George's, Bismarck)
- Leah Henderson (St. Paul's, Grand Forks)
- Michelle Weidman (St. George's, Bismarck)



# Diocesan Council & Standing Committee

2022-2023

**Bishop Provisional:** The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely

## **Standing Committee (Elected by Diocesan Convention):**

- Deacon Terry Overbo (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2023), Gethsemane, Fargo
- Dr. Jason Thoms (filling unexpired term ending in 2023), St. George's, Bismarck
- The Very Rev. Mark Strobel (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2024), Standing Committee President, Gethsemane, Fargo
- Robert Fox (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2024), St. Paul's, White Shield
- The Rev. Hal Weidman (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2025), St. George's, Bismarck
- Dr. John Baird (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2025), St. Stephen's, Fargo

## **Elected by East Region:**

- Deacon Hellen Lodu (filling unexpired term ending 2023), St. John the Divine, Moorhead
- The Rev. Larry Thiele (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2023), St. Thomas, Fort Totten
- Dr. Stephanie Garcia (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2024), St. Stephen's, Fargo
- Brandy Watson (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2024), Grace, Jamestown
- Deacon John Anderson (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2025), St. Stephen's, Fargo
- Donna Pettit (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2025), St. Paul's, Grand Forks

## **Elected by West Region:**

- Leslie Ross (filling unexpired term ending 2023), St. John's, Dickinson
- Deacon Angela Goodhouse-Mauai (2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 2023), St. Luke's, Fort Yates
- Tammy Enockson (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2024), St. George's, Bismarck
- JoAnn Keehn (filling unexpired term ending in 2024), St. George's, Bismarck
- George Abdilnour (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2025), St. Peter's, Williston
- Elaine McLaughlin (1<sup>st</sup> term ends 2025), St. James, Cannon Ball

## **Appointed by Bishop:**

- The Rev. Robert Hoekstra, Grace Church, Jamestown

## **Ex Officio:**

- Treasurer – Charlotte Peterson, St. Paul's, Grand Forks
- Chancellor – Leo Wilking, St. Stephen's, Fargo

# Calendar

## Bishop Ely's Schedule

### November 2022

- 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>: Bishop Ely in North Dakota
- 20<sup>th</sup>: Bishop's Visitation at Gethsemane Cathedral in Fargo

### December 2022

- 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>: Bishop Ely in North Dakota
- 18<sup>th</sup>: Bishop's Visitation at Advent in Devils Lake

### January 2023

- 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>: Bishop Ely in North Dakota
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Bishop's Visitation at St. Stephen's in Fargo



## Diocesan Events and Dates to Note

### November 2022

- 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Office Closed — Happy Thanksgiving

### December 2022

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Zoom); 8:30am
- 1<sup>st</sup>: Lectio Divina (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Minister at Transition Ministry Conference
- 6<sup>th</sup>: Clergy/Congregation Leaders Meeting (Zoom); 6:30pm
- 6<sup>th</sup>: Province VI Small Church Gathering (Zoom); 7:30pm
- 14<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Jamestown); 1:00pm
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Zoom); 8:30am
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Full-time Clergy Gathering (Jamestown); 11:00am
- 26<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Office Closed — Merry Christmas

### January 2023

- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Diocesan Office Closed — Happy New Year
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Clergy/Congregation Leaders Meeting (Zoom); 6:30pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Province VI Small Church Gathering (Zoom); 7:30pm
- 5<sup>th</sup>: Lectio Divina (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 12<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Zoom); 8:30am
- 16<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Office Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 17<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Council Meeting (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Minister on Retreat
- 26<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Zoom); 8:30am



## *Sheaf* Publication Dates & Submission Deadlines for 2023

	Publication Date	Deadline for Submission
<b>Epiphany</b>	January 30, 2023	January 18, 2023
<b>Easter</b>	April 3, 2023	March 27, 2023
<b>Pentecost</b>	June 5, 2023	May 29, 2023
<b>Pre-Convention</b>	September 11, 2023	September 1, 2023
<b>Advent</b>	November 20, 2023	November 9, 2023

## Environmental Reparations—United Thank Offering



As part of the United Thank Offering grant our diocese received on behalf of St. Paul's, White Shield for creation care/environmental reparations, St. Paul's held an elder-led class on the history of the congregation at the Arikara Cultural Center on September 28th at 5pm, beginning with food and fellowship.

Following the meal, the Rev. Duane Fox, our elder Indigenous priest, led the presentation on the history of St. Paul's, along with contributions from Mrs. Fox and other elders. Robert Fox, treasurer,

described plans for the traditional garden and prayer path that, along with classes, are part of the UTO project, original ancestral lands having been flooded by the Garrison Dam.

There were a total of 22 people in attendance, some of whom came from as far away as Fargo. All came to listen and learn from stories about the past and to look towards the future of St. Paul's, including planned renovation of existing church building.

### The next Elder-Led Class: **Trees are Living Relatives**

Come learn from the elders about the sacred trees of the Arikara and how they will be incorporated into projects at St. Paul's, White Shield as they fulfill their UTO grant on creation care, specifically environmental reparations. **2 to 4 PM Sunday December 18th, Arikara Cultural Center**

# COVID Relief Fund: Suicide Prevention and Awareness

*Submitted by: The Reverend Kim Becker*

St. Michael and All Angels, Cartwright donated their COVID relief grant money to the Out of Darkness Walk, sponsored by the American Association for Suicide Prevention. The walk was held on September 17, 2022 in Sidney, Montana.

Parishioners Chloe and Ava Gullikson presented the check for \$2,000 on behalf of the church, in memory and honor of beloved departed church member, Anders Lassey (May 19, 2005-November 11, 2020).

Anders was a top runner on the cross country team at Fairview High School and his teammates gave up their Saturday meet to remember their teammate by walking in his honor.

Having been devastated by the death by suicide of Anders, St. Michael and All Angels has bravely spoken up in support of suicide awareness and prevention. It was therefore a unanimous decision to donate all of their COVID relief fund to this important cause, especially given the increase in mental health issues in response to the stress of the pandemic.

Articles with photos from the event appeared in the Sidney Herald Newspaper on September 21 and 28.



(Above): Chloe and Ava Gullikson presenting a check to the "Out of Darkness" Walk for Suicide Prevention. This \$2,000 check was given to St. Michael and All Angels by the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota to help with community causes (COVID relief fund).



(Left): Gunnar Cayko and Chloe Gullikson share a moment after remembering their friend, Anders.



(Above:) Cross country team gave up their Saturday meet to be at the Out of Darkness walk in memory of their teammate, Anders Lassey.



# Diocesan Council Meeting Update (Sept. 23-24, 2022)

*Submitted by: Donna Pettit*

Diocesan Council held its last preconvention meeting at St. Paul's in Grand Forks, September 23-24. I am a member of St. Paul's and it was a busy weekend for us. First we were happy to welcome Diocesan Council. Thanks to Fr Harvey for a great dinner Friday night and breakfast on Saturday. Several people brought bars so we didn't waste away during the meetings. And on Sunday morning we enjoyed having the Bishop celebrate with us at St. Paul's as we marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Anglican services held in Grand Forks. (In 1872, services were conducted by a Canadian Anglican priest on the riverboat International docked on the Red River)

We began Friday evening with dinner, welcome and prayer (Christie Iverson was Chaplain for the meeting). We each shared our favorite part of the autumn season and it seems to rank highly for all of us. Then we watched two videos from the Church. One was "The Episcopal Church Exposes the Doctrine of Discovery" and the other was "Native Voices: Speaking to the Church and the World." I recommend these to you. The larger Church has accepted a responsibility to study and inform all of us on the history of Native American contact in this country. You can find these videos [here](#). We are also in a time of serious discussion about reconciliation and these videos inform that effort.

Saturday morning, following prayer, we began the business session. The current year to date budget is doing well. A few items are over budget and a few are under budget and Our Fair Share is up to date. Our most urgent item for the budget is finding the remaining \$22500 needed to fund demolition of the rectory at Fort

Totten. The rectory has asbestos and does not fit any EPA programs for removal. The company that does this work is already on Ft. Totten and we will save paying for a return trip if we ask them to add us to their schedule now. This will be done.

The cash reserve can cover the cost in the short term and The Standing Committee, Bishop Ely and the Treasurer will find exactly how to fund this. This is a perfect example of how we can plan carefully to be good stewards of our funds but sometimes something unexpected jumps up and needs immediate attention.

Many committee chairs had sent in reports to update what is happening around the diocese. There were some questions and discussion. The church in Selfridge was demolished (asbestos) by the EPA. A history of St. Paul's White Shield is being written. The next grant deadline for NDEF is November 1. There are two lots in Solen we have been asked to sell and approval was given to follow up on whether this is a good thing or not. The New Season of Ministry Task Force hopes to be visiting congregations soon. The Our Fair Share (OFS) Task Force has created a new form that simplifies and clarifies how each parish determines and reports their monthly OFS.

Last year at convention we shared and you approved the Matrix—a planner for what we needed to do and a timeline for doing it. This weekend, a year later, we spent time in small groups going over the Matrix section by section.

## Diocesan Council (*cont'd...*)

We were evaluating if we were doing the task, if we were following the time marked for each task and how successful we were in completing the job.

The Bishop has the results of our three groups and will help the Matrix group update the form, and add new items and ideas for the next year. Some were easy, hiring staff, organizing committees etc., and others we felt we had made progress but needed to keep moving forward. Some areas did not show the progress we had hoped for and we will work harder on those in the coming year. The Matrix is a useful tool that keeps us on track and stops us from wandering too far afield from our plan.

The next piece of business that is ready to present is the Personnel Policy update. It has been years since we made changes to this policy and the committee has worked very hard to make updates and changes that reflect what is happening in the diocese today. There are several categories of employees in the diocese and the new policy clarifies which benefits are given for each group. Council approved the revisions presented and the committee will tackle other personnel sections next.

The next Diocesan Council meeting will be November 18-19 in Jamestown. This will include the newly elected members of Council and Standing Committee.

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## St. Paul's Mission, Rugby

*Submitted by: Tom Tudor*

*Based upon a 1905 article in the North Dakota Sheaf*

St. Paul's Mission, Rugby, had a great day on the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, January 25, 1905. The first services were held in the new Church, which is practically completed, though several matters of furnishings and decorations still remain to be attended to.

The Church itself is one of the most substantial and beautiful in the State. It is constructed out of the boulders, mostly of granite in various shades of red and grey, which strew our prairies--brought here on the ice from the far north, during the ancient glacial period. Their use requires masons who are expert in handling them; but with such workmen they result in the most durable and attractive walls.

The building at Rugby stands in the best residential part of the town. It was begun while the Rev. Philip Cook was in charge and to him is due the determination of the people to enter upon and carry

out this work, and also to the excellent plan of the structure. The Rev. Frank Stephen Morehouse, now in charge, took up Mr. Cook's labors with unabated zeal and now has the satisfaction OF beholding the fine result. Of course, neither of these clergy could have accomplished much but for the strong interest and generosity of the small band of Church people in Rugby. They have set a noble example of devotion and patience and liberality. As the Church is not fully paid for it could not be formally consecrated. Yet in some sense there was a consecration of it by the services held there on St. Paul's Day.

These began at 11 A.M. with Morning Prayer, followed by the Ordination of Mr. Morehouse to the Priesthood. And the Holy Communion. Only two of our District clergy were able to attend--The Rev. Charles Turner of Larimore, and the Rev. W. D. Rees of Fort Totten.

## St. Paul's Mission *(cont'd...)*

The former held the first services of our Church in Rugby a dozen or so years ago. MR. Turner and Mr. Rees read the Morning Prayer, Bishop Cameron Mann preached the sermon, ordained the candidate, and celebrated the Sacrament.

Despite the bitter weather, mercury 25 below zero and a strong wind blowing, there was a congregation which filled all the chairs—the pews though ordered and shipped had not arrived in time. Through the kindness of the local florist, Mr. Lindberg, the temporary altar was richly adorned with roses, carnations and Bermuda Lilies. Also, several ladies and gentlemen contributed with voice and violin and cello to the rendering of the music, in addition to the usual choir. Indeed, there was a remarkable evidence from the Rugby people in general of sincere congratulation. There were twelve communicants and the offering for General Missions was \$10.45, which more than pays Rugby's assessment.

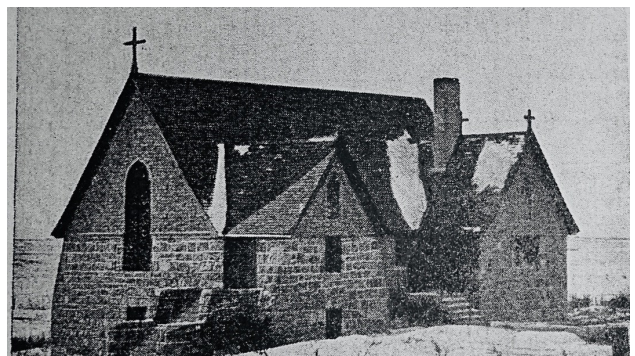
Unfortunately, the train from Towner was several hours late and the deputation of Mr. Morehouse's parishioners there who intended to come to this ordination was unable to do so. Four or five of them did arrive, but only when it was all over. They were in time however to go with the rest of us to the excellent dinner served by the Ladies' Guild in the new Masonic Hall.

At 4:30 p.m. there was a special baptismal service in the Church, with a goodly congregation. Mr. Morehouse baptized four children; the Bishop baptized one and gave an address on the subject of infant baptism. Supper was served by the Guild in the Hall.

At 8 p.m. the Church was again full. Evening Prayer was read by the three priests; the Bishop preached, confirmed a class of two, and received with benediction one who had been confirmed in the Church of Sweden. The offering for the Bishop's Purse was \$9.45.

One of the best features in the Rugby Church is the stained glass of the window. This was given by Holy Trinity Parish, New York City. It was in the window of their old building now torn down, and is of refined pattern and color. It arrived it Rugby in a dilapidated condition, and of course not in frames commensurate with the openings in St. Paul's Church. Rugby has no skilled workmen in this line; and the expense of importing such from St. Paul or Chicago would have been large. So the clergyman and two members of the Mission, Mr. Ward and Mr. Warren, undertook the task of rearranging, fitting and placing the glass. They succeeded admirably.

One could hardly credit it as he looked at these windows that they had been thus made by such extempore and self-taught mechanics. And one feels sure that where there are in priest and people such readiness and capacity and willingness to toil—for it was a long, hard job—the Church is sure to advance and prosper.





# NDEF Supports Haiti Ministry

*Submitted by: Andrea Stromberg Accompanying Article from St. Vincent's Oct. Newsletter*

The North Dakota Episcopal Foundation provided a grant of \$9,650 to St. Vincent's Center in Port-aux-Prince, Haiti, to provide solar panels for shipping containers being converted into physical therapy rooms. Haiti is much in the news for gang violence, which has touched St. Vincent's, however, dedicated staff and parents have kept the school and clinic functioning. Funds from North Dakota have also provided materials for the brace shop used to correct club feet and other physical impairments for patients. The following is from their October newsletter, which can be accessed in full at [www.stvincentshaiti.org](http://www.stvincentshaiti.org).

The people of North Dakota have made significant impacts in this fraught country. Please keep St. Vincent's, and all the people of Haiti, in your prayers.

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## Work Continues on the PT Space at the Medical Center

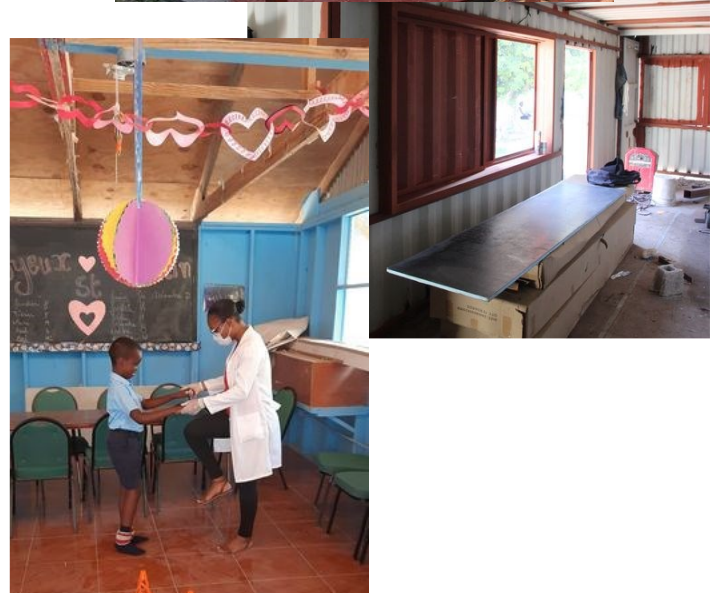
In *Cinderella*, a pumpkin becomes a coach. In downtown Port-au-Prince, two shipping containers are becoming an air-conditioned, solar-powered Physical Therapy Clinic and pharmacy. Construction of the project has been delayed because of gang activity in the area and the lack of transportation. Nevertheless, the project continues.

Generous "godparents" making this transfiguration possible include The Episcopal Foundation of North Dakota, the Diocese of Olympia, Virginia Theological Seminary, St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Williamsburg, VA, two SVC trustees and a sister of one of them, a family foundation, and a loving

husband who made his contribution as his wife's birthday present!

When complete, Sophia Lainé, our new physical therapist, will have a much larger physical therapy room at the downtown Medical Center.

*Retrofitting work continues on the containers at the Medical Center in spite of the gang violence in the streets and problems with transportation because of lack of fuel. Here our physical therapist works with a student at Santo 17 earlier this summer.*



# INCARNATION

*Written by: The Reverend Jamie Parsley*

"I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day."

—Gerard Manley Hopkins

Come! Let us bear within us Light—  
a Light that comes to us

after so much half-blind groping.

Come! Let us, with awed humility say

"Yes" to the Light, and let us  
be the flesh that brings flesh

to everything we consider holy.

Come! Let us nurture the Light within us,

enfolding it within own well-kneaded bodies.

Let us give birth to Light—

a burning Light  
that comes to us in our perpetual adolescence.

Come! Let us reveal Light into  
one long, cold night,

a night in which darkness seemed bleak as an open grave.

Let us bear Light from our bodies

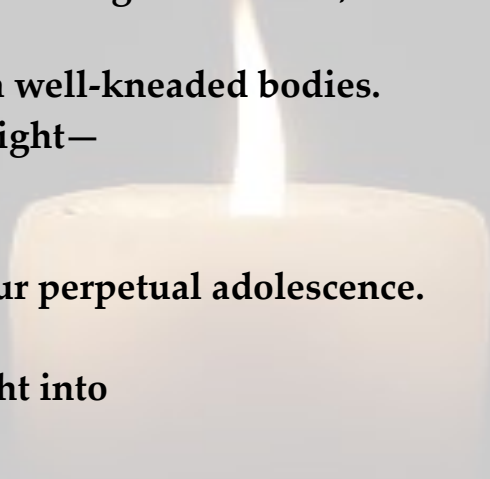
into the world around us.

Come! Let us be Light to those who need Light.

And in that glorious dawn,

let us be to others what you are to us—

a presence to cling to in our seemingly  
unending loneliness.



# Advent Celebrations throughout the Diocese

## Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo

**Advent for Families:** For four weeks beginning Wednesday November 30th, families are invited to explore the season of advent together.

**Advent Bible Study:** The early chapters of the Gospel of Luke include canticles, biblical songs, leading up to, and celebrating, the birth of Christ. We'll explore the songs of Zechariah, Mary, and the Angels on Wednesdays in three sessions during Advent.

**The Service of Lessons and Carols** is Sunday, December 11th, 10:30 am. The service with nine scripture readings, choral anthems, and hymns celebrates the advent and birth of Christ and is based on the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols made famous by recordings and broadcasts from Kings College, Cambridge.

**Worship Services at Christmas** include two services on Christmas Eve, 4:00 pm and 10:30 pm. Christmas Day is a Sunday and there will be one service that morning at 10:30.

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## St. George's, Bismarck

**Lessons and Carols** will take place on Sunday, December 18th.

**Blue Christmas and the Longest Night Evening Prayer** will take place on December 21st.

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## St. Paul's, Grand Forks

A Message from Father Harvey Henderson: "For many years I have suggested to folks that they **read the bible throughout the course of the church year** which starts the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2022. In recent years I have suggested a fresh translation - the "Contemporary English Version - Children's Illustrated Edition." It is a translation from the original languages and written in a style similar to the Readers' Digest, at the average reading level of folks in the United States. And who doesn't like a few pictures? Included are suggested prayers from the BCP for morning and evening, and Psalms for everyday. Enjoy!"

The reading schedule is on page 23 of the *Sheaf*.

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## St. Stephen's, Fargo

**Guest Preachers** will join the family of St. Stephen's throughout the Advent Season at their 6:00pm worship service on Wednesday evenings.

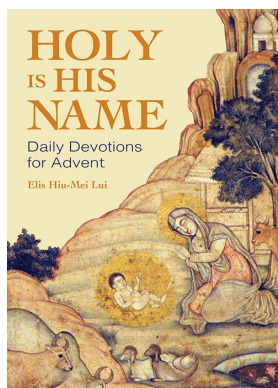
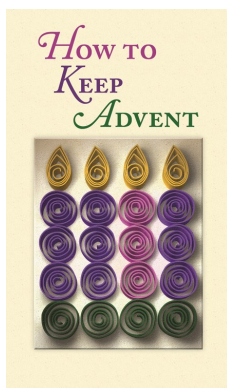
**Gaudete Sunday** (3 Advent) will take place on Sunday, December 11. This service includes rose colored vestments and paraments.



# Advent Resources for Your Home

## Forward Movement

Best known for Forward Day by Day, a daily devotion providing meditations on scripture readings, we continue to build on our history of encouraging discipleship and evangelism. Today we offer books and ebooks for small groups, individual study, and prayer, Christian formation courses, leadership events, Spanish and bilingual resources, pamphlets, downloadable resources, a daily podcast, apps for your smartphones or tablets, and online engagement opportunities.



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## Washington National Cathedral

As we gather with friends and family at this special time of year, we look forward to coming together to celebrate the comfort and joy that God promises at Advent and Christmas. You are able to join the National Cathedral online for any of the below worship services and events. The Cathedral is thrilled that people are choosing to celebrate with them.

From festive choral concerts to moments for quiet contemplation, the Cathedral offers a myriad of ways to enjoy the season — and they're saving a seat just for you. Welcome to Christmas at the Cathedral!

A full schedule, and link to get an online passport, is available [here](#).

November 27th	Advent Lessons and Carols	Dec. 22nd & 24th	Christmas Lessons & Carols
December 2nd-4th	Handel's "Messiah"	December 23rd	The Light Has Come
December 10th-11th	Joy of Christmas	December 24th	Christmas Eve Eucharist
December 13th	Blue Christmas	December 25th	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
December 22	Family Christmas Service	December 25th	Christmas Day Organ Recital

**Advent I—November 27, 2022 | Advent II—December 4, 2022**

**Advent III—December 11, 2022 | Advent IV—December 18, 2022**



# Advent Greetings from our NW Coordinator

*Submitted by: The Reverend Kim Becker*

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Did any of you ever see the old show *The Vicar of Dibley* and the episode where she ate all the chocolates out of the Advent calendar at one fell swoop? I used to love that show when I was in seminary preparing for ordination. My son was only three when we moved to Alexandria, Virginia for me to go to VTS (Virginia Theological Seminary) and he loved having a chocolate Advent calendar. Now he is grown and I no longer buy chocolate Advent calendars, because like the Vicar of Dibley, I would surely eat all the chocolates at once!

Counting down to Christmas with Advent calendars (chocolate or not!) can be a fun tradition, especially for children. An Advent wreath, with its blue or purple and one pink candle, is also a longtime tradition in my family. What Advent traditions do you have or would you like to start?

Of course, the expectancy of Advent can easily be overshadowed by secular commercialization of the season. What is it we are really anticipating? It can be easy to fail to recall that even as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ child, we are still awaiting his second coming. We are still in the between time or *Zwischenzeit*.

One of my favorite seasonal hymns (which my choir always hated, as it is not traditional!) is "A Stable Lamp is Lighted" with words by the poet Richard Wilbur. This hymn, more than any I know, couches the Advent/Christmas story within the context of the entirety of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection:

A stable lamp is lighted  
whose glow shall wake the sky;  
the stars shall bend their voices,  
and every stone shall cry.

And every stone shall cry,  
and straw like gold shall shine;  
a barn shall harbour heaven,  
a stall become a shrine.

This child through David's city  
shall ride in triumph by;  
the palm shall strew its branches,  
and every stone shall cry.

And every stone shall cry,  
though heavy, dull and dumb,  
and lie within the roadway  
to pave his kingdom come.

Yet he shall be forsaken,  
and yielded up to die;  
the sky shall groan and darken,  
and every stone shall cry.

And every stone shall cry  
for gifts of love abused;  
God's blood upon the spearhead,  
God's blood again refused.

But now, as at the ending,  
the low is lifted high;  
the stars shall bend their voices,  
and every stone shall cry.

And every stone shall cry  
in praises of the child  
by whose descent among us  
the worlds are reconciled.

Powerful words for a powerful season of transformation from spiritual darkness and expectation to light-filled fulfillment of hope. So in the coming weeks we can remember that Christ was born, Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. There is no calendar long enough to contain all of Creator's lasting love in Jesus and that is sweet indeed!

In Christ's peace, power, and love,  
Kim+

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR: NOV 2022 – DEC 2023				READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR: NOV 2022 – DEC 2023				
NOV 27	TORAH	Genesis 1-11	Ps 1, 2, 3	<b>In the Morning</b> Creator God, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  <b>In the Evening</b> Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.	MAY 28	POET. BOOKS	Job 1-22	Ps 75, 76, 77
DEC 4		Genesis 12-50	Ps 4, 5, 6		JUN 4		Job 23-42	Ps 78
DEC 11		Exodus	Ps 7, 8		JUN 11		Proverbs 1-15	Ps 79, 80, 81
DEC 18		Leviticus	Ps 9, 10		JUN 18		Proverbs 16-31	Ps 82, 83, 84
DEC 25		Numbers	Ps 11, 12, 13		JUN 25		Ecclesiastes	Ps 85, 86, 87
JAN 1		Deuteronomy	Ps 14, 15, 16		JUL 2		Song of Solomon	Ps 88, 89
JAN 8	GOSPELS	Mark 1-9	Ps 17, 18		JUL 9	LETTERS OF PAUL	Romans	Ps 90, 91, 92
JAN 15		Mark 10-16	Ps 19, 20, 21		JUL 16		1/2 Corinthians	Ps 93, 94, 95
JAN 22		Matthew 1-15	Ps 22, 23, 24		JUL 23		Gal/Phil	Ps 96, 97, 98
JAN 29		Matthew 16-28	Ps 25, 27, 27		JUL 30		Eph/Col	Ps 99, 100, 101
FEB 5		Luke 1-12	Ps 28, 29, 30		AUG 6		1/2 Timothy	Ps 102, 103
FEB 12		Luke 13-24	Ps 31, 32, 33		AUG 13		Titus, Philemon	Ps 104, 105
FEB 19		John 1-11	Ps 34, 35, 36		AUG 20	MAJ. PROPHETS	Isaiah 1-39	Ps 106, 107
FEB 26		John 12-21	Ps 37, 38		AUG 27		Isaiah 40-66	Ps 108, 109, 110
MAR 5	HIST. BOOKS	Joshua, Ruth	Ps 39, 40, 41		SEP 3		Jeremiah 1-29	Ps 111, 112, 113
MAR 12		Judges	Ps 42, 43, 44		SEP 10		Jeremiah 30-52	Ps 114, 115, 116
MAR 19		1 Samuel	Ps 45, 46, 47		SEP 17		Lamentations	Ps 117, 118
MAR 26		2 Samuel	Ps 48, 49, 50		SEP 24		Ezekiel 1-27	Ps 119
APR 2		1 Kings	Ps 51, 52, 53		OCT 1		Ezekiel 28-48	Ps 120, 121, 122, 123
APR 9		2 Kings	Ps 54, 55, 56		OCT 8		Daniel	Ps 124, 125, 126, 127
APR 16		1 Chronicles	Ps 57, 58, 59		OCT 15	OTHER LETTERS	Hebrews, James	Ps 128, 129, 130, 131
APR 23		2 Chronicles	Ps 60, 61, 62		OCT 22		Peter/James/John	Ps 132, 133, 134, 135
APR 30		Ezra, Nehemiah	Ps 63, 64, 65		OCT 29	MIN. PROPHETS	Hosea/Joel/Amos	Ps 136, 137, 138
MAY 7		Esther	Ps 66, 67, 68		NOV 5		Ob/Jonah/Micah	Ps 139, 140, 141
MAY 14	EARLY CHURCH	Acts 1-14	Ps 69, 70, 71		NOV 12		Nah/Hab/Zeph	Ps 142, 143, 144
MAY 21		Acts 15-28	Ps 72, 73, 74		NOV 19		Hag/Zech/Mal	Ps 145, 146, 147
				NOV 26	REVELATION	Revelation	Ps 148, 149, 150	





## *The Sheaf*

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## *The Sheaf*



A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota

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***Sheaf* articles are due January 18<sup>th</sup>!**

Email articles to [office@ndepiscopal.org](mailto:office@ndepiscopal.org)

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