Newcomers and visitors, welcome! We are a servant church in the heart of the city. May you find here, by God’s grace, that which feeds your soul, and leave here with a heart prepared to serve.
Holy Eucharist

Service Notes

- Page numbers listed are from The Book of Common Prayer.
- Please rise, as able, for portions of the service marked with an asterisk (*).
- Please remember to wear your mask, covering your mouth and nose, at all times (except when actively consuming Communion).
- We also ask you to observe proper physical distancing (staying at least six feet apart), for the safety of everyone attending.

The Word of God

* Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Presider  Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People   And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
Presider  Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* The Collect of the Day

Presider  The Lord be with you.
People   And also with you.
Presider  Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.
The Lessons

First Reading: Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20

Lector Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.
Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.
Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b–14

Lector  If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

People  Thanks be to God.


Gospeller  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeller  Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People  Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon
All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
Lector Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Lector Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Lector Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Lector Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Lector Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Lector We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

* Concluding Collect

All God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ’s body in the world; a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission; that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Confession and Absolution

Presider    Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
People    Most merciful God,
 we confess that we have sinned against you
 in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done,
 and by what we have left undone.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
 For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us and forgive us;
 that we may delight in your will,
 and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider    Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
 through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all
 goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in
 eternal life. Amen.

* The Peace

Presider    The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People    And also with you.

Announcements

A Prayer for Stewardship

All    Almighty, ever loving and giving God, from whom comes every good and healthful gift, help us
 through our faithful stewardship to acknowledge that all things come of you, and to learn that truly
 it is in giving that we receive; give us grateful hearts, and make us cheerful givers who experience
 joy and grace as we come to you in faith, asking you to renew, restore, and return a right spirit
 within us; guide us and strengthen us as we make our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to Grace
 and Holy Trinity Cathedral for the spread of your kingdom; all of which we ask in the name of your
 greatest gift, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Celebration Prayer

All    O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as they begin
 another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your
 goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
*The Great Thanksgiving*

* The Lord be with you.
* And also with you.
* Lift up your hearts.
* We lift them to the Lord.
* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
* It is right to give God thanks and praise.
* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 

heaven and earth are full of your glory. 

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.
Presider  And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All  Our Father, who art in heaven,
     hallowed be thy Name,
     thy kingdom come,
     thy will be done,
     on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
     as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
     but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
     and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

* Breaking of the Bread  page 364

Presider  Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People  Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.
Presider  The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed
     on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

A note on receiving Communion: We have two aisles in our outside setup. We will administer bread from the top of
both aisles. Please come up one person/family unit at a time to receive the bread. Once you have received it, please carry
it back to your seat before you lift your mask to consume it. The ushers will help direct you when to come up the aisle.
We will begin with the people seated between the aisles, then move to the outside of the aisles.

* Postcommunion Prayer  page 365

All  Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our
     Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
     Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with
     gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Blessing

* Dismissal  page 366

The Officiant dismisses the people.

People   Thanks be to God.

The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse, Officiant
Jonathan Sternberg, Lector
George Helmkamp, Eucharistic Minister
John Braum, Richard Fanolio, Pat Woolley, Ushers

For your convenience, we offer the option of online giving. You may make or pay on a pledge, give a gift, or
make a donation. Or you may use the QR code to the right. Thank you for your generosity.
Onsite Prayer & Worship

We are currently offering two opportunities each week for onsite prayer and worship. **Registration is required for both.**

**Wednesdays—Onsite Prayer & Meditation:** Times are available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Details, and registration links, are available on our website’s [Covid-19](#) page.

**Sundays—Outdoor Worship • 5 p.m.:** Get all the details and sign up on our website’s [From the Dean](#) page.

*All onsite visits require facemasks to be worn and proper physical distancing to be observed.*

Worship

**Sundays:** Morning Prayer/Holy Eucharist—Livestreamed • 10:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist—Outdoor Service • 5 p.m. *(Registration Required)*

**Wednesdays:** Noonday Prayer—Prerecorded • 12 noon.

Online services are recorded in the Nave and are available to watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#). The outdoor service takes place on the north lawn (corner of 13th & Broadway). Bulletins are [here](#). Sunday mornings, join us after the service for virtual Coffee Hour via [Zoom](#)!

Children

**Children’s Ministry**

**Sundays • 9:15 a.m.**

Each session will include a short time for greeting and sharing, a question of the day, music activity, a story based on the lectionary text of the day, prayer and a virtual 3 “H” goodbye (hugs, handshakes and high fives). Contact [Linda Martin](#) for more information.
Bible & Bingo
Thursdays • 8 p.m.
Bible and Bingo with Madi and Meredith continues on Thursday evenings from 8–9 p.m. in the WEMO Youth Zoom Room.

GHTC Youth Group
Sundays • 3:30 p.m.
Your Youth Ministry Team can’t wait to see you this Sunday for our hybrid in person/Zoom youth group. Youth group will meet each Sunday from 3:30–4:45 p.m. in the Diocesan Close and on Zoom. From now through early December we will be making our way through the Chronicles of Narnia! We will be reading The Magician's Nephew and The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe and discussing the presence of God, scripture and faith in our daily lives.

Regional Ministry Giving Bags
November 8 and 15
During a season when gratitude is at top of mind, activity bags with options for community service and prayer projects will be available for pickup on November 8. Complete the activities during that week and return the bags the following week!

Contact Alexandra Connors for more information.

College & Careers Gathering
Fourth Sundays—Next: October 25 • 7:30 p.m.
If you have just graduated high school, please join us for a monthly, online, casual way to connect with other people your age and other people who are in similar stages of life. This group is facilitated by Katie Mansfield and will meet via Zoom on the fourth Sunday of the month. Visit our College & Careers page for more info.

Young Adults Meet Up
Third Thursdays—Next: October 15 • 8 p.m.
Gather via Zoom with other Cathedral Young Adults for connection, community and prayer. Contact Nick Smith for more details.
Sunday Formation: The Minor Prophets
Sundays • 9 a.m.
Dean Andy is now teaching a class on the minor prophets. Come and learn about these determined men as they prophesied against their cultures in order to fulfill God’s call to them. The class will meet at 9 a.m. via Zoom. For more details, visit the Sunday Formation page.

Jerry’s Class: Sermon on the Mount
Mondays • 7:15 p.m.
Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m. Deacon Jerry leads a class via Zoom on Sermon on the Mount by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. In this book, Professor Levine takes a detailed and colorful overview of Matthew 5–7, collectively known as Jesus’s Sermon on the Mount. Come explore the most popular sermon ever delivered! For more details, visit the page for Jerry’s Classes.

GHTC’s Digital Cafe
Tuesdays • 7:30 a.m.
Please join us for our weekly conversation in GHTC’s Digital Cafe! Tuesday mornings from 7:30–9 a.m. To join, click here. Meeting ID: 568 607 781 Password: 582827. You may also dial in by phone: 312 626 6799.

Women’s Bible Study
Tuesdays • 12:30 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study meets via Zoom at 12:30 p.m. WBS is currently studying Engaging the Word by Michael Johnston. For more details, visit our WBS page or contact Candy McDowell.

Lectionary Bible Study
Tuesday, October 6 • 6:45 p.m. • Reading—Matthew 22:1–14
Join us for a discussion of context which will, with God’s grace, lead us to a discussion of how an understanding of scripture can restore us to fullness with God and each other in Christ. Join the Lectionary Bible Study group in Realm or visit the LBS page for more details.

Dean’s Forum & Compline: Lord, teach us to pray.
Wednesdays • 6:45 p.m.
Dean Andy is now leading a class on Zoom called Lord, teach us to pray. Prayer has always been important to the Church, both corporately and individually. In our time together we will begin with the question the disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” (Lk 11:1b) Handouts are available on the website. The class begins with a check-in at 6:45 p.m. (new time) and class runs from 7–8 p.m., followed by Compline. For more details, visit the Dean’s Forum page.

Saturday Morning Devotion
Saturdays • 9 a.m.
Join friends from the Cathedral via Zoom for a moment of prayer and devotion to kick off the weekend. Contact Alexandra Connors for more information.
Upcoming Events

New Bishop Curry Book & Zoom Discussion
Thursday, October 8 • 6 p.m.
Bishop Michael Curry recently released his new book entitled Love is the Way; Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times. The Cathedral Bookstore has a limited number on order now and they should be delivered soon. Additional books can be ordered if needed. Bishop Curry will also be holding a Zoom call Thursday, October 8 at 6 p.m. and anyone who purchases a book will be able to participate! You will also be able to submit questions for him. The email address to submit questions will be emailed after the books are delivered and any questions must deal with book matter.

If you download a Kindle version or would like to purchase one from the Bookstore, email Ken Stewart, so he can reserve your copy and forward you the Zoom link. We look forward to a very inspiring evening!

Young Adults Meet Up
Thursday, October 15 • 8 p.m.
Gather via Zoom with other Cathedral Young Adults for connection, community and prayer. Contact Nick Smith for more details or visit the Young Adults page on our website.

LGBTQIA+ Gathering
Sunday, October 25 • 6 p.m.
We gather for our potluck meal with no agenda, just food, fun and fellowship. For the website/meeting address and any other questions, email coordinator Brian Cowley.

College & Careers Gathering
Sunday, October 25 • 7:30 p.m.
If you have just graduated high school and are looking to find a group of people to support you during these next steps in your life, please join us for a “College and Careers” gathering. This will be a monthly, online, casual way to connect with other people your age and other people who are in similar stages of life. This group is facilitated by Katie Mansfield and will meet via Zoom on the fourth Sunday of the month. Visit the College & Careers page for more info.

You can always find the latest events on our website’s Upcoming Events page.
Cathedral Prayer List

Pray for:
Healing—Phyllis Ryder; Art Rich III; Jack Lambert; Chris & Julie Schembri; Peg Morgan; Alirah Horton; Sharon Lyons; Fiona (Leona) Schaefer; Charlotte Colburn; Harrison Littlefield; Patricia; Jim Royer; Gaelle Marchand; Ric; Bev Bilotta; Phyllis Kagay; Dave Gaddy Cox; Shannon Johnson; Bob Fasl; Judy Houtman; Kathy Clinch; Alex Stewart Jr.; Cade Smith; Jeri Hatteberg
Peace, Comfort & Serenity—The Ryder family; Kate Landers’ family; Gary & family; Cathryn & family; Peggy Lowman’s family; Matt Levi’s family; Paula Livingston-Lewis & family
Calm, Direction & Help—Andrew Rowland; All those affected by the derecho; Those affected by COVID-19; Kingswood Retirement Center
Strength & Safety—Students returning virtually & in person; Jessica Lynn Knox
Joy & Strength—Joanne Repass Jones
Thanksgiving—Chuck & Marsy Gordon’s new granddaughter, Rebecca Grace Gordon
Recovery from Pandemic—Our church & personal families & friends; Lucas Reifsteck

To place a person on this prayer list, please contact the Cathedral office. Requests are held in prayer for 90 days.

Daily Prayer
a resource of Forward Movement

If you would like online access to daily prayer readings, compiled by Forward Movement, you will find that here.

If you would prefer a hard copy, contact Janet Sweeting and a copy of the Forward Day by Day booklet will be mailed to you.

Today’s Flowers
to the Glory of God and ... 🌸

- in memory of Janice Bontrager—Kristy & Steve Moore

To help provide flowers for upcoming services, contact the Cathedral office.

Birthdays & Anniversaries 🎉

October 4
Gibralter Hemingway

October 5
Zach Janky
Bryant Johnson
Karen Meek
Jimmie Sparks
Chris & Stephanie Newton

October 6
Charlotte Kemper

October 7
Kris Kemper

October 8
Diane Baker
Janel Mosley

October 9
Tori Daniel
Hilda Davis
Ruth Evans
Steven Harrison
Chris & Christine Morrison

October 10
Victoria Porter
John Wells

Please contact the Cathedral office if we have omitted your birthday or anniversary: 816.474.8260 or jsweeting@kccathedral.org.
October 4, 2020 – Pentecost 18 (A)
Meet Our Missionaries: Dawn Baity, Episcopal Volunteers in Mission

An update from Dawn Baity, a member of the Episcopal Volunteers in Mission (EVIM) serving in Madrid:

What does a “normal” day look like for you in your placement?
A “normal” day? I have yet to have one, and I say that with a lot of joy and excitement. My placement is with the national Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church. I work with Bishop Carlos Lopez Lozano, and I assist with church communications for the national church and Catedral del Redentor in Madrid, Spain. I also provide administrative support for the project to establish the Anglican Pilgrim’s Welcome Centre in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. In addition to weekly services, we have daily and weekly administrative goals, but no two days are the same. The daily agenda is determined by the needs of the church, and we have had days when we visit outside of Madrid. Insights into contemporary culture and history of Spain and the Spanish Church are a regular part of the day.

Why did you choose to serve in EVIM?
The timing of learning about EVIM was a blessing. Up to that time, I had participated in several short-term mission trips and I had served as a community volunteer. I was in training to serve as a spiritual visitor for my congregation (St. James’ Cathedral, Chicago). I was also in preparation to walk in pilgrimage in Spain on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. The decision to walk in pilgrimage was born from the realization that God blessed me with an incredible life that I wasn’t living. I was dissatisfied with my work. I was running in place and I lost the ability to express myself fully. My faith and my working life were at odds, and I wanted both to align. When I made the decision to walk, a number of things changed. I gained clarity and purpose, and several paths, including EVIM, things seemed to present themselves. EVIM provided an answer to each of the “what next” questions confronting me. It was affirmation. I used my pilgrimage as part of my discernment for the program. When I completed the Camino and returned to Chicago, pursuing EVIM was a clear choice.

How can we pray for you and the people you work with?
While in prayer, please give thanks and ask that for continued blessings for me, Bishop Lopez, the people of the Spanish Episcopal Church. The Spanish Church has always been a unique voice in Spain and within the Anglican Communion, and it continues to be the answer for many people who are seeking an expression of faith that is inclusive and firmly committed to social justice. Please pray for the individuals who are served by the church’s food and 12-Step ministries and those who come seeking blessing while in pilgrimage.

Do you have a blog we can visit?
My blog, Aurora Miriam, is under construction. Launching the blog has been a struggle, and I regret that. It is a missed opportunity to share my ministry with an audience that is both known and unknown to me. The good news is that I am working to have Aurora Miriam launch when my second year of service in Spain begins in November. In the meantime, please write to me at auroramiriam111@gmail.com. I would love to begin with a strong list of subscribers, and I would love to keep everyone posted on my progress.

Learn more about Episcopal Volunteers in Mission at iam.ec/EVIM.