



St. David's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church

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Dear Friends in Christ,

It is a season of Thanksgiving, indeed! It is with great joy that I accept the call of St. David's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church to serve and lead as Rector. It is a profound blessing to anticipate 'being church' and living in community with you.

I look forward to following Jesus with you in ministry and discipleship. As conversations deepened this fall with your Discernment Team and Vestry, I found a life-giving energy and laughter. God has gathered such good people together in this Church. When interviews ended, I did not want to say goodbye. I am happy and excited, instead, to say hello.

I have been joking with folks that I am a 'toddler Priest' – as I was ordained an Episcopal Priest in 2015. But I am not new to ministry. I was ordained a UCC Pastor in 2001, serving UCC churches in Massachusetts as well as hospice agencies as a Chaplain. I grew up in churches, the daughter of a Presbyterian minister. Some have called me 'Rev. Andrea.' 'Pastor Andrea' could work, too. Or, simply, Andrea.

I fell in love with the Episcopal Church beginning in 2007, at the experimental "Crossing" Community at St. Paul's Cathedral in Boston. I discovered smart, funny, and passionate people wondering and praying together about the future of Christ's Church, and I wanted to be one of them.

After a time of discernment, God's Spirit prompted me to seek ordination to the Priesthood in the Episcopal Church, a challenging process mid-career, mid-family. I was active at Church of the Good Shepherd in Watertown, and St. Mark's Church in Southborough. Most recently, I served as Assistant Rector at Grace Episcopal Church in New Bedford.

Getting to know each of you will be a blessing. I am eager for you to meet my family as well! I have been married to Chuck Wyatt since 1991. We met as graduate students at Harvard Divinity School, following my degree in Religious Studies at The College of Wooster. Chuck (a native Texan) works as a Web Developer at Clark University. We live with Sadie Puggle and Bean the Cat.

Chuck and I are parents to two amazing daughters. Molly Wyatt is working on her Master's in Teaching, student teaching in an urban magnet school in Worcester. Emma Wyatt is studying Psychology at Clark University in her sophomore year.

Chuck and I landed in Cranston a year ago as a half-way point between commutes. Then, the parish I served in New Bedford downsized its staff due to emergency capital expenses. Discerning what was next, I met Deacon Ed one spring day at 'Church Beyond the Walls' in Providence. He told me a parish in Cranston would search for a Priest ... and the Spirit took it from there!

We will gather in one worship service on Sunday, December 3, entering the season of Advent. I anticipate with joy being with you that day to preach and to celebrate. I suspect there will be treats. Please come!

Peace be with you,

Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt