

August 5, 2026

Dear Beloved of St. David's,

Seventeen years ago, you called me to be your priest and companion in ministry. I could never have imagined all the ways God would lead us or how deeply I would come to love you. Serving as your rector has been one of the greatest joys and blessings of my life.

With deep gratitude and hope, and after much prayer and reflection, I have discerned that the time has come for me to step down as your rector and move into a new chapter in my life's journey. I don't yet know exactly what this new chapter will look like, but I trust that God has new things in store for me. I trust, just as deeply, that God has wonderful things in store for St David's as well. While I'm not ready to retire, I am ready to take some time to rest, listen, and be open to where God calls me next.

Since the summer of 2009, we have shared so much of life together. We've celebrated baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and countless new beginnings. We've grieved together too, from the deaths of ones close to us to larger communal and global griefs, some almost too heavy to bear. We have pinned our lives to Christ's promise of resurrection and have held one another as we've looked, at every turn, to figure out how to take the next step in love, with Jesus as our example and guide.

And Jesus continues to guide us.

When I look at St. David's today, I see a church that is alive and growing. The recent merger with St. George's has brought wonderful new friends, gifts, and energy into our parish. New people continue to find their way here. Children and youth are integral to our community. Our justice ministries continue to grow. Our worship is lively and meaningful. People are eager to deepen their faith, and together we've become more willing to experiment, take faithful risks, and imagine new ways of sharing God's love beyond our walls. "Loving God, Loving One Another"...we have lived faithfully into that call.

My last Sunday with you will be September 13. Instead of naming this day "Kick Off Sunday," the wardens and I have decided to call it *New Beginnings*. We'll celebrate all that God has done among us while looking ahead with hope to what comes next.

Bishop Loya and Canon Karen Olson from ECMN will walk alongside the wardens and vestry as they begin the process of calling your next rector. I honestly can't imagine a congregation better prepared for this journey. St. David's is blessed with extraordinary lay leaders, a gifted staff, generous hearts, deep faith, creativity, financial stability, and hope. You are remarkable and it will be a privilege for your next rector to serve with you.

This Sunday, August 9, Canon Karen Olson will be with us for worship at 9:30 and will join me in leading the forum, during which we will share more details about this time of transition, answer your questions, and invite conversation.

Thank you for trusting me with your lives. Thank you for helping me to grow as your priest, and as a child of God. I leave transformed by your love, your faithfulness, and the life we have shared together.

Please pray for me, as I will for you. I look forward with expectant hope to all that God has in store for St. David's and for each of us.

With all my love and gratitude,  
Katherine