



The Cathedral Church of St. Paul

The Very Reverend Dr. S. Scott Hunter, Dean

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The Feast of St. Mary
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Dear Cathedral Community and Friends,

On April 1, 2007, we officially began a journey together. That is the day I began my time as the 10th Dean and 17th Rector of this incredible community of faith. For me it has been a most blessed, humbling, fascinating, sacred journey.

As Qoheleth, the Teacher, reminds us in the Book of Ecclesiastes, for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven (Eccl 3.1). From a deep season of prayer and discernment, I come to share with you that I will be retiring as your dean and from active congregational ministry in June 2024. Almost half of thirty-six years of ordained ministry shared together has been such a blessing for me.

Together we have journeyed through the Great Recession, and an age-defining pandemic. We have celebrated the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the cathedral itself. We have eliminated the huge burden of debt to become debt-free. Our choirs have now done two residencies in England, something not done in over fifty years. Our partnership with others has provided access to medical care, and early education for the youngest in our community. We have fed hungry tummies and hungry souls. We have welcomed, blessed, baptized, confirmed, ordained, married, and buried. Together we smiled and laughed; we sobbed and grieved. Many efforts have failed; many have succeeded. We have struggled to love, and we have loved. All of it sacred.

More information and guidance will come both from the vestry and from the Rev'd Cn. Ellen Ekevag, the Canon for Congregational Development and Transitions. I share this with you now so that we can all use the time and energy this will generate. In the coming months there is much to do, much to empower, and 200 years of ministry and mission to celebrate and to launch us into the next 200 years. For now, let us continue together in the work of gathering, transforming, and sending in and with Christ's love, something that never goes out of season.

Your brother and your dean,

Scott

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