



**Epiphany Welcomes the Rev. Canon Matthew Dayton-Welch  
as the 18th Rector of The Church of the Epiphany**



**NEW YORK, NY, March 5, 2023** — The Wardens and Vestry of The Church of the Epiphany announced today that the parish has called the Reverend Canon Matthew Dayton-Welch as the church's 18th rector.

[Watch a video message from Father Matthew.](#)

Father Matthew will begin his ministry at The Church of the Epiphany on Sunday, May 7, 2023. He succeeds the Reverend Roy A. Cole, who served as Epiphany's interim rector from 2019 until his retirement last month.

"We are thrilled to welcome Fr. Matthew as Epiphany's rector and look forward to writing the next chapter in our parish's 190 year history together," said Senior Warden Christian Vanderbrouk. "Having completed the move to our beautifully renovated parish home, we're excited to renew and expand our ministries to share Christ's redemptive love with our friends and neighbors. We are delighted that Fr. Matthew has accepted Epiphany's call."

"I am overjoyed to announce that Father Matthew will be coming to Epiphany as our 18th rector," commented Junior Warden Novia Ramsay. "Fr. Matthew's career in ministry has been marked by his energy, compassion and faith. We look forward to his leadership at Epiphany, including the Church of the Epiphany Day School, our daily seniors lunch in partnership with the Carter Burden Network, and our Wednesday Night Dinner feeding program."

“I am deeply humbled by the Vestry’s call to serve as Epiphany’s next rector,” Fr. Matthew said. “This congregation has tenaciously tended the vine these past few years, in faith and holy hope, and now that vine is rich with the fruit of the Spirit. To harvest that with them will be more than a vocation—it will be a daily delight.”

Fr. Matthew currently serves as rector of St. Alban’s Episcopal Church in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, a post he has held since 2017. He has presided over a season of great growth at St. Alban’s as their membership tripled, programs expanded, and the campus underwent a once-in-a-generation property overhaul. He previously served as associate rector at St. David’s Episcopal Church in Radnor, Pennsylvania, and as deacon at Christ Church in Short Hills, New Jersey. He is a graduate of the General Theological Seminary in New York City.

Originally from Oklahoma, Fr. Matthew has extensive experience in the Middle East, having received his calling to ordained ministry while serving at the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem, where he worked closely with Jewish, Christian, and Islamic leaders and human rights advocates, and where he served as a guide for many visiting American congressional delegations.

He also serves as the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania’s Canon for the Holy Land, organizing the covenant relationship between that diocese and the Diocese of Jerusalem through pilgrimage, study programs and common prayer, and fundraising. He is a trustee of the Spafford Children’s Center in the Old City of Jerusalem, which provides trauma therapy and tutoring for disenfranchised children and empowerment programs for women, and he leads its American fundraising project.

Fr. Matthew is a proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation. He and his husband Paul, a CPA, will relocate to New York City with their dog Juniper.

### **About The Church of the Epiphany**

Founded in 1833, The Church of the Epiphany is a vibrant and faithful Episcopal community where lives are celebrated and hope is renewed. Epiphany supports a range of engaging ministries and programs at its newly renovated parish home, including Sunday worship, the Church of the Epiphany Day School (CEDS), a daily seniors program in partnership with the Carter Burden Network, and the Wednesday Night Dinner for our vulnerable neighbors.

Though Epiphany counts members from as far away as Westchester, Long Island and New Jersey, the parish is, at its heart, a neighborhood church. The parish strives to welcome all, to advance justice and peace in our community, to know God and to serve others.

The Church of the Epiphany is located on New York’s Upper East Side at 351 East 74th Street between First and Second Avenues.