



Annunciation of Our Lady

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Dear Annunciation,

A year and a half ago we learned that Rev. Elizabeth had accepted a call to another parish. Last week we bade goodbye to our Interim Rector, Dan. Now, after months of discernment Dave and I are thrilled to announce that on the recommendation of the Search committee and the unanimous affirmation of the Vestry, we have called the Rev Jenni Liem to be our next rector.

Friends, this has been a long hike in what felt at times like some very dense wilderness. But all the hard work has been worth it! We are revved up and ready to take the next step as a parish and we are confident that Rev Jenni is the leader who can walk with us on this exciting journey! You can read a little bit about Rev Jenni below.

We could not have gotten here without the grace of God and the hard work of the Search Committee. Annunciation cannot thank these faithful folks enough! I have never met a group more committed to listening to God's voice. There is a big party in their future!

Rev Jenni will start her ministry here on March 1 and will preside at her first service with us on March 8. We can't wait for you to meet her! In the meantime, please read her letter to us all below...

Please reach out to me or Dave with any questions!

Yours in Christ,
Maggie Attiyeh, Senior Warden

Meet Rev. Jenni

My love letter to Annunciation: Dear Friends,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!
It is my wonderful pleasure to accept the call to be the Rector of Annunciation of Our Lady and to work with you to build the Kingdom of God. So let's GO!

I am the Rev. Jennifer E. Liem, sister in Christ, lover of Jesus, mountain momma to Reese, priest and shepherd to God's people.

Here are the 'trading card' facts about me:

- I have been a priest in the Episcopal Church since 2006
- My birthday is October 26, Reese' birthday is November 9 (he's a terrific 2-year-old)
- We live with 2 cats, Paul and Bridget
- I am originally from Colorado and am coming to you direct from Tallahassee, FL
- I have a degree in American History from Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO
- I attended Seabury-Western Theological Seminary and graduated in 2005
- I can quote most of the Star Wars movies, as well as Doris Day movies and Bill Murray in Groundhog Day
- I like to knit (I am especially good at knitting socks!)
- I drive a standard transmission car named 'The Blueberry'
- I like to cheer for the Cubs (or the Rockies, if they happen to be doing well)
- I love to celebrate the Eucharist and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ



I have been thinking about what to share with you, asking myself what questions you might ask – beyond the trading card facts above.

I think one of the important things I can share with you are my hopes and prayers for the ministry we are about to embark on together. I was listening to Bruce Cockburn's Lord of the Starfields the other day. The song uses phrases like:

"Wings of the storm clouds, beginning and end", "oh Love that fires that fires the Sun keep me burning", "Heaven and earth are full of your light", "Voice the Nova, smile of the dew/All of our yearnings only comes home

to you.”

God in this song is both cosmic and cosmically large. We understand the creator of the universe as we have received that Creator in Scripture and the creeds. The harder part, I have found, is finding that cosmic right here, right now and translating that cosmic to the very temporal world we inhabit. In other words, opening a space for the One who created all to be in our midst and engage with our walk in the work of ministry. I pray that God will empower us as a community to collaborate and cast a vision for where God is calling us to work both with and for our sisters and brothers in and outside the church. Let's ask the question, where is God asking us to work for justice, practice mercy, proclaim sight to the blind, heal the sick, clothe the naked, and feed the hungry? Let's ask the question, where is God sending us to make disciples of the nations? Friends, where is God calling us to be Jesus' hands and feet in the world and for the world? This is the work of ministry and it is the work that I am so blessed to walk with you all.

Here are the feelings I feel right now: honored, blessed, nervous, confident, empowered, touched, excited... What feelings are you feeling? I would ask you each to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you in this time of transition. I am looking forward to hearing from each of you. I want to know what God is saying to you.

Know that I hold you all in my prayers and ask you to do the same for us as we pack and come north to be with you.

I am sending you all my love and I am ready to GO build the kingdom, GO proclaim the love and good news of Jesus, and GO transform the world for God.
Peace and blessings, The Rev. Jennifer E. Liem