
Welcome Fr. Matt Wise

It is with great joy that we announce the Reverend Matthew Wise as our newly appointed priest for Christ Church. Fr. Matt has been serving faithfully at St. Mark's in San Antonio and will be joining us in Tulsa with his beloved family in mid-January 2026. Please be sure to attend the Coffee with the Vestry hosted after both the 9:00 a.m. and the 11:00 a.m. services this Sunday, November 2nd for more details about Fr. Matt and his family. We have attached a personal letter to all of you from Fr. Matt. Enjoy and give thanks!

Dear People of Christ Church,

I am delighted and honored to be called to serve as your next Vicar, and in God's good time, your first Rector. I am deeply grateful to the Vestry and to the Search Committee for the ways they have faithfully and prayerfully practiced the hard, yet holy work of discernment. The process they crafted created a thin space for God's Holy Spirit to move among, between, and within us, and I have continually felt that movement since our earliest conversations.



That energy initially leapt off the pages of your Parish Profile each time I re-read the inclusive invitation that opens your bulletin on Sundays. Throughout the conversations and interviews that followed, I began to realize how this welcome is an identity statement - not merely a reality hoped for, but one you actively practice together. This is evident in your worship, and in your commitment to young people and children having a voice and place in your community. You are incarnational people who work at embodying God's radical love, and that is a powerful witness in our world.

As our holy conversations continued, so did my sense of connection as I discovered your heart for supporting one another and serving the broader community. I was drawn to so many stories of you nurturing the "village" of Christ Church and of how those relationships have led you to respond to the needs outside your walls. You all are Eucharistic people who are fed and formed together *so that* you may be sent out to share in Christ's work of reconciling all to God, and my family and I are thrilled to be joining you in this shared ministry.

For the last ten years, I've been honored to serve as Associate Rector for Liturgy,

Formation, and Family Ministries at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, a large, historic parish in downtown San Antonio. Prior to this call, I spent three years as the Campus Missioner and Priest-in-Charge for the Episcopal Student Center at my alma mater, Texas A&M University, and before that served as Associate Rector at Church of Reconciliation in San Antonio. Serving in congregations of various sizes, in non-parochial ministry, and in college ministry has gifted me with a deep appreciation for various expressions of the church. I am convinced that well equipped and empowered lay ministry is the way forward for the whole Church, and this is clearly a crucial part of who you are as well. I am a bridge builder who delights in connecting people with one another and loves to help cultivate spiritual practices that lead to more authentic relationship with ourselves, with one another, and with Christ. As a singer/songwriter, I'm always on the lookout for creative avenues to engage our whole selves and to claim our belovedness in God's sight.



My wife, Amy, and I've been married for 14 years and have twin 10-year-olds who are in the 4th grade. Our son, Jacob, and our daughter, Sawyer will attend Jenks East Elementary so that they can continue their Spanish studies in the dual language program there. Together we will move to Tulsa just after Christmas and our first Sunday with you will be the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord on January 11th. There will be ample opportunities throughout the first several months of the new year for us to begin to get to know one another, and we can't wait!

This coming Sunday, November 2nd, I encourage you to attend Coffee with the Vestry as members of both the Vestry and the Search Committee will share more with you – about their process, about how they have experienced the Spirit in this call, and about their excitement around a new season of life in and with Christ Church. In the meantime, I ask your prayers for the four of us, and for the people of St. Mark's as we spend these next few weeks leave-taking, and I assure you of our continued prayers for you, Christ Church. We rejoice in this calling and look forward to all that God has in store for us together!

Faithfully, hopefully, and expectantly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew W. Wise" with a small cross symbol at the end.

The Rev. Matthew Wise

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