



Dear St. John's,

May 20, 2021

What an incredible year it has been. We have navigated a global pandemic, adapted how we worship and serve, and have been challenged in ways we never imagined. Throughout this entire time, you have remained faithful and open to the spirit. I can't thank you enough.

At the top of my list of people for whom I give thanks is our interim Music Minister, Ben McNaboe. Ben came to us last October and has served as our organist with breathtaking music and passion. Over the past eight months, Ben has introduced us to some incredible musicians and has been a constant presence in our midst. Expressing my heartfelt thanks for all he has brought to St. John's seems insufficient for the impact he has left on us. Ben's last Sunday will be May 30, 2021. Please join us next Sunday to celebrate his ministry among us.

In addition to Ben's ministry, I give thanks for the countless hours our Music Minister Search Committee put in as they discerned the best candidate for our parish. Linda Bruce, Sue Zuke, Heather Trenary, Anne Almy-Webber, Roy Keeler, David Overbaugh, Natalie Visco, and our Associate Rector, Matt MacDougall, worked tirelessly heeding the spirit's call. They crafted a vision that emphasized the importance of music in our community and dreamed of how music might nurture our faith and impact us even more. Thanks to their steadfast work and commitment, I am ecstatic to welcome Douglas Beach as our next Music Minister.

Douglas is an exceptional organist and singer with an extensive background in music ministry. Douglas graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Messiah College. He is a member of the American Guild of Organists; American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; the Barbershop Harmony Society; and sectional leader for Parkside Harmony a cappella chorus. After our interview, we knew we had found our Music Minister. Douglas is thrilled to be joining our community and looks forward to meeting everyone on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at worship. Douglas' first day in the office will be June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Please keep Ben in your prayers as he continues inspiring the community through his work at the Fulton Theater and Douglas as he transitions into the St. John's family.

I remain faithfully yours,

*Amanda*

**GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE**

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