

Bishop's Spiritual Retreat for Lay Persons

"The Midnight Guide to the Bible"

Spiritual Direction: Rev. Dr. Matthew Anderson

Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre

Niagara Falls

March 24-26, 2023

Jan. 10 2023

Grace be yours and peace!

This letter is written to invite laypersons of the Eastern Synod, ELCIC, and the Diocese of Niagara, Anglican Church of Canada to attend a spiritual retreat.

Our theme this time will be ***"The Midnight Guide to the Bible. Not your usual Bible Study: examining the scriptures through murder, sex, money, mistakes, #MeToo, and real estate!"***

Our retreat presenter will be Rev. Dr. Matthew Anderson. Matthew Anderson teaches part-time at St. FX University, Antigonish Nova Scotia/Mi'kma'ki and Concordia University, Montreal.Tio'tia':ke. He is also the part-time Director of Camino Nova Scotia at Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax. (Matthew feels that keeping a number of part-time jobs on the go results in an impressive collection of email addresses.) Matthew was born to settlers on Treaty 4 territory. He was ordained in 1985 and has served decades in the Eastern Synod. His PhD in Biblical Studies is from McGill University.



Matthew is the recent author of *Our Home and Treaty Land* (with Dr. Ray Aldred, 2022); *Prophets of Love: The Unlikely Kinship of Leonard Cohen and the Apostle Paul* (McGill-Queens University Press, forthcoming 2023); and *Pairings: The Bible and Booze* (Novalis, 2021; in French as *Apocalypse et gin tonic*). Matthew's academic publications are currently in Pauline studies, pilgrimage studies, gender/masculinity studies, and (an approach he coined for the Journal of Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies) "aware-settler" biblical studies. Matthew has instituted historic trail pilgrimages in Western Canada and the Montreal urban area and has walked and led walks for thousands of kilometres on pilgrimage paths in Europe and North America.

Matthew especially loves to translate academic research into fun and user friendly media outputs. He has a pilgrimage podcast called "Pilgrimage Stories from Up and Down the Staircase," Biblical Studies channels on YouTube and Soundcloud, and has written, shot and produced two full length documentaries about pilgrimage. These can be found on his websites,

<https://SomethingGrand.ca> and <https://UnsettledWords.com>

Worship Leader: Rev. Adam Snook

Director of Music: Jamie Courtney

Register soon, for space is limited!

The retreat will be held from Friday March 24th – Sunday March 26th, at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls, Ontario. The all-inclusive registration rate is \$275.00, and commuter rate is \$125.00.

Please note that this is a fragrance free event.

If you have any questions about the retreat, you are invited to contact the Retreat Director, Dorothy Frook (dbfrook@wightman.ca), or the registrar, Prijna Gingrich (anp.gingrich@rogers.com).

Registration will be available at: <https://form.jotform.com/223285911097258>
Or on the Eastern Synod website at www.eastersynod.org

All Attendees must complete an online registration.

Contact the registrar if you require additional assistance with the registration process.

***IMPORTANT* ALTHOUGH MASKS ARE NOT MANDATORY, THEY ARE RECOMMENDED**

We look forward to welcoming you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a plus sign followed by the name "Michael" in a cursive script.

Bishop Michael Pryse