

## **Bishop to visit Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Sunday, March 24**



Wakefield, MA – Sunday, March 24, Emmanuel Episcopal Church will welcome the Right Rev. Alan M. Gates, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. Bishop Gates will preach and officiate at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. To enable all parishioners, guests, and friends to meet the bishop, there will be no earlier service on Sunday.

The service will be Bishop Alan Gates' first official Sunday morning visitation to Emmanuel Church since his consecration as the 16<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Massachusetts in 2014. In the Episcopal Church bishops are required to visit each parish church at least once every three years.

Sunday's worship service will feature Emmanuel Church's Parish Choir, under the direction of Michael Salvatore. The Rev. Dr. Matthew Cadwell, Emmanuel Church's rector, will assist the bishop throughout the liturgy.

Following the morning service, Bishop Gates will join the congregation for brunch in the Hausrath Memorial Parish Hall. He will meet with children and youth, and invite conversation with the wider parish community. Upon conclusion of the brunch the bishop will meet with the church's vestry to discuss ministry and mission priorities in the community and diocese.

Bishop Gates is a Massachusetts native and graduate of Middlebury College. Prior to seminary he was a Russian language translator, researcher, and intelligence analyst for the U.S. Department of Defense, including a tour of duty at the State Department. He attended Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass., and was ordained to the priesthood in 1988.

He served congregations in the Episcopal dioceses of Massachusetts, Western Massachusetts, Chicago, and Ohio. He was the rector of St. Paul's Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio from 2004 until his election as bishop in 2014, succeeding Bishop M. Thomas Shaw. He serves on the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on World Mission and is a member of Bishops United Against Gun Violence. He and his spouse, Patricia J. Harvey, have two adult sons.

Reflecting on the bishop's visit, Dr. Cadwell said: "The Emmanuel Church community is excited to welcome Bishop Gates to Wakefield. He is an outstanding preacher, caring pastor, and exemplary leader for our diocese and the Commonwealth. He is deeply concerned about the pressing issues of peace, justice, and inclusion in church and society. All are welcome to join us for worship and brunch on Sunday. I am confident that you will leave inspired."

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is an inclusive community, welcoming parishioners of all ages and backgrounds. The church is located at 5 Bryant Street (corner of Main and Bryant Streets), adjacent to the Veterans Memorial Common. For more information call 781-245-1374 or see the church website: [www.emmanuelwakefield.org](http://www.emmanuelwakefield.org).