

Light up the Cathedral: an Interfaith Pride Celebration



July 12, 2023
at seven o'clock in the evening

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
San Diego, California

This service is being streamed live and if you don't wish to be seen on camera, please ask an usher for appropriate seating. Services are regularly streamed and recorded and you can find them:

[Watch - St Paul's Cathedral \(stpaulcathedral.org\)](http://stpaulcathedral.org)

***Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith,
you are welcome here!***

§ *The People gather in the Queen's Courtyard*

§ *At the tolling of the bell the San Diego Women's Chorus will lead us into the Cathedral.*

Song at Procession *Joy*

San Diego Women's Chorus

Music and Lyrics by Michael Pollack and Andy Grammar, arranged by Anita Cracker

Please be seated

Welcome

The Very Rev. Penny Bridges,
Bob Leyh,
Susan Jester

Opening Prayer

The Rt. Rev. Dr Susan Brown Snook

A Prayer of Oscar Romero

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,
it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction
of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete,
which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

Read by the Rev. Daniel Brunner

*No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

Read by Pastor Drew Davis

We water seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything,
and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something,
and to do it very well.

Read by the Rev. Iona Dickinson

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results,
but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders;
ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future that is not our own. Amen.

Read by the Rev. Brandon Duran

Psalm 139:1, 13-18

"O LORD, you have searched me and known me."

"For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your thoughts, Lord.
How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you."

Read by the Rev. David Bahr

A Prayer for Inclusion

(Rabbi Edie Menscher and Rabbi Rick Jones/Ruderman, Synagogue Inclusion Project at http://cdn.fedweb.org/fed-34/2/A-_for_inclusion.pdf)

Holy One, we know you by many names, but still we are part of one human family, Your Family.
Open our hearts and minds so that we see Your reflection in the face of every person on this earth.
Help us to forge bonds of compassion, dignity, and respect with every person.

Read by Rabbi Benjamin Fried

Guide us to fully grasp that disability and difference never lessen a person's need for love, friendship, belonging, respect and for the opportunity to work, contribute, and lead.

Let prejudice, stigma, fear, and presumptions never interfere with our ceaseless efforts to assure that each and every person is able to feel the embrace of family, community, and of God.

Read by Rabbi Scott Meltzer

God of Justice

(Janet Morley, "All Desires Known," 3rd Edition)

O God of justice,
you have called your prophets throughout the ages
to persist in proclamation
in the face of callousness,
and to be resilient in faith
confronting stupidity:
we pray for those
who have refused to be silent before injustice;
who have been repeatedly turned away but are not
discouraged;
whose outrageous faith has caused the mighty to tremble;
whose stubborn humor gives their allies heart.

Read by the Rev. Cn. Richard Lief

For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God

People: **as the waters cover the sea.**

We pray for those
whose efforts in the cause of justice have left them damaged or bitter;
who are repudiated by those they struggle for;
who have lost all hope of remedy,
and whose voice is not heard.

For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God

People: **as the waters cover the sea.**

We pray for those
who have the power to do good and yet will not;
who attend to no voice but their own;
who dismiss the causes of oppression,
and ignore the plight of the powerless.

For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God

People: **as the waters cover the sea.**

Read by Minister Melissa Tucker

Romans 12:9-16 (NIV)

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Read by the Rev. Cn. Brooks Mason

We will not keep silent

(Walter Brueggeman, *Awed to Heaven, Rooted to Earth*)

We are people who must sing you,
for the sake of our very lives.
You are a God who must be sung by us,
for the sake of your majesty and honor.
And so we thank you,
for the lyrics that push us past our reasons,
for melodies that break open our givens,
for cadences that locate us home,
beyond all our safe places,
for tones and tunes that open our lives beyond control
and our futures beyond despair.
We thank you for the long parade of mothers and fathers
who have sung you deep and true;
We thank you for the good company
of artists, poets, musicians, cantors and instruments
that sing for us and with us, toward you.

We are witnesses to your mercy and splendor;
We will not keep silent . . . ever again. Amen.

Read by the Rev. Hannah Wilder

Matthew 5:14-16 (NRSV)

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Read by the Rev. Kurt Christenson

A Prayer for the Trans Day of Remembrance

(Jenn Long, Augsburg University Campus Ministry, <https://www.augsburg.edu/campusministry/2020/11/19/a-prayer-for-the-trans-day-of-remembrance>)

God of all creation, your wisdom, your love and your mystery are boundless. You have many names, which are beyond all gender expression. We give you thanks for the gift of diverse gender identity, expression, and sexuality. We acknowledge the times we deny that gift by holding too tightly to expectations of conformity and norms. We have created these divisions and use them against one another. We know this is not your will or your way. Help us to act mercifully and show grace to all of your people, as you have done for us.

O Mysterious Maker of women, men, all that is in between, outside, and none at all. We come before you today with sorrow in our hearts. We remember those who have lost their lives because they did not conform to the gender roles society expects. We lament at the continued suffering, oppression, rejection and struggle of our siblings of all gender identities.

Read by the Rev. Cn. Allisyn Thomas

Grant them strength, support, and love to accept and be accepted who they are.

We acknowledge the harm prejudice and ignorance has knowingly and unknowingly caused. Help soften hearts and give wisdom and understanding that in the sight of God, all are equally Beloved simply because of our existence. Open hearts and minds to embrace and support one another so that all may let their light shine before others by living out their Truth.

In the name of the One who is beyond all norm, amen.

Read by Rachel Ambasing

Music: *Home*

San Diego Gay Men's Chorus

Music and lyrics by Greg Holden and Drew Pearson, arranged by Dr. Charles Beale

The Summer Day by Mary Oliver

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean-
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

Read by Jason Frye

I don't know exactly what a prayer is. I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?

Read by Pastor Karla Seyb-Stockton

Jeremiah 1:1-8 (NIV)

The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

“Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’
You must go to everyone I send you to and say
whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the
Lord.

Read by the Rev. Kevin Bucy

We are ready to listen

(Walter Brueggemann, *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*)

Healing, sovereign God,
 overmatch our resistant ears
 with your transforming speech.
Penetrate our jadedness and fatigue.
Touch our yearnings by your words.
Through your out-loudness, draw us closer to you.
We are ready to listen. Amen.

Read by Lay Leader Alan Hay

A Prayer of Queer Thanksgiving

(Micah Bucey, <https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/practices/practices/view/27924/a-prayer-of-queer-thanksgiving>)

"I sing praises to this little boy, no more than seven or eight,
Who just pranced right up to me and interlaced his own tiny, nail-polished fingers
With my own, and cried out, 'Twins!'
I sing praises to his choice of glittery green,
Which perfectly complements my shimmery purple.
I sing praises to his guts, his gumption, his presumption

Read by the Rev. Marcus Lohrmann

That I am a friend, a familiar, a fellow fairy — family —
Even though we've never met.

I sing praises to the street that brings us together

And to the fabulous whomever he, she, they will become.

I sing praises to the well-coiffed mother, bubbling over and teary-eyed,

As she exclaims, 'He saw you all the way across the street and just had to say, 'Hello.'

Read by Rabbi Dr. Laurie Coskey

"I sing praises to the baseball-capped father, looking on with quiet pride,

As he asks, 'Do you paint yourself or do you have them professionally done?'

I sing praises to the grandma and the grandpa, holding hands and smiling wide,

As they look one another in the eye and celebrate what their love has made.

I sing praises to the dozens of witnesses to this family reunion

Read by the Rev. Justine Sullivan

The ones who hurry by and the ones who slow down,

The ones who look up from their phones to watch history being made,

The ones who set aside their cynicism for one, brief, shining moment,

So they can join in the smiles, Join in the connection,

Read by the Rev. Sherri Ginand

As I squeeze the tiny fingers of this seven-or-eight-year-old unicorn and proclaim: 'Twins!'
And I sing praises to the cloud of invisible witnesses that surrounds us,
And in the singing and the praising, I feel them appear around us.
This is fantasy, but this is real.
This is fantasy, but fantasy is what painted our nails in the first place.

Read by Kimraj Jordan

I see Marsha, brick in hand, ready to take no shit,
And Sylvia, microphone primed, ready to take us to task.
I see Christine, done up and glamorous, no hair out of place,
And I hear Marlene and Sylvester and David, crooning as Billy tickles the ivories.
I see Langston and Lorraine and James and Oscar, scribbling away,
As José and Eve and Michel critique and queer and complicate.

Read by the Rev. Dr. Richard Lee

I hear Divine and Candy and Jackie and Andy and Hibiscus whispering,
'Don't be so serious. Let this just be the silly thing it is.'
I feel the breeze as Alvin twirls by,
And I feel the squeeze as Alan computes the logic of it all.
I see Harvey and Audre and Michael and Harry,
And Gordon and Edie and Jane and Dick,

Read by the Rev. Lori Leopold

Satisfied and still nudging, content and continuing to fight.
I hear Leonard and Howard composing a hit,
As Michael choreographs a group number,
And Frida lines us all up for what will surely be a kooky portrait for the ages.
I feel the forces, see the faces of the famous and the foreign,
And the cloud opens wider to reveal our mess of martyrs.

Read by the Rev. Dr. Melissa James

I see Matthew and Brandon and Roxana and Joan,
I see faces I've never seen before,
I hear names I've never known,
I hear voices I've never heard before, shouting, 'Twins! Twins! Twins!'
We are nothing alike and we are everything alike,
We are on the street together and we are more than worlds apart.

Read by the Rev. Rich McCullen

We are a rainbow and we are a cloud,
Born of color and tears, of triumph and tragedy,
Feeding the arc of a moral universe that has trampled us,
Even as we decorate the damn thing and teach it how to bend.

We are serious and sassy, glittery and grim,
Furious and filled with fear that fools itself into fabulosity.

Read by Tim Foley

We are everything I describe and nothing I describe.
We are everything I see and so much I do not see.
We can pick out one another on the street,
And we can be strangers in the same parade.
We are more than fits inside our ever-expanding initials,
And we are only as much as we allow ourselves to be.

Read by the Rev. Cheri Metier

We are a rainbow and we are a cloud,
Bending and bursting, beautiful and terrifying.
And I sing praises to the rainbow and I sing praises to the cloud.
I sing praises to the colorful progress,
And I sing praises to the storm that shouts, 'Progress is a myth.'

Read by Chaplain Brian Meyers

Stop acting so small. You are the Universe in ecstatic motion.'
I sing praises to the Universe that we are,
To the rainbow that we've been, to the cloud we will all become,
And I feel that word fizzing up inside me, though it often frightens more than frees:
'Family.'
I sing praises to this family

Read by the Rev. Peter Navarra

That claims me for who I am and gently shoves me into who I can become.
I sing praises to the saints who don't want to be saints,
To the martyrs and the heroes who ask for none of the notoriety.
I sing praises to the bloodless ties that keep us afloat until the blood ties catch up.
I sing praises to the clouds that cry out, 'Families belong together,'

Read by Pastor Jeri Newell-Davis

And know that it means so much more than what some want it to mean.
I sing praises to this fleeting moment on the street,
A moment that begins between two nail-polished people,
And then prisms out, extending the rainbow, creating the cloud.
We are twins and we are nothing alike.
We are seeking a tribe and we are extending the tribe.

Read by the Rev. Daniel McMillan

We have so much to teach and we have so much to learn.
We have eternal praises to sing and we have eternal thanks to give.
Our greatest gift is the light of our color and the salt of our tears,
As we recognize one another like children on the busy street and insist on saying,
'Hello. I see you. I feel this between us and I can't quite explain it.'

Read by the Rev. Cn. Richard Hogue, Jr.

I sing praises to our gift of family recognition,
And until all families bend to the love of difference,
Until this country bends to love of family,
I sing praises to this growing familial cloud,
Rainbow saints painting paths for their yearning children,
And I pray not with my own hands clasped together,
But with my polished fingers interlaced with any other child I can recognize.
Amen.

Read by the Rev. Trudy Robinson

Music: *Light*

San Diego Women's Chorus

Music by Tom Kitt, Lyrics by Brian Yorke, arranged by Lisa DeSpain

Light of Pride Award

Temple Emanu-El
Rabbi Benj Fried accepting the award

*Presented by: The Very Rev. Penny Bridges,
Fernando Z. López, Jr., ED, San Diego Pride*

Keynote Address:

Rabbi Dr. Devorah Marcus

Traditional Buddhist Prayer

May all beings have happiness and the causes of happiness;
May all be free from sorrow and the causes of sorrow;
May all never be separated from the sacred happiness which is sorrowless;
And may all live in equanimity, without too much attachment and too much aversion,
And live believing in the equality of all that lives.

Read by Bodhicari Jeff Zlotnik

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that
we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Read by the Rev. Braeden Storkersen

Tender God

(Janet Morley, *All Desires Known*, 3rd Edition)

Tender God, you have seen my affliction, and unbound my eyes; you have bereaved me of the burden to which I used to cling; you have woven my pain into patterns of integrity; the wounds I cherished you have turned into honors, and the scars I kept hidden into marks of truth. You have touched me gently; I have seen your face and live.

Read by the Rev. Dan Koeshall

From Fear of Staying Still

(Janet Morley, *All Desires Known*, 3rd Edition)

(The People's responses in bold)

From fear of staying still, **O God deliver me.**

From fear of surrender, **O God deliver me.**

From fear of decision, **O God deliver me.**

From fear of losing respect, **O God deliver me.**

From fear of facing my fear, **O God deliver me.**

But from the fear that marks my presence, **I beseech you O God, do not deliver me.**

Read by Rabbi Susan Freeman

Psalm 139:1, 13-18

“O LORD, you have searched me and known me.”

"For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your thoughts, Lord.
How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you."

Read by the Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

Prayer

Br. Yusef Miller

Music: *Family*

San Diego Gay Men's Chorus

Music by Eric Krieger, Lyrics by Tom Eym, arranged by Steve Milloy

Blessing

The Rt. Rev. Dr Susan Brown Snook

Postlude: Organ voluntary

Joe Rodriguez

§ *The People follow the Ministers in procession out to the courtyard and around the church as the lights are illuminated and blessed.*

Reception to follow in the Guild Room north of the Sixth Avenue Labyrinth Courtyard.

The Cathedral community gives thanks for the opportunity to support the LGBT and Interfaith communities of San Diego.

Special thanks to:

- ❖ Bob Leyh, *Programs Manager of San Diego LGBT Pride and co-coordinator of the Interfaith Service.*
- ❖ Susan Jester, *License Lay Minister of Evangelism and co-coordinator of the Interfaith Service*
- ❖ Dr. Charles Beale, *Artistic Director, San Diego Gay Men's Chorus*
- ❖ Kathleen Hansen, *Artistic Director, San Diego Women's Chorus*

Participating Civic Leaders

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria
San Diego City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera
San Diego City Council Pro Tem Monica Montgomery-Steppe
San Diego City Councilmember Stephen Whitburn
San Diego City Councilmember Joe LaCava
San Diego City Councilmember Marni VonWilpert
San Diego City Councilmember Kent Lee
San Diego Chief of Police David Nisleit
San Diego County Sheriff Kelly A. Martinez
Senator Pro Tem Toni Atkins representative Andi McNew

LGBTQ+ Affirming Faith Leaders

Joe Rodriguez, Organist, Faith Presbyterian Church
Reverend David Bahr, Mission Hills United Church of Christ
Rachel Ambasing, Missioner for Multicultural Ministries, Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
The Very Rev. Penny Bridges, Dean, St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
Reverend Lesley Brogan, Pacific Beach United Methodist Church
Reverend Mary Sue Brookshire, Pioneer Ocean View UCC
The Rt. Rev. Dr Susan Brown Snook, Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
Reverend Daniel Brunner, Metropolitan Community Church of San Diego
Reverend Kevin Bucy, Universal Spirit Center
Reverend Omega Burckhardt, First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego
Reverend Dr. Cecelia Caldwell, Unity Fellowship Church, San Diego
Reverend Kurt Christenson, First Lutheran Church, San Diego
Rabbi Dr. Laurie Coskey, Chavurah Kol Hanesamah
Cantorial Soloist Andrea Beth Damsky, Chavurah Shir Ha-Yam
Pastor Drew Davis, NC United Methodist Church
Reverend Iona Dickinson, University City United Church
Reverend Brandon Duran, Kensington Community Church
Tim Foley, Director of LGBTQ+ Ministries, St. John the Evangelist RC Church
Rabbi Susan Freeman, Jewish Family Services of San Diego
Rabbi Benjamin Fried, Temple Emanu-El
Humanist Celebrant Jason Frye, Humanist Association of San Diego
Reverend Sherri Ginand, Universal Spirit Center
Lay Leader Patricia Gordon, Unitarian Universalist
Reverend Caedmon Grace, Metropolitan Community Church of San Diego
Reverend Brittany Hanlin, First United Methodist Church of San Diego
Lay Leader Alan Hay, First United Methodist Church of Chula Vista
The Reverend Canon Richard Hogue, Jr., St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
Reverend Dr. Melissa James, ELCA
Facilitator Kimraj Jordan, SoCal Multifaith Queer/Trans/GNC Discussion Group

Reverend Dr. Hannah Ka, First United Methodist Church of San Diego
Reverend Dan Koeshall, Metropolitan Community Church of San Diego
Cantor Larry Kornit, Congregation B'nai Tikvah
The Rev. Dr. Richard Lee, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, City Heights
Reverend Lori Leopold, Pacific Beach United Methodist Church
The Reverend Canon Richard Lief, St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
Reverend Dr. Caleb Lines, University Christian Church
Reverend Marcus Lohrmann, Shephard of the Valley Lutheran Church
Pastor Molly Lorden, NHUnited Church
Rabbi Devorah Marcus, Temple Emanu-El
The Reverend Canon Brooks Mason, St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
Reverend Rich McCullen, The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
The Reverend Daniel McMillan, St. Andrew's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
Rabbi Scott Meltzer, Ohr Shalom Synagogue
Reverend Cheri Metier, Interfaith Worker Justice of San Diego County
Chaplain Brian Meyers, Scripps Mercy Hospital Spiritual Care Dept
Brother Yusef Miller, USN ret., Islamic Society North County
Reverend Peter Navarra, St. Joseph Cathedral
Pastor Jeri Newell-Davis, St. Mark's United Methodist Church
Reverend Kori Pacyniak, Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community
Music Minister Joseph Pearson, Oceanside Sanctuary Church
Reverend Brian Peterson, Holy Cross Episcopal Church
Minister Venice Price, Unity Fellowship Church San Diego
David Rafsky, Shir Ha Yam
Rabbi Yael Ridberg, Congregation Dor Hadash, San Diego
Reverend Trudy Robinson, First United Methodist Church of San Diego
Reverend Brent Ross, NHUnited Church
Pastor Karla Seyb-Stockton, Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Reverend Deacon Eric Sloniker, University Christian Church
Pastor Braeden Storkersen, Mission Gathering Christian Church
Pastor Jessica Strysko, Water's Edge Faith Community
Reverend Justine Sullivan, First UU of San Diego
The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas, St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
Pastor David Tran, Table San Diego
Minister Melissa Tucker, Normal Heights United Methodist Church
Bishop E. Jane Via, Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community
The Rev. Hannah Wilder, St. Mary's in-the-Valley Episcopal Church
Reverend Romie Wilford, Unity Fellowship Church San Diego
Pastor Laura Ziehl, Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Bodhicari Jeff Zlotnik, Dharma Bum Buddhist Temple

Head Verger: Canon Lisa Churchill

Verger: Cherie Dean

Thurifer: Judy MacDonald

Head Usher: Canon Lucinda Parsons

ASL Interpreters: Keelin Thomas, Anita Buitrago

Audio/Visual Technicians: Paul Young, Mike Thornburgh

Light Up the Cathedral for Pride

In 2016, after installing colored exterior lights, St. Paul's Cathedral inaugurated an interfaith service to light up in rainbow colors and celebrate Pride, in the week before the Pride festival. The service was well received by the community, and the Light of Pride award was added to the service. Today Light Up the Cathedral for Pride is an official event of San Diego Pride.

LIGHT OF PRIDE AWARD

SELECTION CRITERIA

Light of Pride Award has been developed to honor and recognize Religious organizations for their persistent and sustained support of the San Diego LGBT Community and that are making significant contributions to the LGBT Community through their time, actions, talents and dedication such as:

- Sustained excellent performance to the LGBT Community
- Sustained contributions to the LGBT Community resulting in, for example, more accepting and affirming towards LGBT Community
- Significant contribution to the LGBT Community

San Diego Pride and St. Paul's Cathedral seek to recognize Religious organizations that serve as a role model for affirmation and service to the San Diego LGBT Community and strive to make the San Diego LGBT world a better place. The organization will have a demonstrated commitment and passion for helping the LGBT Community.

Organizations selected will be working to raise awareness of social injustice, speak on behalf of justice, celebrate diversity and impel action in building a better future for the LGBT community.

We seek to recognize organizations that not only envision solutions to the many inequities that characterize the LGBT world we live in, but also have the courage to act and to persevere in the face of some very challenging circumstances.

Types of Organizations that we honor are:

Service and Advocacy: Who gives voice to the marginalized?

We seek the organizations that provide services and/or advocacy for the human rights of those marginalized because of being LGBT.

Programs for Children: Who stands for our children?

We seek the organizations that invest their resources for the well-being of LGBT children who would otherwise miss the many opportunities that a young life should offer. We seek to recognize the organizations that confront the issues faced by LGBT children through effective programs and advocacy.

Innovation for Change: Who has the courage to innovate?

Many people have devoted their lives to change, yet our world still struggles to provide equal access to resources, opportunity and social justice for the LGBT Community. We know that in the pursuit of change, the most effective interventions are often the most innovative. We seek the organizations that apply innovation and creativity to addressing LGBT societal issues. Our aim is to celebrate organizations that have constructed new ways to address persistent challenges in the lives of the LGBT marginalized communities.



Rabbi Devorah Marcus

Since 2013, Rabbi Devorah has served as the Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El. She brings an emphasis on building community, deepening the ties between congregants, and encouraging everyone to be life-long learners who bring their Jewish learning out into the broader world in a meaningful way.

Rabbi Devorah was ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 2008 from the Los Angeles campus. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Communications with two Minors in Music and Religious Studies from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois in 1998.

As a Rabbi, teaching is her passion. Whether it's with the Torah School Tots, at Coffee with the Rabbi, through Torah for the Table, or high school service-learning trips, Rabbi Devorah emphasizes the joy and fun that is genuine learning and building community through our shared learning experiences. She is deeply engaged with the issues of the day and works in partnership with community leaders to address pressing social issues such as gun violence, supportive Israel engagement, LGBTQ+ equality and dignity, homelessness, hunger, and refugees. Rabbi Devorah feels deeply privileged and honored to be able to work with amazing community partners to move the world towards greater kindness, inclusivity, and compassion.

In addition to her regular rabbinic responsibilities, Rabbi Devorah is proud to serve as the president of the San Diego Rabbinic Association (SDRA). She is also proud to serve as a faith representative on the San Diego Unified School District Sexual Health Education Advisory Committee where she is able to advocate for comprehensive, evidence-based, LGBTQ+ inclusive education for all San Diego Unified students. Rabbi Devorah is passionate about working in collaboration with inter-faith and inter-denominational partners throughout San Diego and the country to affect positive societal outcomes.

When she is not at work, she enjoys spending time with her husband, Sebastian Eickholt, and their beloved four-legged child, Splash at home or at the dog-friendly beaches of San Diego.

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

The Reform Movement has been advocating for LGBTQ+ rights since 1965, when the Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) called for the decriminalization of homosexuality. Since then, substantial progress has been made in pursuit of LGBTQ+ equality: the 2009 passage of the Matthew Shepard Act expanded US Federal Hate Crime Law to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity; the US Senate repealed the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy in 2010, allowing LGBTQ+ people to serve openly in the military; and in 2015 the Supreme Court declared same-sex marriage legal across all 50 states in *Obergefell v. Hodges*. Despite these gains, gaps in US federal nondiscrimination law omit the LGBTQ+ community from protection against discrimination in employment, housing, health care, and others. We must continue to advocate until the LGBTQ+ community is treated with full equality and dignity in society and under law.

In the unlikely event of an emergency requiring us to evacuate the cathedral please follow the directions of the ushers and vergers and remain as quiet and calm as possible.

Please locate an exit nearest you.

The exit doors are:

- *South porch doors at Nutmeg Street and Fifth Avenue*
- *North porch doors to Fifth Avenue Courtyard*
- *South transept east and west doors to Nutmeg Street*
- *Northeast hallway door to Fifth Avenue breezeway*
- *West chapel (to the left of chapel altar) stairs leading down to landing.*



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
E P I S C O P A L

SUNDAY SERVICES:

8:00 am: Holy Eucharist (In Person Only)

10:30 am: Holy Eucharist (In Person & Live-Streamed)

5 pm: Evensong (In Person & Live-Streamed)

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

2nd / 4th Th, 6pm: Contemporary Service in the Courtyard (In Person Only)

Fri, 12 pm: Holy Eucharist in the Cathedral (In Person Only)

Fri, 1 pm: Organ Recitals (In Person & Live-Streamed)



St. Paul's recycles: We use recycled paper products wherever practical, and we recycle all unused and discarded bulletins. Please use the blue recycle bins in the north and south porch entrances.