

Preaching from the Margins



An inspired weekend of preaching, reflection, and practice,
presented specifically for deacons by Anglican Deacons
Canada and The Episcopal Preaching Foundation

October 23-25, 2026 | Zoom

You'll gain:

- Practical tools for sermon preparation and delivery
- Insights into preaching from a diaconal perspective
- Constructive feedback on your preaching
- Fellowship with deacons from across Canada
- Renewed inspiration for ministry

With plenary talks by leading preachers and educators, and hands-on practice in small moderated preaching groups, led by a stellar faculty including:



The Rev. Alison Kemper, Ph.D.

Plenary: How do we deacons best preach the Gospel of Christ?

Deacons are being asked to preach more often, and we don't always feel equipped. What are the distinctive strengths we bring, and how do we build upon them?

Deacon Alison Kemper serves within the Anglican Church of Canada, focusing on community outreach. Dr. Kemper's work:

- Emphasizes inclusivity and support for marginalized groups
- Advocates for environmental stewardship and sustainability within the church
- Collaborates with other faith leaders to promote interfaith dialogue and cooperation





Dr. Ryan Bonfiglio

Plenary: The Bible and Poverty

Dr. Bonfiglio is Assistant Professor in the Practice of Old Testament at Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, GA. He also serves as director of The Candler Foundry, an initiative that seeks to bridge the gap between the church and the academy by making seminary-level learning accessible and engaging for the broader public. Dr. Bonfiglio is the author of *Reading Images, Seeing Texts: Towards a Visual Hermeneutics for Biblical Studies* (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2016); and co-editor of *Iconographic Exegesis and the Hebrew Bible / Old Testament* (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2015).



The Rev. Sylvia Sweeney, Ph.D.

Plenary: Preaching Advent

Dr. Sweeney is a retired Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics at Bloy House, the Episcopal Theological School at Los Angeles. She has served as a parish priest in congregations in Montana, Idaho, and California, and was the Ministry Development Officer for the Episcopal Diocese of California. Dr. Sweeney is the author of *Ecofeminist Perspectives on Ash Wednesday and Lent* (Peter Lang Publishing, 2009) and *Winged with Longing For Better Things* (Church Publishing, 2019), in addition to writing and collaborating on numerous publications and discussion guides used within the Episcopal Church, focusing on the sacramental rites, their history, and meanings.



The Rev. Dr. Stephen Smith

Plenary: Exegesis 101

Dr. Smith recently retired as rector of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Dublin, Ohio, where he successfully expanded programming and significantly increased congregational participation. His publications include *Saving Salvation: The Amazing Evolution of Grace* (Morehouse: 2005) and numerous articles and sermons for Forward Movement and others.

Registration: \$50 before October 15
Scan to learn more & register

