

## **The Rev. Colin Ambrose**

I've called the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee home for the past seventeen years. It is where Trisha and I have raised our children, where I have served two congregations, and where I have learned what it means to belong to a people gathered by Christ.

Before ordained ministry, I worked in investment banking in New York and later co-founded a small business in Chapel Hill. Those years taught me how organizations work, what helps them thrive, and what holds them back. In my late twenties, I answered a call to ordained ministry, a call that has shaped the whole of my life since.

After ordination, my ministry in Tennessee began at St. Paul's in Murfreesboro, where I served as Associate Rector and then Interim Rector, and continued at St. George's in Nashville, where I have served as Priest-in-Charge and Vice Rector. During these years, I have learned that churches flourish through both faithful pastoral care and shared purpose: the pastoral work of preaching, teaching, and walking with people through whatever life brings, and the communal work of building trust, clarifying a common mission, and helping people offer the gifts God has given them.

I have also served the wider Diocese of Tennessee as President of the Disciplinary Board, on Bishop and Council, and on the Beloved Community Commission for Racial Reconciliation. Beyond the diocese, I have helped build ecumenical partnerships around healthcare ministry in both Murfreesboro and Nashville. I also currently serve on the board of United Way of Greater Nashville.

Trisha and I met at UNC Chapel Hill, and this October we will celebrate twenty-five years of marriage. One of the great blessings of our life together has been raising our three children, Clara, 21, Henry, 19, and Adel, 16, in the church. Watching their own faith take root has given me a love for the church's ministry to children and youth. Young people need more than programs; they need a church that knows them by name, loves them across generations, and patiently forms them in the life of Christ. That is why I care deeply about rebuilding our diocesan camp, a place that shaped our own children and can help young people across the diocese discover friendship, faith, and belonging in the wider church.

I offer myself to this discernment with gratitude, humility, and hope. Looking back, I see how the varied parts of my life and ministry have been gathered together for this possibility. If called, it will be the privilege of my life to serve as your bishop.