

Services in Dinka are at 2 p.m. Sundays, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1884 22<sup>nd</sup> Street NW, Rochester, MN.



Dinka is one of the largest tribes in Sudan and South Sudan. Sudanese people began coming to the US in increasing numbers in the late 90s and early 2000s because of the Second Sudanese Civil War that broke out in May of 1983 in Bor, a town located in Jonglei. (As a result of that war, in 2011, South Sudan became the world's newest country.) Dinkans speak the Dinka dialect, read, write and worship God in their native Dinka language. Dinkans have translated the Bible and the book of Common Prayer into the Dinka dialect. The Dinka tribe believes, as other people also believe, in Jesus Christ as the only Son of God and the Holy Spirit. The congregation worships and reads the Bible in their native language. God loves you and me. God gave his only Son to die for us so that we have eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. John 3:16

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## The Reverend Rebecca Ayak Manyok



Reverend Rebecca Ayak Manyok, also known as Reverend Rebecca Kuir, has served as pastor of the South Sudanese Episcopal congregation in St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Rochester, MN, Diocese of Minnesota, since February 27, 2022. Reverend Rebecca is from South Sudan, from Ajuong, within the Dinka tribe. She was born and raised in South Sudan, then went to Ethiopia, then to Kenya, and came to the United States in 2014, to Chicago, IL. She came to Rochester, MN in November of 2015.

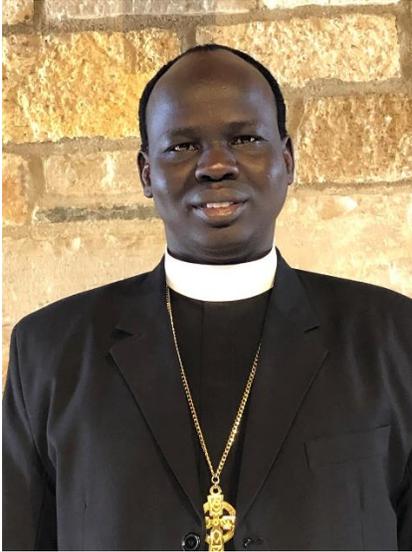
Reverend Rebecca studied theology from 1978-1997 in Mabile, located in Juba, South Sudan and also studied using the Malek Bible. She then received her certificate which qualified her to become a priest. Reverend Rebecca continued with her studies and became a priest in July of 2005.

In 1985, she started her first church in Mar, in Jonglei state in South Sudan. In 1997, she opened a Bible School in another village in Jonglei, called Rual. In 1992, she was a priest at Zone 3 church in the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya. In 2001, she served for six years as a priest in the Paste 2 Church in Kakuma. In 2007, she took over St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Kakuma, and served there until 2014, when she left to come to America.

The reason she decided to minister was because God had called her. In 1973 she had a vision. As she was coming from fetching fire wood, she was thirsty and went to get water by a river. There she saw a toddler sitting by the river. The toddler spoke to her and she was surprised and walked up to the toddler asking the toddler, "You can talk?" The toddler then replied to her and said "God wants you." She asked, "Who is God?", and the toddler told her to go talk to "Izra Geu", who was a Sunday school teacher whom Rebecca had heard of. After this encounter she went to Izra Geu. She told him about her encounter and he then asked her a few questions and explained to her who God was. Before this, she did not know about God or who God was. Most of her village were not Christian, except for her dad although her dad had not taught her about God. After this experience, Rebecca started taking the word of God seriously. She loved learning about the Word and the Love of God and then teaching about and spreading the Word and the Love of God.

**Contact: (507) 254-3119**

## The Reverend David Bul Dau



Reverend David Bul Dau has served as associate pastor of the South Sudanese Episcopal congregation in St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Rochester, MN, Diocese of Minnesota, since February 27, 2022. Bul is from Ayual at Wangkulei in Jonglei state in South Sudan. Bul went to Ethiopia, then Kenya, and came to the United States on June 06, 2001, to Richmond, Virginia. Bul graduated from Douglas Freeman High School, Richmond Virginia in 2005, where he received the George Moody and the Urban League of Greater Richmond scholarships. While in school, Bul opened a Dinka Congregation Church at St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia.

Bul was a church teacher and youth leader since 1994 at Kakuma, Kenya. Bul served the church and was ordained as a Deacon in 2003. Bul received his Associate of Arts degree in Social Science from J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond Virginia in 2017. In 2018, Bul was ordained as a priest in Richmond Virginia while he was at the University. Bul received his Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Political Science and minoring in Religious Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in 2020. His concentration was administration and public policy in Political Science and Religious Studies.

I am a humanistic person, having concern for all people's welfare, values, and dignity. God calls me to do His works and take it to the next level. I am ready to serve you wherever you are, here in St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Amen.

Reverend Bul resides in Rochester with his wife Angok and their four sons, Pajieth, Dau, Deng and Goch.

Contact: [buldau11@yahoo.com](mailto:buldau11@yahoo.com). (804)319-9124