

# MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 29, 2023



**BLESSED ARE YOU**

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Epiphany 4

January 29, 2023

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

Wilbur Held

GATHERING HYMN

Rise Up, O Saints of God

#669 ELW



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, throned on high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**FIRST READING:** Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,

and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

Holy Words. Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

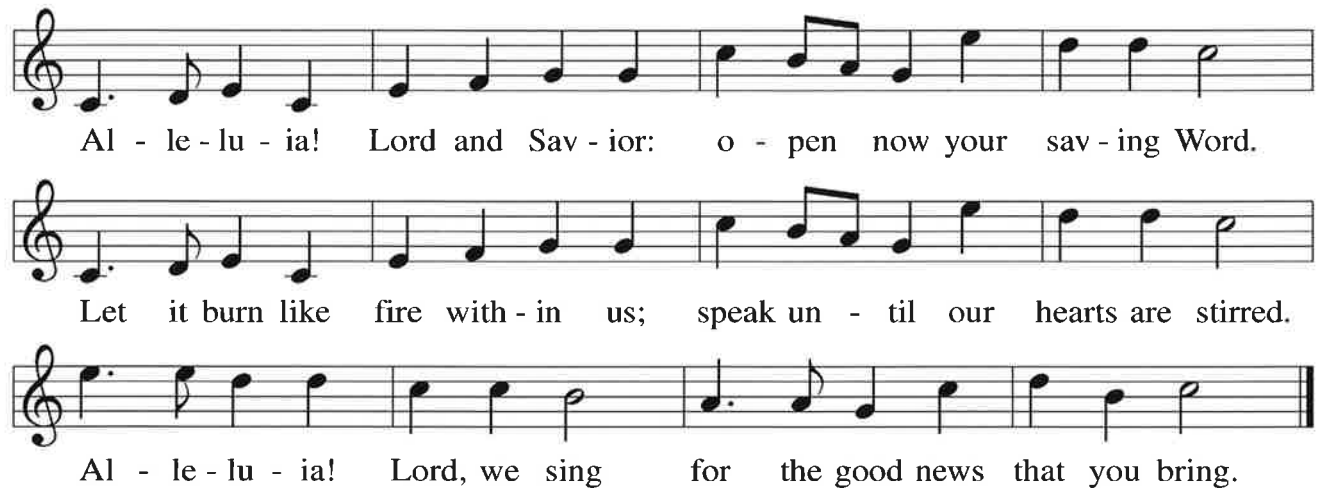
<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

<sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing

things that are,<sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God.<sup>30</sup> He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,<sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Holy Words. Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing Word.  
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

*Before the reading:* **Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

*After the reading:* **Praise to you, O Christ!**

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## SERMON

## HYMN

Blest Are They

#728 ELW

Leader or All



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the  
2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -  
3 Blest are they . . . . . who show mer - cy; mer - cy  
4 Blest are they . . . . . who seek peace; . . they are the  
5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they,  
her - it the earth. Blest are they who  
shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the  
chil - dren of God. Blest are they who  
cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,



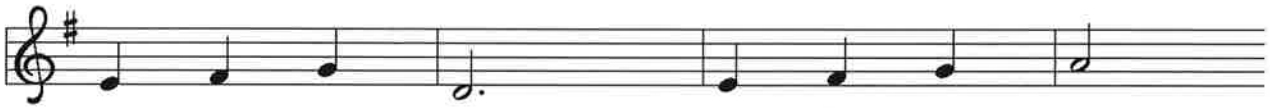
full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.  
hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.  
pure of heart; they . . . . . shall see God.  
suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.  
yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain

All



Re - joice and be glad!



Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!



Re - joice and be glad!



Yours is the king - dom of God!

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFERING

Offering Music

O Lord, I Call to You

Jayne Southwick Cool

Offertory Hymn:

Jesus, the Very Thought of You, vs. 1&4

#754 ELW



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;  
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.  
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

## CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Preface:* It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution (In the night he was betrayed...)

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, earth  
 hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on Earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever. Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.**



## The Distribution

- *We trust in Christ's love and that Christ is present in this meal. All are invited to the Table. Come as you wish. The ushers will guide you by row.*
- *The pastor distributes the bread. Others will distribute wine and grape juice. At Magnolia Lutheran Church, we receive communion by intinction, which is the practice of dipping the bread into the chalice.*
- *Children are welcome at the Table. We invite parents to decide the best time for their children to receive communion. The pastor is available for a home visits and conversation about communion. Children who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to receive a blessing.*

## Distribution

## Lamb of God



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## COMMUNION HYMN

## O God of Mercy, God of Light

#714 ELW



- 1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
- 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
- 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
- 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus

*Continued on next page*

Continued from previous page



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er  
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we  
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and  
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.  
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.  
word and thought may work a work for you.  
grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
may we each other's burdens share;  
may we, where help is needed, there  
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move  
all those who live to live in love,  
till you receive in heav'n above  
all those who live in you.

## SENDING BLESSING

### SENDING HYMN

To Be Your Presence

#546 ELW



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



## Servants Schedule for Upcoming Dates

### Assisting Minister

Feb 5 — Mark Johnson

Feb 12 — Thom Eaton

### Lector

Feb 5 — Mark Johnson

Feb 12 — Thom Eaton

### Altar Preparation

Feb 5 — Caroline Alabach & Jeanne Moussette

Feb 12 — Amy Sigmar

### Counters

Feb 5 — John Valiton

Feb 12 — Noah Wittner

### Coffee Hour Hosts

Feb 5 — Mike Olden

Feb 12 — Valinda & Lyle Morse

### Ushers

Feb 5 — Rob Rowan & Noah Wittner

Feb 12 — Amy & Thor Sigmar

## This Week at MLC

### Sunday, January 29

8:15am          Worship

8:30am          Atrium

10am            Worship

### Tuesday, January 30

9am             Bible Study, Zoom

7pm             Magnolia Big Band

### Wednesday, February 1

11am            Bible Study, In Person

7pm             Choir

### Thursday, February 2

7pm-9pm      AA Fireside Room

### Friday, February 3

8pm             AA Speakers Meeting, L/H

### Sunday, February 5, Congregational Meeting

8:15am          Worship Service

10am            Worship Service

## congregational meeting



## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

Magnolia Lutheran Church's first semi-annual meeting for 2023 will be held on Sunday, February 5th. The meeting will be in person directly after the 10am service. Please stay tuned for more details but keep that date in the back of your mind and/or on your calendars!

IMPORTANT DATE!

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING FEBRUARY 12TH

The 'Souper' Bowl of Caring utilizes Super Bowl weekend in America to mobilize young people to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities. It's vision is to transform Super Bowl weekend into America's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving.

When you leave the sanctuary on February 12th after the 10am service, you will see some of our MLC's youths holding soup pots, or some sort of container, to collect money for this.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



## INFO ON CHOIR AND SINGING WITH ANN

LOOK!

Choir practice began again on January 4th and will meet every other Wednesday at 7pm.

Bell Choir meets once a week for a few weeks prior to a scheduled performance.

If you like to make music but can't sing—give the bell choir a try! They play 4 or 5 times a year, practices happen a few weeks leading up to a performance.

Interested? Please contact MLC's music director, Ann Simonson, at [ajsimo@comcast.net](mailto:ajsimo@comcast.net).



## Please Remember In Prayer

Kathleen Rowan  
Donna Hegstrom  
Dave Larson  
Family of Don Goertzen  
Family of Bob McIntosh  
Pauline McIntosh  
Gail Hendrickson  
Lon Pilichowski (cousin of Nancy & Johnny Searle)  
Heidi Carpine  
Maxwell Penn and family (relative of the Ramseys)  
Rick Dagg (friend of the Nagys)  
Family of Dennis Branstetter (friend of the Nagys)  
Long Pham (friend of the Nagys)  
Family of Susan Engquist (sister of Jennifer Kroeger, aunt to Katherine and Kasey Kroeger).  
Sandy Bennis  
Family of Liz Roach  
Family of Robert Hansen (cousin to Russ Long)

*If we have inadvertently removed someone whom you wish to remain on the list or if you wish to add someone new, please contact the church office.*

## Last Week's Attendance

8:15am — 14  
10am — 38

## QUILTING AND HAND WORK GROUPS HAVE UNITED!

The invitation for quilting and hand work is open! So come when you can and leave when you must. The decision was made to continue on the second Thursday of the month from 10am—2pm. Don't forget to bring a lunch! Coffee will be provided.

No need to RSVP—just show up!

Next meeting is TBD.

Questions? Contact the office at 206-284-0155.

## ATRIUM HAS BEGUN!

The Atrium is Magnolia's Montessori-based faith formation program for children, located upstairs in the big education room. We welcome children starting at age 3.

Sessions for **all children** have started with a flexible start time beginning at 8:30am.

For more information or to register, please contact Marcia Bates at 206-604-7888.



# MAIN FLOOR ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

For every time there is a season!

This is the season to consider the invitation to update and improve our Main Floor. The purpose of this brief article is to explain How We Got Here, give details about The Proposed Plan, and lay out the Next Steps.

## How We Got Here

This project began four years ago. At a congregational meeting we designated some funds for ministry enhancement project. We set up a Task Force. However, it sputtered a bit as it sought to define which direction to embark. Then a key player on the Task Force relocated to another town. Then the pandemic hit. New people were added to the Task Force. Updates were provided at Annual Meetings. The Task Force consists of Linda Johnson, Donna Bergeron, Anne Krook and Chris Backman.

This year, the Task Force found traction. They narrowed their focus to the Main Floor. They analyzed how our space is used, and imagined how to enhance its function. They presented their proposal to our Church Council on January 21, 2023. The Proposed Project has a higher cost than the initial approval. Nonetheless, our Church Council gave full approval for this project to move ahead.

## The Proposed Plan

The Enhancement Committee's mission is "to make design and interior improvements to beautify the church with an eye toward how use of the building can be optimized now and for the future."

The scope of the project is to refresh main floor rooms (other than the sanctuary and narthex). The main goal is to renovate and renew the spaces to be as useful and welcoming as possible to both current and potential new members.

### Details include:

Creating a ten-foot opening between the Coffee Lounge and the Library.

The choir side wall of the Library will have a built-in electric fireplace and flat screen TV that can be used for presentations.

Asbestos has been confirmed in the ceiling material and will be addressed by encapsulating or removal.

New floor materials will be installed: carpet tile in most areas, porcelain tile in the bathrooms, and luxury vinyl planks in the workroom and kitchenette.

Current workroom will become multipurpose with expanded use as a larger kitchen area.

Lighting update and improved electrical outlets.

Installing new furniture and window coverings.

## The Next Steps

- 1) Materials will be on display in the Library beginning today, January 29th. After each worship service, Council members and Task Force participants will be available for an informal discussion and answering questions.
- 2) Information will be sent out to the congregation by email and snail mail. Questions about the project can be directed to the Church Office.
- 3) A presentation about this project will happen at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 5 at 11am. There will be discussion, discernment and a vote.
- 4) Upon approval, the Council will move forward on a plan for additional funding.
- 5) It is estimated that construction will take 3-4 months and occur in the late summer and fall of 2023.

# MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Share your God-given gifts by giving generously

## Options for sharing God's gifts:

- Sunday offering
- Estate planning, stock/bond gifts
- Online banking through your financial institution

Payee – Magnolia Lutheran Church  
2414 31<sup>st</sup> Ave W, Seattle, WA 98199  
Telephone – 206-284-0155

- Computer or smartphone  
online giving:

⇒ Credit, Debit, Checking account

⇒ One-time or recurring gifts

**Set up online giving on our website**  
[www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com/give](http://www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com/give)

## MLC Has WiFi!

For those of you who may not know, MLC has wifi available for all who wish to use it! Select "MLC Guest" on your device, the password is:

**TumbleRibs398**

(Not for use during church of course)

## Financial Update

As of December 31, 2022

\*Income — \$ 371,802

Expenses—\$ 356,102

\*Includes some prepaid pledges

## Congregation Council 2021-2022

### Council Officers:

President -- Robert Bergeron  
Vice President -- Victoria Watson  
Secretary -- Serena Severance  
Treasurer -- Dwight Dively  
Financial Secretary -- Alice Pease

### Council members:

*The year listed is when the member's term ends, in June.*

#### Audit Committee

Victoria Watson (2024)

#### Columbarium Committee

Robert Bergeron (2025)

#### Fellowship Committee

Kimberly Milham (2023)

#### Finance Committee

Serena Severance (2023)

Shane Ruegamer (2024)

#### Nominating Committee

Serena Severance (2023)

#### Outreach Committee

Olivia Massimiano (2023)

#### Personnel Committee

Kay Thoreson (2024)

#### Property Committee

Johnny Searle (2025)

#### Social Action Committee

Shane Ruegamer (2024)

Lyle Morse (2025)

#### Stewardship Committee

All Council

#### Women of the ELCA

Kimberly Milham (2023)

Serena Severance (2023)

#### Worship & Music Committee

Kay Thoreson (2024)

#### Faith Formation

Olivia Massimiano (2023)

# MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

2414 31ST AVENUE WEST  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98199  
206-284-0155

ParishAdmin@MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com  
www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com

## OUR CORE VALUES

- All are welcome here.
- Everybody does something.
- There is no minimum, or maximum, age for ministry.
- This is a safe place for all God's children.
- We are good stewards of God's creation.

Altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God.

## SERVANTS TODAY

**Assisting Minister** — Valinda Morse

**Lector** — Valinda Morse

**Ushers** — Rob Rowan & Noah Wittner

**Altar Guild** — Caroline Alabach & Jeanne Moussette

**Counters** — Ralph Henderickson

**Audio** — Johnny Searle

**Live Stream** — Aaron Stevens

**Coffee Hour Host(s)** — Mahsa Solhi

**Pastor** — Kevin Bates

**Director of Music Ministry** — Ann Simonson

**Parish Administrator** — Nancy Searle

**Caretaker** — Mara Meloy

**Ministers** — All the Baptized Children of God

## Affirmation of Welcome

Magnolia Lutheran Church is a place where everyone can find a welcoming, caring, friendly home. Here is a sanctuary filled with the love and grace of our Lord and modeled by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We believe God's love is for everyone and so commit to provide inclusive acceptance, spiritual nourishment, inspiring kindness and a gracious and loving faith community.

We believe all of God's creations are holy and welcome to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service here. All people of every ability, race, family or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic condition and background belong here, **Reconciling In Christ**, as children of God.

All are beautiful as they are.  
All are part of God's masterpiece.  
All are loved as they are.  
All are welcome here.

