



The Covenant

for the year to the Church Anniversary, 18th June 2023

Called together by God as the body of Christ and as a sign of his coming kingdom, by the power of the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves to love one another and to follow Jesus in a shared life of faithful commitment to God's call.

We are called into **COMMUNION** with God and with one another:

- to share each week in our celebration of the Lord's Word and Table;
- to share in prayer together during the week;
- to gather regularly (physically and/or online) to eat, play, work, sing, pray, and talk together; and
- to offer to God the worship of us all.

We are called to **OFFER OURSELVES** to God and one another:

- to welcome and honour all who would journey with us;
- to seek reconciliation across anything that divides us;
- to contribute our share of the work and financing of our life, prayer and ministry; and
- to work together in discerning God's call to us in this time of uncertainty and change, and in bringing to life the emerging vision.

We are called to attend to the **VOICE** of God:

- in scripture reading and prayerful silence;
- in creation and human creativity;
- in the stranger, the outcast, the broken, and the little ones; and
- in one another.

We are called to **EAT AND DRINK** as a sign of the hospitality of God's reign:

- to share with others over drinks or meals (when it is safe to do so); and
- to consume responsibly and give generously.

We are called to **NON-CONFORMITY** with the ways of the world:

- to resist all greed, selfishness, infidelity, violence, and exploitation;
- to resist the impulse to abandon generous care for others and succumb to fear and selfishness in times of crisis;
- to allow God's ways to shape our ways; and
- to confess that we are entangled in sin, and need help to break free.

We are called to be **AMBASSADORS** for Christ, sent into the world he loves:

- to live like Jesus, loving our enemies, healing the broken, feeding the hungry, standing up for the oppressed, welcoming the outcast, and proclaiming the new culture of God;
- to represent and promote Jesus's values of life, love, forgiveness, reconciliation, peace, and sustainable stewardship in the places where we live, work and play; and
- to allow God to call and send us into new areas of mission and ministry.

We are called to **NURTURE** faith and growth in ourselves and others:

- to look for and nourish the seeds of love and grace;
- to cultivate the practices of Jesus-centred spirituality and discipleship;
- to feed the voice of hope, yet listen to the voice of despair; and
- to surrender ourselves to God, trusting God to hold us when we cannot hold ourselves.

We are called to live **THANKFULLY**:

- to cultivate a heart of gratitude, looking for the blessings in all things; and
- to take every opportunity to be or bring a blessing to others.

Thus called, we enter this covenant, gratefully acknowledging that it is only by the grace of God that we can do anything.