

# *Welcoming of New Members*

## **Statement of Purpose**

At various moments on the journey of our life in Christ, we have opportunity to reaffirm and renew the faith proclaimed in baptism.

As these followers of the way profess for themselves the faith of the Christian community which they have come to call home, we gather to reaffirm the power of the Holy Spirit and to celebrate the place of these new members of the body of Christ in this place. We give thanks for their gifts and for their presence in this community of faith, and promise to continue to walk with them. With joy and thanksgiving we celebrate the faith we all share, and rededicate ourselves to the life and work of the body of Christ.

## **Prayer**

### **Presentation of New Members**

On behalf of the congregation of St. Paul's United Church, I present the following persons as New Members of our community of faith.

### **Commitment of New Members**

Do you, with your brothers and sisters in this place, seek to spread the peace of Christ and the Good News of God's great love for all? If so respond with, "I do, by God's grace."

***I do, by God's grace.***

Will you join with us as together we celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, love and serve others, seek justice and resist evil? If so respond with, "I will, with God's help."

***I will, with God's help.***

### **Congregational Commitment (Responsive)**

Dear friends in Christ, let us pledge to these persons our support and care.

***As your brothers and sisters in Christ, we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us. We pledge to you our love and our***

***support. With God's help, we will together live out the mission and ministry of Christ's church.***

## **Profession of Faith (Unison)**

***We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.***

## **We believe in God:**

***who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.***

## **We trust in God.**

## **We are called to be the Church:**

***to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.***

***In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.***

***We are not alone.***

## **Thanks be to God.**

## **Welcome (Responsive)**

Let us offer a heart-felt welcome to our siblings in faith:

***In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to the privileges and responsibilities of membership in this community of faith. We give thanks to God for your witness among us.***

## **Blessing (Responsive)**

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