

Walking the Way of Jesus Together

At first glance, St. Matthew's appears to be a typical mainline church in middle America, with around 160 households attending. Our church is a classic stone building with ornate stained glass, pipe organ, and wooden pews. But as a community we are a unique, diverse, and spiritually curious group of people: single and married, young and old, straight



and gay; we are native Minnesotans, coastal transplants, and African immigrants; we represent a wide range of education and income levels; we are cradle Episcopalians, converts from other denominations, or new to faith altogether. We are a many-stranded fabric of humanity, seeking God and learning to better love one another and our neighbors.

Drawn by the Holy Spirit, people come as they are. We welcome everyone, no matter where they are in their faith journey, and we commit to helping one another go deeper in faith and closer into relationship. St. Matthew's is a safe place to question, to share gifts and challenges, to have candid conversations, to explore spiritual practices, or simply to be welcomed to a meal.

We seek to live out our faith in tangible ways. As apprentices, we practice following the Way of Jesus, embodied in eight themes that emerged over years of Christian discernment. These practices form us and guide our imaginations in ministry. Woven

together, they work with one another to strengthen the fabric of our community and equip us for God's purpose. As we have made going deeper in faith our top priority, these themes have shaped our everyday lives as we strive to live out our ministry, no matter where in God's world we find ourselves. We invite you to click on the links below to explore how we live out these themes.

Story

Learning God's story and finding ourselves in it.

Prayer

Attending with openness to God and the world.

Simplicity

Decluttering our lives so we can be faithfully present to God and one another.

Discernment

Reflecting together on what God is up to in our lives and neighborhood using scripture, tradition, and reason.

Reconciliation

Joining God's movement to heal and bring people into relationship across differences.

Hospitality

Opening space in our hearts and lives to give and receive in relationship with neighbors and strangers.

Generosity

Trusting in God's abundance and sharing what God has entrusted to us.

Gratitude

Living lives of thanksgiving for everything God has given us, and breaking bread with others in this spirit.