

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

“Trinity is a progressive Episcopal Church where our commitment to the radical gospel of Christ calls us to worship God, welcome the seeker, sustain the faithful, and serve those in need.”

### **WE WORSHIP GOD**

Trinity invites everyone to participate fully in the worship of God. At Trinity, no one is an outsider because Jesus himself invites us to the holy meal. All are welcome to share in Holy Communion, for it is God who calls us to the altar.

We center our communal life on the Eucharist and take pride in our innovative liturgy, which embraces a wide variety of worship styles.

### **WE WELCOME THE SEEKER**

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Trinity. We recognize everyone as fellow seeker, a “work in progress.” We are building a spiritual community where faith, love, and charity abide. We draw strength from differences of person, thought, and faith journey. For decades, Trinity has advocated for full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgendered people through our liturgy and our outreach, providing a safe and welcome place of worship for all.

### **WE SUSTAIN THE FAITHFUL**

We draw our members from 40 ZIP codes. Our broad and diverse community expresses a deeply felt commitment to one another, nourished by community celebrations, both at social gatherings and especially at Sunday Eucharists. We celebrate an early Rite I service (and breakfast) and a later Rite II service with choir, procession, incense, chanting, and a variety of prayers from the Book of Common Prayer and supplemental liturgical sources. Music is very important to us. We appreciate our accomplished choir and our organist’s talented offerings on our new pipe organ. The congregation sings the service music and hymns enthusiastically with the choir. Lay ministers offer individual healing prayers. A monthly contemplative Compline service draws parishioners to return to the quiet sanctuary on Sunday evenings. Families with young children enjoy their own monthly service, and the adults love their participation when children read, play instruments, and serve in our main Sunday celebration.

Trinity members are generous in sharing time, talent, and treasure. Projects for recent capital improvements – for our new organ and for the replacement of our South Parish Hall – were fully underwritten within a few months of launch.

We enjoy one another’s company. We attempt to maintain a balance of reverence and a healthy sense of humor, and we try not to take ourselves too seriously. Thus our unofficial motto: “Smells, bells, and sneakers.”

### **WE SERVE THOSE IN NEED**

Trinity is committed to alleviating discrimination, inequality, hunger, and other forms of

injustice. We feed the hungry through the Trinity Food Ministry. This ministry provided groceries last year for more than 8,000 people and, with the help of partner congregations, it fed Sunday hot lunch to more than 3,500. (While we rebuild our South Parish Hall, we continue this vital ministry thanks to hosting by Cornerstone Baptist Church down the street.)

We offer our facilities at no cost as a meeting place for local groups including: Growing American Youth (a support group for LGBT youth), Meals on Wheels, Alcoholics Anonymous, League of Women Voters, and St. Louis Effort for AIDS.

In 2015 we will celebrate 160 years of Trinity's commitment to the City, serving as a witness to the Gospel of Christ without flinching from its challenges and demands. Trinity is a member of the Holy Ground Collaborative, a network of diverse neighborhood faith communities committed through their outreach ministries to peace, social justice, and community improvement.

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*Accepted 2014 by Senior Warden Dave Hilditch on behalf of the Vestry, awaiting with excitement a new revision with a new Rector.*