

We confess.

We confess our complicity in systems that oppress, harm and separate people and the earth.

We confess that we haven't known what to do to create full community – and so we've done nothing.

We confess that we have become frozen; that even though we talk about making a difference in the world, we've stayed in our buildings and hoped that things would get better.

We confess that our community is homogenous and that we have been ok with that.

We confess that when we have tried to expand our community circle, we have expected people to come to us and fit in with our structure – we have not looked at who we are and what we do with loving critical eyes.

We confess that talking about this is uncomfortable and for that reason we would rather not.

We confess to tokenism and we confess that we don't know how to do this growing and learning without it.

We confess that we are often afraid of difference.

We confess that there have been many times in the life of our community that relationship with others has been broken and we confess that we are unsure how to mend it.

As a people of faith, we confess that we haven't done the important work that flows from the radical love of Jesus Christ.

As Covenant Community we are dedicated to being an intentional, open hearted Christ-Centered covenant community that invites people into living authentic and loving lives of justice, peace, joy, love and hope. We believe that Christ's mission is our mission.

And so, we dedicate ourselves to working against systems of injustice.

We dedicate ourselves to listening to others and to taking action steps toward full community.

We dedicate ourselves to doing something.

We dedicate ourselves to being in community – even community that is radically different than what we are used to.

We dedicate ourselves to making things better.

We dedicate ourselves to diversity and to the co-creation of our community circle.

We know this might be uncomfortable and we dedicate ourselves to working through this discomfort.

We dedicate ourselves to full inclusion.

We dedicate ourselves to acknowledging fear but to not letting it stop us.

We dedicate ourselves to the celebration of difference.

We dedicate ourselves to healing of broken relationships.

To our brothers and sisters who are in harms way: (those within our own community and those we have yet to meet) - refugees, queer and trans people , persons of color, immigrants, interfaith friends, indigenous people, those from different cultures, the disabled, women and girls, those in poverty, those who go unmentioned, those being threatened with violence; we are sorry for the pain, violence and separation that we have allowed to exist between us. And we know that sometimes that pain has come from those claiming Christianity.

We are sorry that we have caused you pain.

We are sorry that we haven't listened.

We are sorry.

Our community covenant is expressed in many ways, and it always supports the mission, message and love of Jesus Christ. Jesus came to give good news to the poor, to release the captive, to give sight to the blind – to set us free. We covenant with one another -and with you - to do this same work.

We are going to mess up. We will decide to keep going. May it be so.