

## ***What to expect .....Worship***

If you do not attend church, or it has been a long time since you attended, or if you are of a different faith, you might be unsure about what it's like in today's church. Here is a guide to what you'll find on Sunday morning.

### ***You are Welcome Here***

No matter what faith background you have, you are welcome to attend a church service. If you would like to just observe, we won't mind. All Christians, regardless of denomination, are welcome to participate in the service – it is our faith and trust in Jesus Christ that binds us into community. If you are visiting the area and just want a place to worship for one or two Sundays, or if you are someone seeking a congregation to join, we would love to have you in our church.

### ***Worship Time...***

If you're not sure which service to attend, here are some questions that will help you:

Do you like quiet, reflective traditional worship? *Try the 8:30 a.m.*

Do you like the bustling warmth of community life and/or you have children? *Try the 10:30 a.m.*

If you're still not sure...come try them both!

### ***Getting Ready***

There is no dress code for church – you are welcome to come as you are.

### ***Arriving at Church***

We have two parking lots adjacent to the building. You may enter through the main church doors, the side door (accessible) or the basement hall door.

Greeters can guide you if you are unsure about anything.

Pick up a coffee at the main church door entrance. Meet old friends or make new ones.

### ***Children***

Children are always welcome. Not to get nervous if they make a little noise. Young voices and foot steps are what gives our church much of its energy. We offer a Sunday School program on most Sunday Mornings. Children participate in a talk at the beginning of the worship then go to Sunday School to explore the Word. Children then return and join their family as we receive the bread and wine at the Eucharist. From time to time we offer a family service when children stay for the entire service. The worship service is organized a little differently to accommodate all that energy. We also have an unsupervised Nursery found adjacent to the worship space on the main floor of the church.

### ***Order of Service***

At 10:30 a.m., we start off with some morning announcements, before starting the service itself which traditionally runs like this:

First are the teachings from the Bible, which includes prayers, and three readings from the Bible.

Next comes the sermon. Usually the priest expands on the themes and ideas from the readings.

Then we have The Prayers of the People, in which a prayer leader guides the congregation in praying for those in our own parish and for those around the world who are suffering, struggling, or need strength.

Finally, there is the sacrament of communion, Eucharist, or Mass when we come forward to the altar to take part in the holy meal of bread and wine.

The service concludes with a call to go forth to serve God in our own lives.

### ***Understanding the Service***

The Anglican Church service can be confusing for a newcomer to follow.

The overall order of service is printed in the bulletin, or program, that will be handed to you as you enter the sanctuary; the details of the service are printed in the green prayer book

(Book of Alternative Services) or red prayer book (Book of Common Prayer) found in the rack in the pew in front of you.

### ***The Communion***

The high point of the service is the communion, where we come to the front of the church to eat and drink the bread and the wine that represent Jesus' body and blood. If you have been baptized in any Christian church you are welcome to partake of the sacrament of communion. If you do not want communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing from the priest – simply hold your arms over your chest - or you can remain in your seat and enjoy the music.

### ***The Collection Plate***

If you are visiting our church, please do not feel obliged to put something in the collection plate – it is our privilege to welcome you as a guest. If you decide to join our congregation, you will have an opportunity to learn about options for contributing to the church. If you do decide to contribute, you can use an envelope in the back of the pew.