



## Liturgy of Community Covenant

Celebrant

As an act of worship and an expression of discipleship, will those called to commit to the Grace Fellowship Community Covenant, please stand.

Celebrant

The Community Covenant provides the opportunity to express our desire to follow Jesus in loving, interdependent community. It conveys our commitment to be one in spirit and purpose. It indicates our enthusiasm to uphold the Christian faith and life together as expressed in the Grace Theological Vision. And, it signifies our eagerness to be accountable and encouraged in this local expression of the church. Since we all sin and fall short from time to time, our ability to fulfill these affirmations is only by God's grace, through faith in Jesus Christ, and with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Celebrant: Is it your desire to be received into covenant community with this local expression of the Church?

**Candidate: It is!**

Celebrant: Do you believe Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord, and do you put your whole trust in Him for salvation.

**Candidate: I do.**

Celebrant: Are you a baptized member of Christ's one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church?

**Candidate: I am.**

Celebrant: Do you affirm the Bible as the inspired and infallible Word of God and God's final authority in all areas of faith and life?

**Candidate: I do.**

Celebrant: Do you affirm the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds as historic statements of the Church and accurate summaries of the Faith?

**Candidate: I do.**

Celebrant: Will you actively participate in this Gospel community enjoying the presence of God making disciples and developing Kingdom leaders to live on mission?

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

Celebrant: Will you connect with Jesus Christ as His Church, inviting others to join us?

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

Celebrant: Will you worship the triune God dynamically nourished by the Spirit, the Scriptures, and the Sacraments?

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

Celebrant: Will you continually draw near to Christ, imitate Him, and continue His mission?

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

Celebrant: Will you serve to demonstrate and declare the Gospel by strengthening the church, blessing this city, and reaching the world with God's love?

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

Celebrant: Will you follow the way, truth, and life of Jesus by practicing the rhythms of: authenticity, rest, humility, forgiveness, prayer, obedience, and generosity?

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

## **Prayers for Covenant Members**

Leader

Let us now pray for our brothers and sisters making their commitment to covenant community.

Leader: Heavenly Father, look with favor upon these your servants.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Increase in them a hunger for your Word and a thirst for your righteousness.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Align them with your grace and truth in Jesus Christ.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader : Bestow upon them spiritual understanding and godly wisdom.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Clothe them in the power of your Spirit to be your witnesses.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lead them to do the good works you planned for them long ago.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Enable them to bear much fruit for your Kingdom.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Make them ready for your return and eager to meet you face to face, when they will receive the eternal inheritance you have prepared for them as dear and precious children in your household.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Then the Bishop prays*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and reconciled us to yourself, and by the ministry of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to you and your purposes: Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism, and give them the grace to uphold and enjoy these affirmations of covenant community in the love of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, and for the glory of your Name. **AMEN!**