

SAPC Statement of Inclusion

Adopted May 17, 2017

For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. - Galatians 3:26-28

The following statement grew out of recent changes to our denomination's constitution which grants sessions the discretion to decide whether to allow same-sex marriage ceremonies to be conducted on church property.

The congregation of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church affirms the worth and dignity of all people. We are all created in God's image, and in Christ we are the children of God. Just as Jesus welcomed everyone into his fellowship, even those who traditionally had been marginalized, we welcome all people to our congregation regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, income, or political beliefs. All are welcome to worship, serve, and participate fully in the life and ministry of St. Andrew; and all who profess faith in Jesus Christ are welcome to become members of St. Andrew with eligibility for its leadership and offices.

In the spirit of this statement, we at St. Andrew are committed to providing a safe place for all to explore Christian faith through prayerful and considered study of scripture and church history, and to deepen our relationships with one another and with Jesus Christ. We acknowledge there is a diversity of personal conviction about matters that involve sexuality and Christian marriage. Living out our Christian calling, we welcome the presence, gifts, and companionship of all on the journey of faith. We at St. Andrew embrace our diversity in all its forms and celebrate our unity as the body of Christ.