



EUCHARIST
CHURCH

Four Essential Discipleship & Leadership Values

Eucharist Church has one overarching goal: *Our mission is to be formed together into a community of disciples who live all of life in reference to Christ.* What does that look like in practice? We have attempted to distill this into *four essential values.* We believe it is vital to the health and vibrancy of our church that each of our leaders are aligned to these values. We invite you to prayerfully reflect on these values and the reflection questions provided. These values shape our vision of discipleship and form the basis of what we call our leaders to strive in the power of the Holy Spirit to embody.

Humility: Perhaps the clearest evidence that a person has received and understood the gospel is a life defined by humility. Humility looks like entrusting oneself completely to Christ - believing that He knows best how life should be lived (faith/dependence); it looks like self-forgetfulness, an orientation toward serving others, and a lifestyle of generosity and kindness while also speaking the truth in love when necessary

Reflection Questions:

- *In what ways does your life echo the vision of humility embodied by Christ in Phil. 2:1-11? In what ways do you struggle with this? - In other words, where is pride getting in the way of you serving and loving God fully? Is this an area you're committed to growth in?*
- *Are you quick to forgive (Matthew 6:12-15) and seek reconciliation when you are wronged - remembering that in Christ you have been extended extraordinary grace (see Matthew 18:21-35)? Who do you need to forgive or ask forgiveness from?*
- *How do you relate to authority? Are you willing to submit to godly leadership (Heb. 13:7)? Are you teachable? Are you a team-player (timeliness, going the extra mile, communication)?*

Maturity: The scriptures call us to “grow up in every way... into Christ” (Eph. 4:15) - what we call *Christofornity*: being fully and completely identified with Christ. Maturity looks like *stability* - being rooted and grounded in Christ's love (Eph. 3:14-21); it looks like cultivating a disciplined life in which we *abide* in Christ, the true vine, (John 15:1-11) and see the *Fruit of the Spirit* emerge in our lives (Gal. 5:22-23), above all *love* (John 13:35). Maturity looks like living “above reproach” (Titus 1:6) and limiting one's own freedom (if needed) in order to make sure others don't stumble (I Cor. 10:23-33). Maturity looks like consistently giving liberally and sacrificially of our time, talent and treasure to build up the body of Christ so that together we “become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ” (Eph. 4:11-13).

Reflection Questions:

- *In what ways are you actively cultivating a lifestyle of “abiding” in Christ? Do you have a “rule of life” that guides you? What is the role of scripture, prayer, sacraments, worship, fasting, solitude, service, giving, and other disciplines in your life?*

- *“We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine...” (Eph. 4:14). How are you cultivating deep roots of faith that can withstand the “strong winds” and doctrinal confusion of our era? Are you committed to the complete Lordship of Jesus over your life - willing to obey, “take up your cross”, and follow Christ at all costs?*
- *Describe some ways you are giving and / or serving the body of Christ; or desire to do so? What are the blessings you’re experiencing from giving and serving? What are some of the challenges that you’re facing in these areas?*

Solidarity: To be baptized into Christ is to be joined to His identity, to be membered into His Body - the Church. Our call in Christ is to stand in solidarity with the Church-historic in all things which have been believed and practiced *“everywhere, always, and by all”*¹ (see Eph. 4:1-6). This solidarity with Christ and His Church is the foundation and basis of our congregational unity and what shapes our church’s mission, vision, culture, faith, and practice. Our solidarity is renewed each week in the reception of the eucharist.

Reflection Questions:

- *Do you have a sufficient understanding of the mission, vision, congregational culture, faith, and practice of Eucharist - such that you could articulate these to others? Do you own these personally and stand with our church - even in areas that are sometimes unpopular in our current era/setting? Are there any areas you’d like clarity on?*
- *Are you familiar with the practice of Confirmation? Have you been confirmed? (Confirmation is a great way to affirm solidarity with the Church-historic.) If not, are you willing to consider?*

Transparency: Christians are called to “walk in the light” (I John 1:5-10) as those who confess our sin readily. As followers of Jesus, grace is the very basis of our collective identity. Christians are not expected to be sinless or perfect; we are, however expected to confess and repent, to offer restitution (if/when possible), and to be transparent with those in authority and accept accountability, particularly when mistakes are made. The good news is that our past mistakes, when confessed and addressed in Christ, can serve to highlight the grace and goodness of God (see I Cor. 6:9-11); they become part of our testimony about God’s salvation of the world. Beyond this, to share transparently with another person can bring a deep level of healing (see James 5:16) and can open up the possibility of support, growth, and additional maturity.

Reflection Questions:

- *To whom do you confess your sin? Who knows what you’re going through or struggling with currently? Who is personally praying for you, encouraging you, and providing accountability?*
- *Is there anything from your past, or anything that you are facing presently that might be helpful for you to share, and/or relevant for our pastoral leadership to know, about your life/story?²*
- *Are you willing to maintain a commitment to ongoing transparency with our pastoral leadership?*

¹ Quote from the Vincentian Canon (434 AD) - a widely utilized definition for establishing orthodoxy

² Relevant topics could include: ongoing struggles, former church situations, marriage infidelity/pornography/sexuality issues, trauma/abuse, compulsion/addiction/substance abuse, anger/unforgiveness, bodily/mental health issues, financial issues, past mistakes/accusations against you (true or untrue) that might come to light, complicated family dynamics/living situations/challenging relationships, etc.