

# BECOMING LEARNING COMMUNITIES

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# St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

## St. Paul, MN



# Going Deeper; the “One Thing”

The Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only **one thing**. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

—Luke 10:41-42



# Doing Good



# What about God?

- Who are we in God?
- How do we connect our lives to God's story?



# Practices: Dwelling in the Word

- “Where was your imagination caught?”



# Cultivating Conversation Space



# Translating Tradition



tonight  
5:30 common meal  
7:00 night prayer



# Interpreting the Way

- What does shape of Christian life look like?
- Common grammar/vision?



# Way of Life

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is a community of people invited by Christ to meet him at his table, in each other, and in our neighbors. As apprentices, we practice following the Way of Jesus as expressed in the Anglican tradition, in the power of the Spirit, so we can participate in God's healing of ourselves and the world. We understand Jesus' Way to embody these themes:

- **Story:** Learning God's story and finding ourselves in it
- **Prayer:** Attending with openness to God and the world
- **Simplicity:** Decluttering our lives so we can be faithfully present to God and one another

# Way of Life, cont.

- **Discernment:** Reflecting together on what God is up to in our lives and neighborhood using scripture, tradition, and reason
- **Reconciliation:** Joining God's movement to heal and bring people into relationship across differences
- **Hospitality:** Opening space in our hearts and lives to give and receive in relationship with neighbors and strangers in need
- **Generosity:** Trusting in God's abundance and sharing what God has entrusted to us
- **Gratitude:** Living lives of thanksgiving for everything God has given us, and breaking bread with others in this spirit.

# Learning from Neighbors

- Experiments in listening
- Being taught how to be in ministry from ‘people of peace’ in neighborhood
- Utilizing relational networks



# Cultivating a Posture of Wonder

- *“When you consider the gifts God has given us and the needs of our world, what future do you imagine God is bringing forth in our midst?”*
- Importance of play, imagination
  - Art, Legos, menus, stories
- The outsider’s voice

