

Foundational Scripture John 17:13-23

Statement of Purpose

"The purpose of An Invitation to the Table is to cultivate a visible unity in the Body of Christ that honors our diverse expressions while centering on our shared Savior. By breaking bread and praying together—from large-scale public squares to intimate cross-denominational gatherings—we seek to demonstrate a perfected witness so that the world may know the Father's love."

Vision Statement

"A global Church perfected in unity, where diverse traditions stand as one at the Lord's Table to testify to the world that the Father sent the Son."

Mission Statement

"To labor for the fulfillment of John 17:13-23 by facilitating public and private demonstrations of prayer and communion, fostering brotherly love across diverse traditions and doctrines."

Core Values

1. Unified Witness (The "So That")

- **Definition:** We believe our visible unity is the primary vehicle through which the world sees the reality of Jesus Christ.
- **Application:** Every public and private gathering is designed with the "outsider" in mind, ensuring our love for one another testifies to the Father's love for the world.

2. Sacramental Fellowship (The Table)

- **Definition:** We center our community on the Lord's Table as the ultimate equalizer and place of reconciliation.
- **Application:** Whether in a public square or a private living room, we use prayer and communion as the foundational tools to bridge divides that words alone cannot.

3. Distinctive Diversity (Honoring Traditions)

- **Definition:** We celebrate the diverse expressions, liturgies, and doctrines of the Body of Christ without requiring them to be diluted.
- **Application:** We invite pastors to bring their "full selves" and their specific traditions to the Table, believing that true unity is found in our shared Savior, not in total agreement.

4. Brotherly Love (Philadelphos)

- **Definition:** We prioritize the cultivation of genuine, relational affection between leaders of different backgrounds.
- **Application:** Our "Small Tables" are safe spaces where we move beyond networking to knowing one another, fostering a love that can withstand doctrinal disagreement.

5. Public Presence (The Living Room)

- **Definition:** We believe the Church belongs in the heart of the city, demonstrating its unity where the community gathers.
- **Application:** We move beyond the walls of individual buildings to occupy the "living rooms" of our city, reclaiming the public square for shared worship and prayer.

Our Doctrinal Foundation

"An Invitation to the Table is anchored in the historic, orthodox faith of the global Church. We hold to the **Apostles' Creed**, the **Nicene Creed**, the **Chalcedonian Definition**, and the **Athanasian Creed** as our shared doctrinal standards.

A Note on Our Unity:

This statement is intended to be **foundational, not comprehensive**. We recognize that these creeds represent the 'essentials' of the Christian faith that have united believers for centuries. While each participating church holds deep and cherished convictions

regarding secondary and tertiary doctrines, we choose to hold those in diversity. At this Table, we unite around the Person of Jesus Christ and the core tenets of the faith, allowing our varied traditions to flourish while we are perfected in one."