

*There are different gifts
but the same spirit*



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COVENANT OF FAITH

between

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church and St. John Neumann Catholic Church

Host Pastor: We believe that the Holy Spirit, active and present in our separated traditions, is calling us to respond to Christ's prayer that we be one (John 17:21). By sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ we will participate, insofar as possible, in each other's communal life with the goal that evidence of our unity will grow through our common understanding and appreciation of the riches of God's mysteries.

Guest Pastor: As communities of faith, we believe that we are called by the Holy Spirit to share our ministries as far as feasible in prayer and liturgy, learning and service, to each other so that by our witness the world may believe.

Both: Therefore, with the encouragement of our bishops, we enter into this pledge of Mutual Parish Sharing as a sign of our embracing of Christ's will for us (John 17) and pledge ourselves:

Right side: 1) To strive for unity, while supporting and preserving each other's traditions, according to the Gospel mandate.

Left Side: 2) To pray regularly for one another and for the unity of the whole Church, especially at Sunday liturgies.

Right side: 3) To provide opportunities for sharing our various traditions and, in particular, for studying those documents produced through dialogue at the national and international levels.

Left side: 4) To gather periodically for prayer services.

Right side: 5) To worship together annually in observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, or at other appropriate times, using a Service of the Word.

Left side: 6) To exchange pulpits at least once a year in a joint Service of the Word.

Right side: 7) To support one another in our efforts to work for social justice and the wellbeing of people in our communities.

Left side: 8) To explore the possibilities of sharing more fully the talents, resources, facilities, purchasing power and parish programs, and to sponsor joint fellowship activities.

Right side: 9) To convene our parish lay/clergy leadership on an annual basis in order to review the status of this pledge of Mutual; Sharing, report on the activities of the past year, and to explore new means of co-operation and continued growth in unity.

Left side: 10) To renew this Pledge each year publicly in our congregations as a sign of continuing this commitment to unity.

ALL: Mindful of the issues which still divide us, we commit ourselves to these objectives as a means by which we may enrich our own traditions and witness to that unity which is ours in Christ Jesus. We ask the blessings of Almighty God that our faithfulness to this Pledge of Mutual sharing may give glory and honor to God.