

FOUNDING DECLARATIONS OF HOLY TRINITY PARISH

We, the members of Holy Trinity Parish, recognize that we have been most richly blessed. Jesus Christ took human form that we might better know God; He sacrificed His life that we might have life eternal. We live in a land of unparalleled liberty where we are free to worship according to the traditional Anglican rite. We live in a land of plenty where material want is relatively rare. It is our privilege to know the comfort of Christian fellowship and the joy of corporate worship as we come together before the presence of our Lord.

As God's people, we believe that God revealed Himself in His Holy Scriptures. We accept our historic Orthodox Tradition, and we worship using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. We thereby preserve and continue the Anglican tradition, and we do so as self-conscious custodians of this venerable religious custom. We believe the traditional seven Sacraments are means of God's Grace given to His people. We also understand that Christ has ordained only two Sacraments in His Church as generally necessary to salvation: that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of our Lord. We also understand the four-fold Apostolic Ministry to be as God revealed it in His Holy Scripture and Tradition, these Holy Orders being: Bishop, Priest, Deacon, and Laity. The Office of Bishop is chief pastor, prophet, and symbol of godliness. The Office of Priest is to celebrate the Sacraments, bless God's people, and forgive the penitent. The Office of Deacon is to proclaim God's Word, visit God's people, and bring Christ's healing power to the sick and lonely. The Office of Laity is to proclaim God's Word to all people by deed and by example, thereby converting them to faith in Jesus Christ as the only means of salvation.

In the knowledge of God's promise: "when two or three are gathered together in my name I will grant their requests," we bind ourselves to one another as Holy Trinity Parish to offer thanks and praise unto almighty God and to study His Word that we might better know Him and better understand His will. We are to be implements of His mercy, comforting one another and making each other strong in His service. May we, being moved by compassion and directed by right reason, feed His sheep and offer ourselves and our riches to those less fortunate. May we, in all faithfulness, be bold to proclaim the Word to the churched and unchurched alike. In all things, may we bring honor and glory, not to ourselves, but to God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.