## Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church Statement of Inclusion

At Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church, we believe the love of God is the foundation of our life and ministry.

We believe in the ever present love of God as witnessed through Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

We believe that each person is loved by God and is of sacred worth. Therefore, by God's grace:

We welcome all persons to our Church without regard to race, ethnic or cultural background, social status, gender, sexual orientation, age, theological perspective, political affiliation, or other means people use to categorize and discriminate against others.

We seek to offer full inclusion in membership, leadership and ministry to all people.

We seek to offer God's hospitality by creating a safe and healing place for all to enter.

We celebrate the gifts of all who come seeking God, community and justice in our world.

We declare that we grow in grace and in the knowledge of God when we embrace diversity.

Thompson Memorial seeks to be the embodiment of the whole people of God. We acknowledge that throughout history the church has been complicit in the exclusion of some of God's people and we seek to be actively inclusive; a true place of refuge. We believe that "for just as the body is one and has many members, so it is with Christ and that there are no parts of the body that we can say "I have no need of you" (1 Cor. 12:12)."

We are on a journey of learning and seeking to be a church of full inclusion so that we can live out Jesus' hope for the world, that they may all be one. (John 17:21).