

## The Community Called Church

### Description

Colossians 3:12-17.

Weâ€™ve pondered this week how forgiveness is at the center of Godâ€™s love. God is always loving and forgiving, and through a growing and vibrant relationship with our triune God, weâ€™re brought up into the Fatherâ€™s love by the Holy Spirit in Christ. Godâ€™s ways become our ways through grace, and we learn these new and unforced rhythms of self-giving love and fellowship. This community called â€œchurchâ€• is the place our lives intersect with this new way to live in the world for the world.

The Spirit of Christ flows in and through us with forgiveness that doesnâ€™t hold shortcomings, mistakes, and stumbling against each other, even those outside the faith. Here in this beloved community, we learn by living this grace-full way to bear with one another, not from a sterilized tolerance, but through carrying each otherâ€™s burdens. Weâ€™re all broken in some way, and weâ€™re finding Godâ€™s healing by extending Godâ€™s love, forgiveness, and grace, becoming a means of grace to each other.

As we worship, engage the Scriptures together, celebrate and receive the Holy Sacraments, and serve, weâ€™re nurtured in this beautiful and holy Way and create space for more of Godâ€™s kingdom to come among us.

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