



*Therefore, be imitators of God,
as beloved children, and walk in love,
as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.*

Ephesians 5:1–2



Dear People of God,

Generosity is a journey; it's a practice that we learn and nurture. When St. Paul wrote to his friends in the Church at Ephesus, he reminded them that the very spark of love that founded their community of faith was one of giving. At St. Andrew's, generosity is a way of life.

The Spirit is manifest in the many ways you give of your time, your talent, and your treasure. Each week, we welcome both new and familiar faces to participate in beautiful worship, timely and thoughtful formation, life-giving service, and meaningful small groups. This year, your generosity enabled our youth to take a pilgrimage to Costa Rica, our partner diocese, where they learned how Episcopalians in another part of our world walk in love. Our young people were inspired by our fellow Christians' commitment to care for children in need, participated in joyful worship, and experienced the beauty of God's creation in the rainforest. We have held important community conversations with Peacehaven Farm and The Corner Farmers Market and honored traditions like Deck the Halls and the Blessing of the Animals. We were able to add a half-time Associate Priest to our staff, the Rev. Gus Chrysson, who has blessed us with his many gifts, and fund an Assistant Choir Director, the talented Sean Toso. Through the leadership of our Facilities Manager, Cindy Shane, and a dedicated team of volunteers, we have tackled a whole host of deferred maintenance projects on our campus to make St. Andrew's a more welcoming space. We have walked in love through collections for the Barnabas Network, our ongoing support of Abundant Life Ministries, and the provision of seed money for the building of affordable housing. This is what it means to be in community with each other—this is what walking in love looks like.

As we have walked through the Gospel of St. Luke this year in the lectionary, we have seen and heard how Jesus challenged the laws, customs, and culture of his day with love. Jesus reached out to the suffering, the marginalized, the disheartened, and the downtrodden. Our focus this year, **Walk in Love**, encourages us to walk the way of Jesus. We are companions on this way as we navigate the ups and downs of our shared lives. When we walk together, we can make a difference.

Our life together thrives because of your faithful support of St. Andrew's. The annual giving campaign, which runs from **October 19 to November 2**, focuses on the financial support needed to sustain and grow the church. As you prayerfully consider your pledge this year, know that every gift is appreciated. Each gift matters. May we give generously and joyfully so that St. Andrew's continues to grow in Christ's love and compassion.

Walking with you in Love,

Craig Taylor, *Senior Warden*
Eric Revell, *Stewardship Chair*
Rev. Ginny Bain Inman, *Rector*