

A PARISH COVENANT

Trinity Church in the City of Boston

As of March 18, 2013

As we *communicate*,

- We promise to listen with generosity and attention to each other, in unity and in conflict, recognizing the importance of all voices.
- We promise to speak the truth in love at all times, with humility and respect, especially when we disagree.
- We promise to recall and live into our baptismal covenant, honoring each person as a child of God.
- We promise, as twenty-first century Christians, to be thoughtful in our use of electronic technologies and media, recognizing that we learn more from each other when we are gathered together.

As we live in *community*,

- We promise to offer and accept hospitality, as a sacred process given to us in the Bible, inviting all, newcomers especially, into a deeper relationship with God.
- We promise to grow in generosity, seeking always to understand that all that we are and all that we have comes from God, and pledging to share our time, talent, and money in support of our common life.
- We promise to pray individually, in small groups, and in regular Sunday worship, for those we love, for our families and communities, for the sick and the dying, and for our enemies.
- We promise to build authentic relationships of compassion, encouragement and accountability among ourselves.

As we deal with *conflict*,

- We promise to live with and embrace our differences, recognizing that varied and opposing perspectives are essential to the life of a healthy community.
- We promise to treat our disagreements as opportunities for transformation and reconciliation, and to invite any person, gently and compassionately, who complains about another into direct conversation with that brother or sister.
- We promise to take responsibility for what we say, write, and do at all times, communicating openly, not expressing our dissatisfaction indirectly, anonymously, or absenting ourselves.
- We promise to ask forgiveness from anyone that we have harmed, by design or by accident, and to forgive those who have done us harm.