

# THE PLACE'S VISION AND VALUES

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## Our Vision

*The Place Community Church is an inclusive, evolving community of faith with Christ at the centre, guiding us to seek the living presence of love, peace, grace, wisdom, and wonder in all creation.*

## Our Values

### **Christ (at the centre)**

*Seek Christ throughout.*

Seeking Christ means turning towards the living presence of love, peace, and wisdom that Jesus embodied. It reminds us of our place in the great mystery of life. It invites us to delight in God's creation and to participate as co-creators of beauty and goodness. It calls us to cultivate a deep connection with the divine essence of all creation, through contemplation and action, prayer and communion.

### **Authenticity**

*Be who you truly are.*

Authenticity is being who we truly are by embracing the truth in God's creation, moment to moment. It reminds us to return to the original teachings of Jesus and honour the journey of those who came before us. It invites us to seek honest connection with our fellow creation. It calls us to celebrate our strengths without arrogance and to face our struggles without pretense or fear of judgment.

### **Community**

*Commune with all creation.*

Community is all of creation coming together as an inclusive and united family. It reminds us of Christ among us and throughout all things. It invites us to experience the world as one, by connecting, loving, and healing with one another. It calls us to open our arms and our doors, to prepare a bigger table, and to learn to grow together.

### **Grace**

*Hold space for the struggle.*

Grace allows us to receive and channel the infinite and undeserved love and forgiveness of Christ. It reminds us that we are enough and to let go of judgment as we each take turns making our mistakes. It invites us to see ourselves in the other and to extend God's love and compassion to the world around us. It calls us to embrace one another as Jesus does, with an open heart and unconditional love.

### **Mystery**

*Embrace the unknowable.*

Mystery means embracing the unknown and unknowable, which we do through faith in Christ. It reminds us that this faith is ever-evolving and often unpredictable, and so to honor the sacred that may lie hidden in the mundane and in the unexpected places. It invites us into a posture of questioning and curiosity, awe and bewilderment, reverence and humility. It calls us to live with openness to participating in the divine dance of creation.