A New Era of Partnership

The full communion agreement between The United Church of Canada and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) marks a new era of ecumenical partnership in North America.

Full communion agreements generally rest on five pillars of acceptance and cooperation: common confession of Christ, mutual recognition of members, common celebration of the Lord’s Supper/Holy Communion, mutual recognition and reconciliation of ordered ministers, and common commitment to mission. Full communion is a mutual commitment between two churches to grow together towards a vision of the church that enriches our theological traditions, enhances service and mission, and deepens worship.

The United Church of Canada and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada share a rich history in North America. This includes two joint United/Disciples congregations: one in Winnipeg, MB and one in Calgary, AB.

Both churches are in full communion with the United Church of Christ (USA) and share global mission and ministry partners. In our new covenantal relationship, we commit to being one church—not in merger, but in God’s gift of unity that serves the world that God so loves.

May the journey of full communion be truly transformative and may God lead us in divine wisdom and grace.

We Sing Our Praise

In the communion of the Holy Spirit, that joins us together in discipleship:

We sing our praise to the One and Triune God, the Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love;

We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Holy One embodied that calls us to witness and service;

We receive the Holy Spirit, the guide that empowers the whole people of God to receive the gift of ministry for the mending of the world.

By the bonds of Christian faith, We are called to be the church:

To yield ourselves to God, whose covenant of love binds us to one another;
To celebrate the transforming works of the Spirit through God’s reconciling power in the waters of baptism, and
To Christ’s saving acts in the bread and cup;
To proclaim Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, the triune God is with us.

We are not alone.
May all blessing, glory, and honour be to God, now and forever.

Amen.

—An affirmation of faith inspired by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and The United Church of Canada