



# Rooted and Grounded in Love

"I pray that...Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,  
as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

Ephesians 3:17

October, 2023

Dear Siblings in Christ,

It has been a wonderful and joy-filled beginning with you as Rector of St. Michael & All Angels. In the past two weeks, we have looked back gratefully upon one hundred years worshiping in the historic nave, and we've turned toward God's future for our parish in a Celebration of New and Mutual Ministry.

As we move into the remaining months of 2023, it is time for prayerful discernment in preparing the parish's 2024 budget. A hugely important part of this work is the effort by Team L.I.F.E to invite us into a transformative journey of love and generosity. We are asked to make financial commitments to support St. Michael's for the next year.

St. Paul prayed for Christians to be "rooted and grounded in love." Our theme calls us to nurture this parish community in the fertile soil of love, and that calling has the power to animate our generosity. Every financial commitment big and small will be important in creating a healthy budget that supports the needs, values and priorities of St. Michael & All Angels in the coming year.

Team L.I.F.E.'s goals have been endorsed by your Vestry as a baseline for next year's budget: \$625,000 in pledged dollars from 210 commitments, including 40 new and 25 increased commitments over last year. I pray we can see a place for each of us within these goals. It is so important for all who call St. Michael's home to make the financial commitments they can. We each give according to our ability, sharing together to support the life and ministries of our parish.

Please prayerfully consider your own commitment to St. Michael's in 2024, mindful that our generosity inspires this community—*rooted and grounded in love*—to flourish and bear much good fruit.

With you,

The Rev. R. Scott Painter, Rector  
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