



## Vision & Mission

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### Vision.

***Liberti Church is a church for Philadelphia's Main Line neighborhoods.***

***We seek to speak, serve, and live as the very presence of Christ for our community.***

### Gospel.

The central belief and dynamic of the Christian church is the "gospel" or "good news" of Jesus Christ. This shapes who we are and everything we do...

#### **How the Gospel shapes people.**

- *The Gospel transforms.* This isn't simply behavior modification, but renovation of the whole person. Because of Christ, we have great humility and great confidence in relating to God.
- *The Gospel connects.* The grace of Christ connects us to each other in the kind of authentic community all of us long for.
- *The Gospel motivates.* The good news of Christ motivates us to be a hospitable, welcoming community to our friends and neighbors who need the same grace from God we need, and motivates us to share Jesus' heart for the needs of our neighbors, neighborhoods, and the world.

#### **How the Gospel shapes our church.**

- The Gospel frees us to love God in *worship*.
- The Gospel frees us to love each other in *community*.
- The Gospel frees us to love our neighbors, neighborhoods, city and the world in *mercy*.

### Worship.

#### **Worship is life is worship.**

The chief task of the church is worship. Because we were created for worship, when we do not worship God, we worship other - finite - things; we set our hearts on relationships, careers, money, accomplishments, approval, comfort, power. We set our affections on idols, deriving our meaning and sense of self-worth from them. When we worship God we pull our affections off these things and set them on God.

#### **Distinctives of our worship\***

**Worship that is both traditional and dynamic.**

We attempt to combine an appreciation for the richness of the church's liturgical heritage with a vibrancy that is refreshing

### **Worship that is both God-centered and comprehensible to everyone.**

We attempt to combine a transcendent focus on Jesus Christ with a welcoming attitude toward those who are spiritually skeptical or curious.

### **Worship that speaks to the mind and to the heart.**

We attempt to provide services that are both deep and practical, both intellectually challenging and emotionally satisfying. We avoid both barren intellectualism and manipulative emotionalism.

### **Worship that is hospitable.**

We desire to make room in the life of our church for friends, neighbors, and co-workers who are critical and inquisitive about the promise and claims of Christian faith. We remember what it is like not to be a Christian, and we treat questions with respect, answering them with integrity.

*\* These distinctive of worship are not simply describing our Sunday morning worship service, but our comprehensive and corporate life of worship throughout the week in the live of our church.*

## **Community.**

**Covenant.** We want to be a church community that does not allow members to see themselves as consumers of religious goods and services, or members of a volunteer organization. Rather, Liberti calls people to echo the promise-making love of God in Christ to each other in communal, covenantal relationships. We express community primarily in small gatherings called "**home groups**," as people who are in covenant with God and each other.

**Geographical rootedness.** Liberti Church Main Line takes "place" seriously, and so seeks to root itself and actively engage in particular places, neighborhoods and contexts within the towns across the Main Line.

## **Mercy.**

**Compassion and Justice.** Liberti Church is committed to demonstrating the compassion and justice of the Gospel in tangible ways, to the neediest people and most broken places in our contexts. Whether wealthy or poor, rooted or homeless, well connected or lonely, Liberti seek to meet the real needs that exist across the Main Line.

**Multiplication.** We believe that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is good news for the whole world. Therefore, we want to multiply disciples of Jesus, communities that follow Jesus, and churches that follow, proclaim, and demonstrate the love of Jesus. Because the planting of new home groups and churches is the best way to reach people in any given community, Liberti church is committed to supporting church planting, both locally and internationally as a church and through our partnerships with the Liberti Network and the RCA.

