

Hope Episcopal Church + Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

As we gather at Hope Episcopal Church in Manheim, Pennsylvania, we honor this sacred land, once lovingly stewarded by the Susquehannock, also known as the Conestoga, as well as the Lenni-Lenape (Delaware), Shawnee, and Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) peoples. These Indigenous communities cared for this land with wisdom and respect, and we give thanks for their continuing presence, both past and present.

Grounded in our Baptismal Covenant, where we commit to 'strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being,' we look forward with hope, acknowledging the wrongs of the past and striving toward a future of healing, justice, and reconciliation. Together, we embrace our interconnectedness as children of God, woven into the same fabric of creation.

As we honor all cultures now abiding on this land, we celebrate our shared ministry of reconciliation and renewal in Christ. With hope and faith, we commit to nurturing relationships that reflect the abundance of God's grace, trusting that through our unity and diversity, we can bring about healing and transformation.