**Our Identity and Witness as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Our particular way of being part of Christ’s Church is form and continually re-formed by our:

• theology

• practice

• ecclesiology

• heritage

Our theology forms and re-forms our way of being part of Christ’s church with:

• focus on grace, God’s unconditional love for all

• theology of paradox

 *God’s both/and people in an either/or world*

• theology of the cross

 *Recognizing and seeking Jesus in the margins*

Our practice forms and re-forms our way of being part of Christ’s church with:

• Word and Sacrament

• Ministry of the Baptized

• Lifelong faith formation

• Commitment to service of the neighbor

 *Witness to God’s justice and peace as a public church*

 *Word and Service*

Our ecclesiology forms and re-forms our way of being part of Christ’s church through:

• Global Communion/Local Witness - GLOCAL

• Commitment to ecumenical/interfaith relationships

 *Full Communion partnerships*

 *Declaration on the Way – Roman Catholic Church*

• Structural Interdependence

 *Congregation – Synod - Churchwide*

Our heritage forms and re-forms our way of being part of Christ’s church as we recognize we are:

• Reformation movement

• Shaped by our immigrant history

 *Decolonize Lutheranism*

 *Commitment to refugees and immigrants*

• Forged by a desire for unity

• Our unique Rocky Mountain Synod “voice”