

# AFFIRMATION 9

*Basing our lives on the faith that in Christ all things are made new and that we, and all people, are loved beyond our wildest imaginations - for eternity.*

## Three Great Loves

### Matthew 22:36-40

<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” <sup>37</sup> He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”



Which is the hardest love for you, loving God, loving others, or loving yourself? Why?

*The Path of Jesus is found where Christ's followers are continually discovering and rediscovering that they and all people are loved beyond their wildest imagination, and they determine to live their lives according to this discovery.*

## Countryside Mission Statement

We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith, welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance. We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example. We care for one another, support one another and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be. We work together to nurture our community and to promote peace and justice in our conflicted world.

What part of the mission statement do you particularly like?

What would you add or change about the mission statement?

## Blessing / Benediction

May the Spirit of the Living God, made known to us most fully in Jesus Christ, go before you to show you the way, go above you to watch over you, go behind you to push you into places you might not normally go yourself, go beneath you to uphold you, go beside you to be your constant companion, dwell inside you so that you know that you are not alone, but that you are loved beyond your wildest imagination, and may the fire of God's blessing burn brightly upon you and within you now and always.

What does it mean to be loved beyond your wildest imagination?