

## OUR 2023 THEME

### “Listen to the Wind Words”



#### A prayer for our Parish:

Faithful, listening God, our words and sighs of prayer are raised to you. As your Spirit gives us the ability to offer our prayer, so also give us hearts to listen to your Spirit, in word and silence, in all our relations, in the very wind of creation, that we may better know and live your purpose for us. We ask this through the Word made flesh and in the power of the still speaking Spirit. Amen.

#### An intercessory prayer:

Tender God, as we ask you to hear our prayer for those we bring before you, so let them listen to your Spirit of healing and comfort, spoken to their need, and let us also listen to your Spirit guiding and empowering our care for them. In that same Spirit we pray. Amen.

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## Scripture for Reflection

#### Revelation 3:6 (The Message)

“Are your ears awake? Listen. **Listen to the Wind Words**, the Spirit blowing through the churches.”

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 19:11b-13a (NRSVUE)

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out.

#### Isaiah 55:3 (NRSVUE)

Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.

#### Romans 8:14, 26 (NRSVUE)

All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words.

#### John 14:26 (NRSVUE)

*Jesus said:* the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.

#### Mark 4:23-24 (NRSVUE)

*Jesus said:* If you have ears to hear, then hear!” And he said to them, “Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and it will be added to you.