

Statement of Faith

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I believe in the one triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God is a God of love and relationship. God created the world out of nothing, and continues to create and sustain the world in gracious providence now and into the future; all for the manifestation of God's glory.

Jesus is God's self-revelation and lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and then rose from the dead. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is the working of God to reclaim humankind and all creation from sin and its consequences. As sinners we are called to repent. Our salvation lies solely on Christ's righteousness and atonement for our sins. Because of the unconditional love of Jesus Christ and the grace of God in my life, I am moved to live according to the will of God. We are justified through faith alone in Christ Jesus, and are reconciled to God through God's grace.

The same Holy Spirit that hovered over the waters at creation is active in our lives today, enabling us to receive forgiveness and in turn forgive one another. This Spirit of God gives me the power to represent Jesus in spite of my sinfulness. The Holy Spirit works in and among us on a daily basis, guiding, empowering, and speaking to and through us. Through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, we are transformed and changed more and more into the image of Christ.

Christ gave the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper to the church. These are the outward expressions of the invisible grace we experience, as we feel the true spiritual presence of Christ. Through Baptism we are engrafted into Christ, claimed by God in the waters and washed clean from our sins. As we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, we remember the saving death of Jesus. This Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of God with humankind through Christ, and us with each other.

Because of our inherent sinful nature, we are unable to overcome our sinfulness without Christ's help. As members of the universal church, we are called to develop disciples of Jesus Christ, care for the poor and oppressed, be a witness to Christ and continue his reconciling work in the world. With Jesus as the head of the church, we reach out to all people of all nations, so that with the Spirit of God working through us, others may see the love of God and be drawn into relationship with him.