

Statement of Faith
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As a Christian and as a Presbyterian I make the following statement of faith about God and my relationship to Him. First God is eternal, He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. God is known in the three persons of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God, the Father, is the merciful creator and sovereign ruler of the universe. He created us to be in relationship with him, yet from the very beginning we turned from God and sinned against Him. Knowing that nothing we could do on our own would restore that relationship, God sent His Son to us.

When the time was right, the Son descended from heaven and was born of a virgin. Jesus was completely human and completely God. Jesus walked many miles in our shoes, sharing in our joys and our trials. Even though He was innocent, Jesus willingly went to the cross to pay the price for our sins that we could never pay on our own. On the third day, Jesus rose again, shouting to the world God's victory over death.

Ever faithful, God did not leave us alone when Jesus ascended into heaven, but sent the Holy Spirit to us. The Holy Spirit is God's presence in our lives, and God's power with us helping to sustain our faith. He teaches us, comforts us, and challenges us as disciples of Christ.

Each of us may have eternal life if we realize we are sinners, and accept God's free gift of salvation by believing that through Christ's death our sins are forgiven. I have accepted Christ as my personal savior and have accepted the free gift of salvation that God has offered. My relationship to God is a personal, lifetime commitment and journey of continued faith and spiritual growth. I have committed my life to doing God's will and allowing Him to use me as He desires. I am willing to follow where Christ leads.

I believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God. The Bible was written over a long period of time, by different people from different cultures. God touched each one and inspired the words that each wrote. God communicates to humanity through His Word. The Bible serves as a guidebook to help us understand God's will. It also serves as a comfort in times of affliction and a hope for that which is to come.

I believe there are two sacraments which God has given to us. The waters of baptism are a sign our sins have been washed clean and that we belong to God. The Lord's supper is an outward sign of the inward grace we received through the gift of salvation Christ has given. In this act we are renewed for faithful service to God.

Christ could have entered this world in the glory of a king, but instead He chose to come as a servant. I believe we are called as disciples of Christ to emulate that life of service. We are to follow Jesus' command to his disciples to love one another. Living out that command, we are to bring hope to the lost, show compassion to those in need, and seek justice and mercy for all.

The Church is the body of Christ. The Church, through worship, prayer, and fellowship is to be a gathering of the community of believers to renew their faith so they may continue to go out to serve the kingdom of God. The Church is universal. God created the Church as a diverse body, each part with its own task. Each part is equally as necessary as the others to complete the whole. Together, working as one body, we are the hands and feet of Christ in the world.