

Statement of Faith

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I believe in one God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all that is, who is beyond all describing, but of whom we must speak: Fountain of life, Source of all joy, our Strength and our Song. Transcendent yet personal; righteous yet merciful; sovereign yet servant.

I believe Jesus of Nazareth was God made flesh, willing to condescend to live among us as one of us in all our weakness. He lived a life showing God's love and justice. He died for our sins that we might live life reconciled to Him and to each other. He was raised on the third day to life eternal. When he comes again the Realm of God will be fully established and justice and love complete. In the meantime, we are called to live in response to God's Grace with what Calvin called "joyful obedience," living the Good News of God's love, and the justice and caring that grow out of it. We are to testify that God's transforming love is for everyone.

I believe that the Bible is God's Word and our central authority. The book of Hebrews reminds us that the Word of God is "living and active." I believe God gave us intellect to use, and that we are to employ it when reading scripture. By the power of the Holy Spirit our understanding is ever-changing to meet the challenges of a changing society.

I believe the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the Word made visible. While not necessary for salvation, baptism symbolizes that we have been washed clean of our sin and clothed with Christ's righteousness. In the Lord's Supper we have communion with Christ and all the saints both living and dead and remember and proclaim the saving death of Jesus until he comes again.

This is just a portion of what I believe.