

A STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. I believe in the one true God who is infinite in being and perfection. God exists eternally
2. as three persons: Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, who are of one substance and equal
3. in power and glory. God has created and preserved all things and including humans in
4. his own image to glorify and enjoy God forever. I believe that God sent his only
5. begotten Son, Jesus Christ into the world. Jesus became incarnate without a human
6. father. He was fully human and fully divine. Jesus lived a sinless life and sacrificed it
7. on the cross for our sins. He rose again in order to consummate God's plan of salvation.
8. I believe in God's Holy Spirit, the third person of our triune God. The Spirit was
9. bestowed upon us at our baptism by Jesus Christ to intercede for and guide us in our
10. daily lives. The Spirit dwells within all persons and works to create a right relationship
11. with God by justification. By helping us to discern God's will for us, the Spirit works
12. to sanctify us so that man's nature is constantly being renewed.
13. I believe that the Church is Christ's gift to fulfil his mission on earth. The Church is
14. empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to the world and
15. to establish his kingdom through Christ's message of love and reconciliation. The
16. Church is a community of faith that is welcoming to all persons including the stranger.
17. Therein, all come for nourishment of body and soul, for healing and for fellowship.
18. I believe that God speaks to us in Holy Scripture. Scripture, known as the Holy Bible,
19. is the only infallible guide for our faith and practice. It is God's story of creation and
20. provision for all peoples until the time of the consummation of his will and purpose
21. through salvation. Our faith is enriched and transformed through the work of the Holy
22. Spirit in our reading, study and proclamation of Scripture when we discern that Jesus
23. Christ is himself the Living Word. Scripture reveals to us God's steadfast love and his
24. desire to be in a right relationship with his creation. The Scriptures instruct us to love
25. God and to love neighbor just as Jesus loved God and neighbor.
26. I believe that our two Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are a visible
27. manifestation of the covenant of God's grace and love for his Church. Both covenants
28. are signs and seals of this covenant. The Sacrament of Baptism is administered only
29. once to a person while the Lord's Supper is an ongoing practice in the Church that
30. contributes to our spiritual nourishment and growth. In Baptism, our triune God acts
31. graciously on our behalf in its cleansing waters. In Infant Baptism, God acts lovingly
32. and graciously on the children's behalf before they can respond. It is a sacred covenant
33. in which children are ingrafted into Christ's body by the Holy Spirit and into the
34. community of faith. Parents and the congregation accept responsibility for their
35. spiritual nourishment and growth. For older persons, I believe that the outward washing
36. with water in baptism is a sign of the inward cleansing of one's sin through faith in
37. Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
38. I believe that at the Lord's Supper, instituted by Christ himself, we commune together
39. as members of his family. It is an act of God's grace, love and mercy contributing to
40. our spiritual growth and nourishment. It is also a joyous act of thanksgiving as we show
41. forth Jesus' death by the symbolic eating of his 'body' and drinking of his 'blood'. The
42. bread and cup remind us that Jesus is our source of nourishment and spiritual food who
43. by his death and resurrection offers us grace and restores our relationship with God and
44. with all creation. It is a divine mystery as we await and celebrate in glorious hope for
45. his return.