

Statement of Faith

David C. Skilling

God

I believe in one true God, who always was, is and will always be. In God there are three divine persons, distinct yet equal in all things a Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

I believe that God is infinitely perfect as such he is a just God, all holy, all merciful and all good. He is all-powerful and all knowing.

I believe God is ever present.

I believe God the father is the creator of man, the heavens, earth and all things animate and inanimate.

I believe when God made, male and female he did so in His image and likeness.

I believe that Adam and Eve, the first children of God, when created were undefiled.

I believe that they did not remain faithful to God and were driven from the Garden of Eden.

I believe that their disobedience has fallen upon all generations that proceed from them and as such all are born with original sin.

I believe that nothing can separate us from God's love.

Jesus Christ

I believe that God has always remained faithful to humankind.

I believe God sent His only son, Jesus Christ, God Incarnate as a sacrifice and redeemer for our sins and to overcome death that we might live eternally in heaven with Triune God and all the saints and angels and those that have gone before us.

I believe that Jesus Christ is true God and truly a Man.

I believe that Jesus Christ was made man having been conceived in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit and was born.

I believe that Jesus Christ fulfilled His Father's charge by not only being a prophet, but more importantly by suffering a cruel scourging, a crown of thorns and being nailed to a cross and left to die.

I believe that Jesus Christ was buried and after three (3) days he rose again from the dead and ascended into Heaven and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Holy Spirit

I believe that the Holy Spirit is the Giver of Life and was sent by Jesus Christ to give his disciples (including us) the courage and wisdom to carry out Jesus Christ's ministry here on earth, to preach the Gospel and go and make disciples.

Sacraments

I believe Jesus Christ instituted two sacraments, Baptism and Holy Eucharist.

I believe that Baptism signifies "entrance into the covenant community".

I believe that the covenant community includes Jesus Christ, all baptized individuals, all churches past, present and future in all parts of the world.

I believe that Baptism is a reminder that in Christ's death we are pardoned, cleansed and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

I believe that the Lord's Supper or Holy Eucharist is a remembrance.

I believe that the Lord's Supper encourages us to remember our history of salvation, Christ's presence in the world today through the Holy Spirit and Christ coming again.

I believe that through the Lord's Supper we are brought into the presence of Jesus Christ to remember His death on the cross, His resurrection and the promise of eternal life.

Holy Scripture

I believe that the scriptures bear witness to the Word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, "the Word became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14)

I believe that Scriptures were written by men under the guidance of the Holy Spirit yet were also influenced by the times and places they were written.

I believe that humankind with prayer and inspiration from the Holy Spirit strive to adapt those inspired words to live holy and joyful lives in the present.

The Church

I believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church.

I believe in One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I believe that the church is charged through the Spirit of Jesus Christ to share the Word of God in every corner of the earth to let everyone know of God's saving grace.

I believe that we are charged by the Spirit of Jesus Christ to love God above all others with every fiber of our being.

I believed that we are charged by the Holy Spirit to love one another as we would love ourselves.