

I believe in the Triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - bound together by love, a community of transformation and power. I believe in God the Father, maker of heaven and earth. Revealed in the Hebrew Scriptures and through Christ, the Father is the ruler over creation, supreme in power (sovereign) and all-knowing (omnipotent). All creation is called into relationship with the Father through the covenant established with his people.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, the Savior and Lord of all, whose incarnation reveals the nature of God. As God beside us, Jesus lived among the poor, outcast and suffering, and calls believers to continue this ministry. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, all sins of humanity were justified, death was conquered and humanity was reconciled with God. Sin is humanity's turning away from God, in thought and deed. Redemption and reconciliation with God only comes through Christ, who has participated in suffering and overcome evil. Jesus was crucified and truly dead, and after three days he was resurrected to true life. He ascended to the right hand of God the Father where he will remain until the end of time. Then, Jesus will return to bring forth a new heaven and a new earth. Until that time, I believe the Church Universal is called to be witnesses to Christ's reign and share God's covenantal love to the ends of the earth. Jesus is the final prophet who fulfilled God's covenant for humanity.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, God within us who breathes life into creation. The Holy Spirit is the initiator of faith and unifier of the body of Christ. God the Holy Spirit fills, transforms, equips and sends the church to share the Good News. Personal transformation and healing is the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit we are sent into the world.

I believe in one holy, apostolic church called into the world as ambassadors for Christ, witnessing to the Good News of Jesus Christ in all relationship. I believe in the priesthood of all believers; all who follow Jesus are witnesses of God's work in the world. The Apostle Paul calls the church in Corinth to be ambassadors for Christ, a reconciled people to God, living into the individual and corporate calling of witness in the world. All who know Jesus as Lord and savior are called to live into our vocation as witnesses.

I hold baptism and holy communion as the sacraments of the church and believe that the sacraments are a sign of the fulfillment of God's covenantal promises and of the grace that God gifts to all believers. Baptism and Holy Communion are a response to hearing the Word proclaimed and are an act of the community of faith as the body of Christ gathers. I believe God speaks to humanity through Scripture. The heart of God is seen in the historical and faith accounts of Scripture. God's covenantal Word in Scripture breathes forth the Gospel - the Good News of God's redemptive work in our lives.