

Rev. Kristin Willett

Statement Of Faith:

I believe in One God who reveals Godself to humanity and is known as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

I believe God is the only eternal being and that everything came into existence through God. God created human beings to be in relationship with God and with each other. Despite God's constant presence and pursuit, humanity continually turned away from God, refusing God's love and fleeing from God's presence. God sent prophets and messengers to try to show God was still present and God wanted to be with them, but the separation was too great and human beings were incapable of getting the message.

I believe God loved us so much that God became flesh and walked among us, to show the world once and for all that indeed God is present, God loves us, and God wants to be with us despite our sin. To show us that there is no distance too great for God to restore our relationship, God sacrificed himself on behalf of God's creation. In rising God broke the stranglehold sin had on our lives and lifted the veil of uncertainty.

The first followers of Jesus began spreading the word of what God had done. More joined in their communities and churches began to form. The essence of the church has always been that it was called into being by God so people can live the new way of life that Jesus ushered in. God's Spirit remains guiding the church and calling more to its ranks. The church is called to exemplify seeking justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God.

As the church has continued from generation to generation it has maintained the sacraments, uniting us with the eternal. In baptism we acknowledge that God claimed us long before we could claim God and that through the waters of baptism we symbolize God's ability to overcome our sin and make us clean again. In the Lord's Supper we recognize that God wants to be in communion with us constantly, that we are to make God a part of who we are and be reflections of the sacrifice made on our behalf.

I believe the Bible is the testimony of generations of believers to who they know God to be, what God has done in the world, and the lengths God will go to be with us. It is the ultimate revelation of who Jesus is and his teachings. It is inspired and set apart by God. God continues to speak through the words of Scripture.

I believe God has gifted each person uniquely and God calls us to use these gifts to serve God and our neighbor. I don't believe these gifts are reserved for the aged or the educated but all people, from the youngest to oldest. All are blessed and capable of serving God with the gifts they possess.

I believe God is at work in the world, that God is calling us to join in that work, and that God is able to do amazing and world-changing deeds through normal people. The scriptures witness to this through the relationships between God and Abraham, Moses, Micah, Paul... I believe God wants to use us too.