

Garrett Mostowski's Statement of Faith

I believe in listening
to the stories of Scripture, the Word of God,
to creation, poets, prophets, pastors, and all God's people,
to the wisdom of those who have gone before us, tradition,
to those hidden by society, the silenced, the outcast, the marginalized,
to silence, prayers spoken and unspoken, the Spirit groaning on our behalf
because the all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present God calls all of us children.

I believe in miracles and in science, in inspiration and molecules,
in creation and evolution, in life and in growth
in freedom and in providence, in death and in resurrection,
because God is always trying to reach us, speak to us in every way.

I believe that God is love,
that I am sinful and in need of love from God and neighbor,
that God has seen all our wicked ways and loved us anyway,
that the church gathers strangers and transforms them into friends,
that the church has authority to teach everyone to love God and neighbor,
that there is a time to learn and a time to teach, a time to laugh and a time to cry,
that there is a time to work and a time to rest, a time to grow and a time to die,
that Sabbath is God's gift of love in a world of busyness, distraction, unending tasks
because I take Jesus at his word when he said, "I have called you friends."

I believe in Jesus, the Christ,
who was tempted and tried,
who sought silence, aloneness in the world and made friends,
who flipped tables and tore curtains, who will come again to judge,
who broke bread, made breakfast, gave thanks, and shared stories,
who healed bodies, touched the untouchable, loved the unlovable
who shed blood on a Roman cross, cried out to God, and wept,
who lives, nonetheless, and reveals our future to us,
because Jesus was sent to show us love, what it meant to live a life devoted to God.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the small silent voice dwelling around, with, and within us,
the one whispering through prayers, silence, scripture, burning bushes, friends, enemies
who is with us even to the end of time, inspiring us, interpreting for us, revealing,
who plants wisdom in our hearts, waters it with love, and shows us the fruit,
who fosters hope and faith in our journey to God as individuals and churches
who walks with us in our fear and trembling of the unknown, the unrevealed,
because Jesus promised to send us a helper, another friend, after his ascension.

I believe in this world, in all humankind,
in the power of relationship with God and neighbor, in companionship, in communion,
in the power of love to mold many into one body, in organization, in institution,
in the power of faith to reveal that the one has come from so many, in creativity, in artistry,
because I believe in the Trinity, God without separation, without division, one and the same. Amen.