

Statement of Faith

The Rev. Heather Woodworth Brannon

I believe in God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, mysteriously and uniquely unified in triune essence.

I believe in a living God,
wise counselor, perfect teacher, faithful friend,
one loving, sovereign God,
the thoughtful creator of all things whose work is infinite,
always present and listening,
incarnate and self-revealed through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ,
eternally bonded to creation through gracious reconciliation.

I believe in Jesus Christ,
compassionate companion, courageous advocate, moral innovator,
fully human and fully divine, God with us, Emmanuel,
modeling love for all people and creation,
suffering beyond human comprehension, conquering sin and death,
our assurance of eternal life, the Messiah who will come again,
the one who reconciles all things to God for the gift of new life.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
constant guide, welcomed liberator, communal sender,
God in and among us,
breaking the old to make way for the new,
a speck of light in the darkness,
calling us to participate in God's robust work,
always accompanying us on the journey ahead.

I believe that humans are broken,
in need of redemption and love,
seeking healing in the wrong places,
yet receiving redemption through God's abundant grace,
freely offered, not earned or rescinded,
we respond with gratitude through faith and action,
binding us together in community to serve the world with justice, peace, and love.

I believe that Word, water, bread, and wine unite us,
the illuminating stories in our sacred scriptures,
our field guide to the wilderness, the rule of faith and life,
the nurturing waters of Baptism, its gift of a new life in Christ,
the sustaining bread and wine of the Lord's Supper,
carefully prepared and set on a communal table, a sign of God's grace offered to all people,
these gifts of thanksgiving unite us as disciples of Christ who transform the world.

I believe that we are called to be the church in the world,
to be the body of Christ,
to worship together with vigor,
to proclaim the gospel with confidence,
to imagine a world without suffering,
to strive for God's justice with compassion,
to perceive what is right,
to pursue it with courage,
and to accomplish it by grace,
always together, never alone,
navigating uncharted territories with open arms and hearts for all of God's children.