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STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in a Trinitarian God: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who created out of nothing with God's might and love all that surrounds us including human beings women and men. God made us in God's image and we reflect it, even if imperfectly since we fall short and sin daily breaking the relationship of life that God wants for and with us. Since the beginning of times until now God is revealed to us through Jesus Christ, Scriptures, creation and other signs but gives us freedom through the guidance of the Holy Spirit to recognize him as our Creator, Lord and Savior, Giver of eternal life and to reflect in our lives and commitments who God is and the purpose of our creation.

To help us understand his love more fully and what he expects from us God sent his only Son Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man born from a virgin Hebrew woman, Mary. Jesus lived and modeled a perfect life among those who surrounded him. He was tempted by the evil one during this earthly life and experienced fully what we experience as humans: joy, pain growth, temptation, doubt and suffering. Nevertheless through perfect trust and obedience to the Father he overcame everything that could have made him slave of sin. He was ready when the time came to obey the Father once again and die on a cross to take on all our sins and allow us to be saved through his sacrifice. He conquered evil and death and resurrected on the third day, allowing us to rejoice in the new life that we now have when we claim his name.

To praise God's name and worship God, to show our unity with God and other Christians and to be encouraged in our daily lives, we meet and celebrate as a body called the Church sustained and empowered by the Holy Spirit. In that community the triune God through the Holy Spirit and those ordained in the faith community continue to teach us, guide us through the preaching, prayers and the administration of both sacraments: baptism and the Lord's Supper. These sacraments are signs of Jesus Christ's real presence and fulfillment of his promises. We are also strengthened through the study of God's word, the Holy Scriptures that are the authoritative word for our lives. As the body of Christ, a community of believers all over the world, we proclaim our faith by words and deeds convicted by the Holy Spirit and incorporated in this community through baptism. Knowing that it is by grace alone and God's love that we enter the community of faith, we practice infant baptism and welcome also adults who proclaim Jesus Christ as their Savior and are baptized as adults.

I believe in the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in a time chosen by God who will then judge all of us and redeem those who are righteous in his eyes as well as his entire creation. Until then we have the Holy Spirit that guides, comforts and moves us to pursue God's mission in the world letting us know that we are never alone. The Holy Spirit gives us a sense of peace and joy as we fulfill our call as followers of Christ. As a body of believers we are required to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8).