

Statement of Faith – Wendy Christianson

As a young girl at the First Presbyterian Church in Virginia, Minnesota in 1968, I memorized, recited and believed THE APOSTLES' CREED which said:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, AND in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

I also confessed and believed that "Jesus is Lord."

Fifty years later, in 2018, I continue to recite and believe the APOSTLES CREED as well confess and believe that "Jesus is Lord."

In addition:

I believe in the grace of the Triune God who is the only and living God. God is one God but is three persons; 1. God the Father, the sovereign Creator 2. God the Son, the incarnated Redeemer and 3. God the Holy Spirit, the earthly Sustainer and Revealer of God's will in the life of Christian believers.

I believe the Holy Bible is the written word of God, revealed and inspired by the Holy Spirit. It describes how God relates to God's people so that we may know and acknowledge God. I believe that the Holy Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, is the foundation of Christian faith, and teaches Christian believers about God's omnipotent love, omniscient wisdom, and omnipresent love, grace and mercy.

I believe Romans 3:23 that says, "since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" , Romans 6:23 that says, "For the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord" and John 3:16 that says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

I believe the Holy Sacraments are the seal of God's promise on our life. We are cleansed in the water of baptism and nourished in communion. The Baptism is our adoption into the body of Christ. The Lord's Supper confirms the promise of resurrection.

I believe that the Church is the community of faith established by Jesus Christ to carry out God's mission of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, sharing the Holy Sacraments and living in covenant life with one another. I believe it is the mission of the Church to reach out to people, communities and the world to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to gather for worship, to offer care and nurture to God's children, to speak for social justice and righteousness, and to bear witness to the truth and reign of God that is coming into the world.

I believe that we are called to be beacons of light in a broken world, proclaiming God's love for all.

Amen