

Statement of Faith – Ann Melick

I believe in the sovereign triune God of Israel. God the Father created all things good and makes everyone equal in his image. He is faithful, but we rebel. We sin. We deserve God's condemnation, but God offers us justice and mercy. God loves us.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, my Lord. He was begotten of the Father, became incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary for our sake: fully God and fully human. Jesus came to preach good news to the poor, release captives, teach us by His life and His words, heal the sick, restore the brokenhearted, forgive sinners, and call us to repent and believe the good news. Jesus was unjustly condemned and crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered as he gave his life for the sins of the world. He was buried and rose from the dead three days later, breaking the power of sin and evil! He delivered us from death to life eternal! He ascended to heaven to sit at God's right side. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom is eternal. We accept God's free gift of grace when we trust Christ as our Lord and Savior.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the giver of life. The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son, with whom the Spirit is worshiped and glorified. The Spirit inspired and spoke through the prophets and apostles, calls and equips us for belief and ministry, and binds all believers together in one holy universal church of Jesus Christ.

I believe there is one baptism in response to God's grace, and it is our adoption into God's covenant family through Christ. I believe in the communion of God's people with Christ at the Lord's Supper. As we share the meal together, we reconcile with God and each other.

I believe the Bible is the living Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit, that testifies to Jesus Christ wherever it is read, heard, and preached. I believe that prayer is a powerful means of communicating with God, and is at the heart of personal and corporate worship.

I believe that followers of Jesus Christ are commanded to love God and love others in our mission to make disciples of all who answer God's call, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.