

## Carol C. Fisher

### Statement of Faith:

I believe in, and strive to be a faithful disciple of, the one triune God. God as Creator loves us as the perfect parent, in spite of our unworthiness, and reaches out to us even in our sinful state. Wanting to be in relationship with us, God as Christ, fully God and fully human, attempted to teach us how to live out God's intention for us. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus demonstrated God's complete love for us, and made it possible for our relationship with God to be restored. When we invite Christ to be our Lord and Savior, our reconciliation with God is accomplished. As the Holy Spirit, God guides, comforts and empowers us in a real and living way.

God is revealed through the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, which are authoritative for faith and practice. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, God continues to be revealed through scripture and through the lives of people of faith. This revelation makes it possible for humanity to understand what God expects of us.

Forgiven and renewed, we are called by God to live faithful lives of discipleship and to minister in God's name – feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, sheltering the homeless, supporting the weak and oppressed, working for change in the world and sharing the Good News of God's love and grace. God calls us to live in fellowship with one another, to worship and glorify God, and to grow constantly in faith and knowledge through a life of prayer, study and devotion. As the body of Christ, the Church is a primary avenue for fulfilling these callings.

The sacraments of Baptism and Communion are signs and seals of God's grace. Through Baptism, our cleansing takes a physical form and we are initiated into the covenant community. In the presence of other believers, we affirm God's promise that we are not alone. Baptism further affirms that God claims us with an unmerited love and grace even before we are able to respond. Through the Lord's Supper, we remember Christ's life and sacrifice, celebrate his living presence, join in fellowship with Christ and saints of all times and places, as we are nourished with the bread of life.

God calls us to an adventure of faith, challenging us daily to demonstrate God's love for all people and to discover and use the gifts with which we have been blessed. I use my life to reflect God's love to the world and to give thanks for the great adventure of faith for, as the prophet Jeremiah affirms, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (29:11). I seek to discern God's plan for me and for the congregation I am called to serve as we give thanks for the hope we have in Christ.