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STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe that God is the creator and maker of life and God created humans in the image of God, as Gen 1:27 states. Since we are made in the image of God, I believe that the divine nature indwells within each of us, which makes the essence of humanity good. Because we are made in the image of God we are called into relationship with both God and our neighbors, God's beloved children. Humanity however sinned and strayed from God's intentions and because of this we have fallen and are depraved. In our sin our relationships with God and with one another have been corrupted. Even in our depraved state, our essence is still good because we are made in the image of God.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the savior of the world and the head of the church. Jesus, being both fully divine and fully human, is God with humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection we have been given new life, in which we have been given grace even when we don't deserve it. This grace is shown to us through the sacraments of baptism and communion, where we are joined together with the church universal. Through the waters of Baptism, we join the church universal through God's covenant and are made one with God and one another. Through joining together at the table of Communion, we share together the feast of God with the church that has gone before us, the church present, and the church to come. I believe that we are called to love the outcast, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and fight to overturn the injustices of the world as directed by Jesus himself in Matt 25. Christ ascended into heaven until he comes again to bring forth God's eternal kingdom.

I believe that the Holy Spirit breathes and moves around and through us in all that we do. It is through the work of the Spirit that we are bound together into one body of Christ, the church. I believe that the church is ever changing and as the reformed faith we are always reforming. Through this ever-changing church the Holy Spirit is allowed to work freely in guiding us and moving us to the needs of our community and the world through the work of the church. It is through that guiding of the Holy Spirit that the church is able to serve the people of God and be the hands and feet of Christ. It is through that same guiding and moving by the Holy Spirit that allows us to experience the will of God through the Holy Scriptures. The Holy Scriptures are the authoritative Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit which allows us to experience God afresh and new each day.

As Romans 8:38-39 states, nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God. No matter how badly we mess up or try and run, the one Triune God is still there ready to show us love and grace and forgiveness. Since nothing can separate us from the love of God, we are then called to go out into the world and show God's love to all through the power of reconciliation and grace.