

## Michael York Statement of Faith

I believe in one triune God, whom I am called to glorify and enjoy forever.

I believe in God, who created the entire world—from the nature around me to the people I love, and even the people I struggle to love. I believe I belong to God through grace, the “free gift” God gives me. Through the waters of Baptism, God has called me into relationship and marked me as his own. Just as God called the mothers and fathers of Israel, and called Israel into relationship, God calls me. Like Israel, I know that I fall short of the calling God has on my life because I am a sinner, but God reacts to me with justice and mercy.

I believe Jesus Christ was God-with-us. Jesus experienced the joys and pains of being fully human, yet he was without sin. He loved, rejoiced, and wept with those around him. Jesus overcame the quagmire of sin because he was also fully God. I believe that Jesus suffered death on a cross for my sins, and I believe that he overcame death giving us eternal life. God has continually called God’s people into covenant relationship, but we have done everything in our power to break that covenant. In the Eucharist we are reminded that Christ did everything in his power to promise us a new covenant—a new way to be in relationship with God.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, who empowers me to serve Christ and others in all that I do, and moves through me to give me strength to live out my calling. The Spirit moves in and through God’s people to call the Church to be witnesses and partners for God’s work in the world. By the Spirit, the Church is able to hear the Word of God proclaimed in Scripture, gains courage to live out the Word of God, and answer the call to be God’s presence in a not-near-perfect world.

I believe that God was, is, and will always be. There is nothing we can do that will make God go away, nor is there anything we can do that will make God turn away from us. The triune God frees us and calls us into relationship. In gratitude may we glorify God and enjoy God forever.