

My statement of faith is a confession of the mysteries of God that are perfectly and fully revealed in Jesus Christ.¹ I believe...

- ...in the mystery of the Trinity: All three persons of God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—have existed and shall always exist as a united essence.²
- ...in the mystery of Creation: This Sovereign God humbled Himself, in order to be in relationship with us by intimately creating the whole world, and specifically humanity.³ He knows in exact detail what our hopes, dreams and fears would become⁴ as we became bearers of God's image⁵ and given the responsibility to care for all of creation.⁶
- ...in the mystery of Original Sin: Through Adam and Eve's rebellion, humanity has become separated from our loving Father.⁷ Ingrained in our hearts is a longing to be in relationship with God,⁸ but that has been disrupted by our prideful desire to control our own destiny.⁹
- ...in the mystery of the Incarnate Christ: God came to Earth in our likeness in order to save us;¹⁰ through God's humiliation, we are exalted.¹¹ The Son being born as Jesus reveals God's desire to live, minister, suffer and experience the consequences of sin on our behalf us.¹² The Son, in the form Jesus, is fully human and fully divine.¹³
- ...in the mystery of the Crucifixion: The only way humanity can be reunited with God is through Jesus Christ's relationship with us, because Jesus's death upon the cross paid for our sinful rebellion.¹⁴ The fallen world has been permanently altered because He became powerfully weak upon the cross, which shows the depth of God's willingness to pursue humanity.¹⁵
- ...in the mystery of the Resurrection: Inseparable from the crucifixion, the empty tomb reveals God's willingness to overcome the powers of sin and complete God's reunion with humanity.¹⁶ Even Jesus Christ, who took on all sin at the cross, was beaten to the point of shedding blood and was abandoned by God for three days, was bodily resurrected and restored;¹⁷ the resurrection reveals that our sin has also been sufficiently paid.¹⁸ This act of divine love allows Christ's followers to be transformed by the Living Lord.¹⁹
- ...in the mystery of the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is helping us to progress, both individually and as a community, to a full and flawless reunion with God through Jesus Christ.²⁰ The Holy Spirit is the directing agent for the church, initiating and leading communities towards a restored unity with God, one another and the world.²¹
- ...in the mystery of Scripture: God has orchestrated a true story that, for each of us, holds eternal implications for and direct authority over our lives.²² Led by the illumination of the Holy Spirit, all of the scriptures are transformed from their particular cultural manifestations into the eternal and universal Living Word that reveal perfectly and completely the will of God through Jesus Christ for our daily lives.²³
- ...in the mystery of the Church: A perfect God has equipped a group of fallen human beings to be His body.²⁴ As individuals, we stumble through the darkness of life, but by God's grace the corporate body becomes the light of Christ to the world.²⁵ Through Christ-centered worship, education, fellowship and service,²⁶ the church is sent to proclaim the Gospel so all may see Jesus.²⁷
- ...in the mystery of the sacraments: Through Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the Church demonstrates God's covenant and sacrifice for us. Baptism visibly demonstrates God's grace that is poured down upon us as we die to all that separates from God and rise to new life in Christ.²⁸ The Lord's Supper opens our eyes to Christ's resurrected presence in our lives.²⁹
- ...in the mystery of Heaven: God is creating and working within the world to bring the fullness of the Kingdom of God, of which we are given glimpses of it even now.³⁰ Since death has been conquered, our eternal life does not begin at death, but now as we follow Jesus Christ.³¹ Heaven is not a replacement of the old order, but rather it is a perfected renewal of the relationship that was supposed to be in the garden.³²

These are the wonderfully real and deeply mysterious aspects of faith that have given me the humility and confidence necessary to profess Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and to live out that faith daily.

Scriptural References

- ¹ Colossians 1:25-27
- ² Genesis 1:1-3
- ³ Genesis 2
- ⁴ Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew. 10:29-31
- ⁵ Genesis. 1:26
- ⁶ Genesis 1:28, 2:15
- ⁷ Romans. 3:23
- ⁸ Matthew 11:28
- ⁹ Proverbs 3:34
- ¹⁰ 1 Timothy 1:15
- ¹¹ Philippians. 2:5-11.
- ¹² Isaiah 53.
- ¹³ Colossians 2:9.
- ¹⁴ Romans 6:23
- ¹⁵ John 3:16.
- ¹⁶ Hebrews 2:14-15
- ¹⁷ 1 Corinthians 15:8
- ¹⁸ 1 Peter. 3:18
- ¹⁹ Galatians 2:20.
- ²⁰ 1 Corinthians 12:3
- ²¹ Acts 1:8.
- ²² Joshua 1:8.
- ²³ 2 Timothy. 3:16-17.
- ²⁴ 1 Corinthians12
- ²⁵ Matthew 5:14-17
- ²⁶ Acts 2:42,
- ²⁷ John 12:21; Matthew 28:20ff
- ²⁸ Romans 6:4
- ²⁹ Luke 24:30-1
- ³⁰ Matthew 6:10
- ³¹ Luke 19:9
- ³² Revelation 21