

Lauren R. March

### Statement of Faith

I believe in God, the Almighty, who created the heavens and the earth and everything that has been and will be. I believe this God is the God of Israel, who led God's faithful people out of the land of Egypt, through the wilderness, and into the land which God promised to them. God created everything and called it good, and God gave humans the free will to live and love as they decided. But the first humans, Adam and Eve, sinned against God, and this world became fallen. In order to repair this broken promise between humans and God, a great sacrifice - a divine sacrifice - was needed in order to save the souls of human sinners. I believe God took on flesh and became human in order to take on the sins of the world. God sent God's only son, Jesus Christ, to accomplish this task. This human, Jesus Christ, is both son of man and son of God. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He lived and preached the good news of God's grace, he was crucified, died, and was buried, and descended into Hell. After three days he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father in heaven. At the end of all things, Jesus will return and judge between all those who have lived, welcoming only the select into the Kingdom of Heaven. I believe that God forgives all sins, and that no one will be turned away from the gates of Heaven who confess their sins to God.

I believe in the trinitarian God, who is One God but takes form in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that God created all people in God's image, so that each one of us is a child of God, and thus are all born with inherent dignity. God created us because God loved us, and God created us for the purpose of having a relationship with God, both in this world and the next. I believe in the resurrection of the dead, and that those who confess their faith and Jesus as Lord will be with the King in heaven after life on earth. I believe in the catholic Church, and that all who claim to be members of this church seek to go on in the same way as Jesus Christ. We are all called to be in relationship with God our Creator and to share the good news of Jesus Christ with all God's children.