

## Faith Statement of Rev. Dr. Leah Hrachovec

I believe that the God who created all is the same One who became incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ. This God continues to be with us always by the power and communion of the Holy Spirit,  
One Triune God,  
the One self-named "I AM,"  
the Holy One of Israel.

I believe in God the Creator, the one whom Jesus called "Abba, Father."  
God created all that was and is and ever will be;  
    called the creation good;  
    decries sin and condemns it with righteous anger;  
    and hears the cries of God's people.  
God covenants with us, and remains faithful even when we fail.

God came to dwell among us through the person of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Born of Mary, adopted by Joseph,  
    this Son is fully human and fully divine.

God so loved us that God became one of us and died for the sins of this world. In Jesus' life, death and resurrection we live in the hope and promise that God is always doing a new thing<sup>1</sup> in God's people and within the whole of creation.  
Christ invites us to table fellowship with him and with one another,  
    nourishes our whole selves that we might respond with our  
    whole selves,  
    and shows us the Way of perfect obedience to God.  
While yet sinners, we are a forgiven and redeemed people by God's grace alone.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who moves us in new and transformative ways;  
    who gives and renews life, and moves us to respond faithfully.  
The Holy Spirit illuminates Scripture as the Living Word of God,  
    claims and unites us in the waters of baptism;  
    connects us to Christ and the communion of saints in the sharing of bread and cup;  
    comforts the grieving, lost and weary;  
    yet pushes us into the wildernesses of life,  
        continually reminding us of God's sovereign justice and love for the cosmos.

The Triune God acts at all times with freedom and with love, and empowers us to respond with worship and joyful service to God.

God calls the church to rejoice in and give witness to the good news of Jesus Christ and discern together *missio dei*: God's vision for the world and for humanity.  
God summons the church into being to live in authentic and compassionate community, and God also acts outside the bounds of the church.  
God moves us to continually consider our beliefs and actions, ever mindful that God is always doing the work of reformation and transformation in our personal lives, in our communities, and in the world.

We belong to God in life and in death, and nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.<sup>2</sup>  
    We rest in this assurance above all others.