

## Statement of Faith of Enikő Ferenczy

God is eternal and infinite spirit, who out of love and goodness, created the universe. Men and women were created in God's image to worship and glorify God with our whole being, and to care for all of God's creation. Although throughout history human beings have continuously turned away from God, and have been utterly unable to leave their sinful condition on their own, God's unfathomable love never ceases toward creation, and is ready to reconcile with us, to guide and sustain our lives. We have a guide for our relationship with God and with each other in the Scriptures—the inspired word of God.

Jesus Christ is God incarnate, who lived a fully human life as God's divine Son. He is our living example of how to live as forgiven and reconciled children of God; how to seek out God's will for our lives. Honoring God in all that he did, Christ loved all. Yet, like Old Testament prophets, he spoke up especially on behalf of those on the margins. Through his obedience to God, Christ threatened and unsettled people until the sinfulness of humanity crucified him on the cross. Christ willingly suffered for all and died to reconcile humanity and the whole created order to God. In Christ's resurrection, God's love triumphed over sin and death. In Christ's life, death, and resurrection, we receive faith, hope, and love for this life and life eternal.

The Holy Spirit is God moving in and through history. It is the source that enables us to recognize God's presence; it calls us back to God's love and justifies us by grace through faith. She directs us and gives us courage to live life with bold trust and hope; following Christ to work for justice, freedom, and peace.

The Church is the covenant community of believers gathered by the Holy Spirit as the body of Christ. In the Church, God's Spirit can be seen, experienced, and celebrated through the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist as visible signs of God's invisible grace. In baptism, God claims us as children of God. Through the waters of baptism we are cleansed by the Spirit and receive forgiveness for our sins; rebirthed by the Holy Spirit as a new creation, we are engrafted into the body of Christ and called into a covenant relationship with God and one another. Through the Lord's Supper, the Holy Spirit joins us together in an act of remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection with the Triune God and with all believers of every time and place. When we eat the bread and drink the wine we receive the very real spiritual and sustaining presence of the risen Christ; we remember God's covenant with us, and we pledge anew our commitment, both individually and corporately, to serve God's world. The Church is called to bring the Gospel message of God's reconciling love to the world; to be a new reality for the world made possible through Jesus Christ. In the Church, people can experience and called to bring forth the reign of God as it unfolds already here on earth, even as we await in hope its fulfilment.