

## Statement of Faith Bruce Miller

I believe God is the creator of all things.

I believe God created all things through God's *chesed* (a Hebrew word meaning God's unique love for creation, often translated as "steadfast love"), which is beyond full human comprehension. And by God's *chesed*, God created humanity in God's image (*imago Dei*) and imputed each of us with God's goodness.

I believe the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are the triune God, interacting in a close intimate relationship and working for the good of all things.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Word of God incarnate, fully human, fully God.

I believe the Bible to be the written Word of God, which tells the story of God's *chesed* for all creation.

I believe God and science exist without conflict. Science is humankind's exploration of the unknown, and God's presence is in every discovery.

I believe that rebellion against God, or sin, was introduced by humanity, as depicted in the Garden of Eden, is both individual and corporate. Humanity's selfish desires reject God's original design, as demonstrated through the life of Jesus Christ. I believe the only cure for this disconnect is found in the *chesed* of Jesus Christ for all creation.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Messiah. He died on the cross for all people, and on the third day, he was resurrected and now resides in heaven at the right hand of God.

I believe the Gospel articulates the story of Jesus' life and ministry across the ages, identifying him as the Messiah and Redeemer of all people. And that by his salvific death and resurrection, he reconciled the broken relationship between God and all humanity.

I believe confessing oneself as a Christian is admitting our shortcomings and imperfections while turning to God for mercy. Being a Christian is not passive but rather demands our highest loyalty to take up our cross, following the command of Jesus to love God and love others through action.

I believe that the Holy Spirit intercedes with humanity on God's behalf and communicates with God on humanity's behalf. The Holy Spirit is humanity's advocate and guide, continuously interacting with and speaking to us, revealing God's will for our lives.

I believe we are united in Jesus through the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the sacraments. Sharing in his life, death, and resurrection so that we will all be gathered as one family at his holy table one day.

I believe that Jesus will return one day in glory to judge all people by the *chesed* of God.

I believe that God does not change, but humanity's understanding of God continues to mature as we experience God's *chesed* through all aspects of life.

I believe the role of the Christian church is to bear witness to the *chesed* of God for all people through its active involvement in the community by loving all people and serving the least of these.