

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

**Dwayne Black Jr.**

### **God:**

I believe there is only one true and living God, who created, preserves and rules over the universe.

### **The Trinity:**

I believe in the triune God; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. I believe through the Holy Spirit our lives are made into a new creation.

I believe that the Holy Spirit, is the spirit that inspired the ancient prophets and apostles, and is the same spirit that inspires us today. This Spirit is leading us to be the church of Jesus Christ. A church filled with gratitude, grace and love and courage that searches for both justice and freedom for the most marginalized.

### **Jesus:**

I believe and trust in Jesus Christ. Jesus was both fully human and fully God. Jesus came to proclaim the good news that the kingdom of God is upon us.

Jesus calls us to value the image of God in all people, everywhere. Through Jesus we are called to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and to love our neighbor as ourself.

I believe Jesus is the Son of God, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus suffered and was crucified and resurrected from the dead. Jesus gave his life as atonement for the sins of the world. I believe in the living transforming message of the resurrected Jesus.

I believe through Christ Jesus, the "Word" who claims us as His own, both in the waters of baptism and the feeding of us with the bread of life and the cup of the new covenant.

I believe that Jesus is God in human form and the church is God's ongoing presence in the world.

I believe Jesus calls his church to be a compelling force for good in the world.

### **Scripture:**

I believe the Bible; the Old and New Testaments; are the inherent and infallible word of God.

I believe the Bible to be the voice of many who have come before us, inspired by God to pass along their poems, stories, accounts, and letters of response and relationship with each other and the living God.

I believe our understanding of the Bible is a constant progressive revelation that leads us to ongoing reformation.

### **The Church:**

I believe the Church, led by the Spirit of God, is called to be passionate about relieving suffering and fighting injustice.

I believe the the Church of Jesus Christ is inclusive not exclusive.

I believe Love Wins!