

Statement of Faith, Paula M. Isgrig:

I believe in a powerful, redeeming, loving God. God shows Godself as a protective father, a nurturing mother, a friend and confidant, a Savior, and a breath of fresh air. These are a few of the many aspects of God in which I find wholeness in a broken world. We are known by God individually and as a community. God gave the world Jesus, so that we might see what love is in an unadulterated form. However, the difficulties in life are sometimes too hard to bear and our faith disintegrates; yet, God breathes new life into us through the Holy Spirit.

I believe in God the Savior, one with the Creator. God became flesh among us. Jesus Christ lived and worked in the world, who calls us to follow and do greater things than his ministry allowed, who died on the cross and rose from the dead for all people.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, my guide, who is one with the Creator and the Savior. The Holy Spirit brings me into communion with others—past, present, and future. This Spirit we call holy welcomes all and allows us to become God's hands and feet, instruments of justice and peace.

Presbyterians recognize two Sacraments—Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These are visible signs of God's grace that we see at work in our lives. God's grace happens within the sacrament of baptism and we are called to respond. When we are baptized, we are included in a community of believers throughout time and history. The Lord's Supper is Christ making himself known in breaking bread and sharing cup in community. Though mysterious, we experience the presence and power of Jesus Christ in a special way when we share this sacrament. We are reminded that though we sin, God's grace covers us fully.

Worship and service are two aspects at the heart of the community of faith. Worshipping together is our witness to God's work in the world. Worship is one of the responses we are called to give a generous God who acts on our behalf. Serving others is another way we respond to God's generosity. We learn how to serve looking to Christ Jesus and the way her served others with compassion and fierce grace. As we worship and serve together we share beautiful expressions of faith. The Spirit moves every time we worship and serve together using our hearts and voices, combining in unity and love. Worship and serving others allows us to see the bigger picture. We are reminded of God's grace, love, and promise of hope. From our experiences together, we journey into the world to proclaim Good News to all.

As Christians we are called to demonstrate God's love through Jesus Christ's life and death to the world. Jesus took risks, we too need to take risks to continue the development of the kingdom of God on earth. The Church provides a place where we can come to the table and share our lives with each other, whether we agree or disagree.