

# Brief Statement of Faith

## Dan Milford

I believe in the One Holy, Eternal, and Triune God,  
Creator of all things perceivable and unperceivable by us,  
of all things that have been, that are, and that are yet to come,  
even of time and space themselves.

I believe in this Creator God,  
who, while being far greater and far broader  
than the human mind can ever hope to grasp or categorize,  
yet calls us into relationship,  
seeking us out both as individuals and as communities,  
pursuing us when we are lost or have strayed,  
and inviting us into the intimacy of calling our Almighty Creator, "Father."

I believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son incarnate,  
who emptied himself,  
to become subject to our condition,  
to leave no doubt in our minds of his accessibility to all of us,  
and to model for us the self-emptying to which we are called;  
who perfectly taught and showed us what it means to be human,  
focusing not on his own comfort but on fulfilling God's purpose for him,  
living out his love for God through his love and compassion for others,  
exposing the hypocrisy of the Pharisees' legalism,  
while also calling his followers to fully live out the heart of the law,  
demonstrating how to love and forgive even one's enemies,  
and challenging his disciples to follow him in all these things;  
and who suffered and died so that  
the powers of sin and death might be broken in our world,  
we might see the depth and resilience of his love,  
we might come to accept him as Lord of our lives,  
and we might be reconciled with God.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
that Wild Wind that blows through the world,  
transforming human lives,  
exalting the weak and oppressed and humbling the strong,  
thrusting people of faith into action,  
and empowering us to recognize and accept God's gift of grace to us;  
and that Comforter who comes to dwell within us;  
leading us to deeper communion with God and with others,  
endowing us with gifts for the ministry of the Church,  
emboldening us to act with courage and truth,  
and interceding in our prayers when words fail us.

And I believe in the Holy Universal Church, the Body of Christ in the world,  
that is sent out to make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them to obey Christ,  
that remembers the One who gives it life  
and is nourished in its ministry through grace received as it shares common loaf and common cup,  
and that though imperfect and split into many denominations and factions,  
yet remains God's primary, chosen, and beloved instrument  
for revealing and giving his grace to the nations,  
and yet remains the bearer of hope for a broken world.