

Confession of faith for our times

I believe in God alone
and need not to adore anything in the world.

All that exists refers to him.
Nothing exists without him.
He is mighty in all that is and all that happens.
He is greater than all that we can experience or think.
Thus he "lives in inaccessible light".
This can be known by reason.

But because of Jesus
my trust is a faith
that exceeds even reason:
I am sheltered in the love of God.

God turns himself to us and the entire world
in a love that exists from all eternity
as a love going from God to God:
This is the love between the Father and the Son
and is the Holy Spirit.
Only by being taken up in this love
it is possible for us
to be in communion with God.

The Son has in Jesus, sent in the Holy Spirit,
through Mary taken our human nature and is born of her,
in order to proclaim to us in human word
this love of God, and thus our communion with God.
For this love does not find its measure in the world,
and therefore cannot be deduced from the world;
we can only know it through his word:

No power of this world, not even death,
suffices to separate us from our communion with God.

Jesus has borne witness to this message
in giving his life:
Because of his liberating message
and because he had found followers for this message
he was put to death on the cross
by those who dominate others through fear.

But death could not prevail over him:
Jesus lives for ever in the glory of God.

I believe in him as the Son of God.

This means:
I participate in his relation to the Father;
through his word I know myself and the entire world
to be taken up in this love
without condition and for all eternity.
Thus I no longer need to be ruled by fear for myself
which otherwise lies at the root of all moral evil.

To believe in Jesus as the Son of God
is to be filled of his Holy Spirit.

We do not possess this faith of ourselves,
but we receive it
from the community of those who believed before us:
the Church
in which the Holy Spirit unites all believers
with Christ and one another.

Like Jesus, so now also those who believe
are "born not of the will of man but of God".

It is the task of the Church
to transmit the word of God
that comes to us from Jesus.
The word accepted is celebrated in the sacraments.
In the Eucharist our faith lives from Jesus himself
just as our earthly life depends on food and drink.

The communion with God proclaimed in this word
converts evil in the past to good
and makes reconciliation possible.
It is eternal life for everyone.
For "in Christ God has reconciled the world to himself".
Therefore those who believe in this way
have hope on behalf of all people.

The Spirit of Jesus is already at work manifestly
wherever people live without being dominated by fear.

The fruits of this faith in our world
are love, and actions full of love;
actions which do not repay evil with evil
but evil with good and good with good.
For such love we are created.

Amen.