

**Patricia B. Lowe**  
**MY PERSONAL STATEMENT OF FAITH**

I was reared in a household that was ruled by the scripture, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." I did not have an option when it came to attending Sunday Worship service, studying the scriptures, praying and learning about the love of Jesus. My mother was determined that she would adhere to the scripture of Proverbs 22:6 and train her children in the way that they should go and when they were older they would not depart from that way.

As I matured in Christ, I found that I did not feel that I was worshipping and studying because my mother insisted, instead there was a genuine urge to explore and attempt to understand the Word of God and the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. Because of my explorations and studies, my faith in God is stronger than ever. **My belief is that God is Sovereign, Creator of heaven and earth.** God alone is Lord of all. My faith in God assures me that God is the absolute ruler and protector of everything that God created. **I am ever amazed when I contemplate the unfathomable and awesome work of God's love and grace. I am even more amazed when I think of how God took the time to make an insignificant creature like me, and in God's own image at that!**

It is my testimony that in my life, God touches on everything, not just in the sense of "being a witness," but in the sense that everything concerning my call, the church particular, and my praise and worship is a way to worship God, serve God or experience God. Suddenly, all of life, not just witnessing, listening to sermons, reading scripture, etc. becomes part of my experience of knowing God.

My Christian journey has not been easy. The road has been rough. There have been many storms in my life and many mountains that I have had to get over. I realize that it may never get any easier, however, I have come to the realization that God isn't through molding and preparing me for the work that God has called me to do. As I continue to mature spiritually, the more excited I am about Jesus. The more personal time that I spend with Jesus, the more I come to see glimmers of what it really means to know him and be known by him. I now have few doubts that God is at work in my life for his glory and my benefit.

In the midst of knowing God through Jesus, I'm rediscovering that I am a member of the human race, deeply connected to all other persons in creation and my sinfulness. **As stated in the Book of Order, I have no need to be ostentatious regarding my relationship with God in Christ Jesus. I concentrate on my belief that Jesus Christ is God Incarnate, the only begotten Son of the Living God. I fully trust the words of the Apostle's Creed that assure eternal life in Christ for those who believe.**

I believe and depend on the Holy Spirit to renew, sustain and guide me, then bind me together with all believers in the **Universal Church (body) of Christ.** The Holy Spirit constrains me to serve God faithfully, practice good stewardship of God's creation, proclaim God's love, grace and forgiveness, and invite others to share in the Good News that Jesus is the Christ, Son of the living God.

I study the Bible as my guide to truth and relevance. I believe that the Bible is the authoritative and inspired Word of God. The authority and application of Scripture has been and will always be my standard for success.

I serve others with the talents God has given me. I use my gifts from God to encourage, assist, uplift, and to share the gospel with God's people.

I have been greatly assisted in my spiritual growth by the disciplines that I have adopted such as reading and reflecting on the Scriptures, praying, fasting, participating in corporate and private worship and staying focused on God.

I have been blessed by God to have a Pastor that has always been graciously available to me for consultation when there is a spiritual or personal issue that I need to discuss with him. I have regular consultations with my Pastor and am able to openly discuss any issue with him freely and without reservation.

Finally, I believe that Jesus Christ will return to this earth, personally, bodily, and visibly to establish His glorious reign in a kingdom that will never end. As the sovereign Lord, He will resurrect and judge all humanity. *"At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens."* Mark 13:26-27. I look toward the day that I will hear Jesus say "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."