

Marie Constance Cone
Statement of Faith

*I believe that the truth of the Gospel is the message of Christian hope,
A story of brokenness and restoration, A story of sin and grace,
A story that assures us again and again that nothing can separate us from the love of the one triune God.
It is God the Creator, the Father, who spoke the world into being, Who breathed life into 'adam
Who created man and woman to live in community
Whose handiwork still causes me to marvel when I look at the stars,
In whose image we were created, and whose image I yet see reflected in my daughters' faces and in my
husband's eyes.
The creator seeks always to be with the creation
~ In the Garden and in the Wilderness
~ In Jerusalem and in Babylon
Yet that fellowship has been broken by humanity, and we find ourselves at odds with God, ourselves,
each other. And so
God the Redeemer became the Word incarnate, Jesus Christ, the Son
A particular man born in a particular time who came to restore these broken relationships Once more the
Creator was
with the creation
~ As a baby in the manger, fully God and fully human
~ As a Jewish rabbi teaching with amazing authority
~ As an innocent man condemned to die for the sins of others
~ As our Lord, coming again in glory.
In His life, death, and resurrection men and women are restored once more to God, ourselves, each
other.
This restoration is the Creator's gift of grace, and without this gift we remain broken. But with this gift we
begin to live
once more, forever more, God with us, Immanuel.
And it is God the Sustainer, the Spirit, who breathes this grace into us
The Spirit gives us eyes to see, ears to hear, minds to comprehend what God the Creator the Redeemer
has done, that
we might turn and be healed
It is the Sustainer who enables us to live more and more in the presence of God, shaping our spirits like
the wind shapes
the trees, nourishing our faith through the sacraments, encouraging us by these visible signs of God's
invisible grace:
cleansing us, drowning us, restoring us in the water of baptism; feeding us, connecting us, reminding us
with the bread
and wine of communion
It is the Sustainer who binds us once more to God, ourselves, each other, calling together the Church,
binding us together
as one witness to God's desire for healing and restoration
For while there may be many expressions of faith, there is but one Church, and because the Church is
the visible
expression of God with Us, the Sustainer continually calls us to be reconciled reconcilers, healed healers,
living God's
Word of hope, restoration, and healing in a broken world
It is in the Scriptures that this great story is told,
The story that begins in the Old Testament and is fulfilled in the New, Whose authors and editors and
readers are
inspired by God
It is the story of Creator-Redeemer-Sustainer: one Triune God: Father-Son-Holy Spirit
This is the story that enables us to make sense of the past, gives us strength for today, and promises
bright hope for tomorrow
Amen and Amen*

Marie Cone Bio

Pastor Marie just finished serving as Interim Pastor of Peace Presbyterian Church in Winterville, NC. Prior to that, she served four churches in the Presbytery of Philadelphia as Interim Pastor, Installed Pastor, or Stated Supply. Her first career was in banking, which she left to raise three daughters. She started seminary when the youngest started school. She and Larry have been married 36 years. Their youngest daughter, Ellie, lives with them. The older two, Liz and Meg, are both married and live in the Philadelphia area. Liz and Ken have a delightful daughter, Bea, who is 14 months old. Marie will show you pictures of Bea if you ask her, and probably will even if you don't. They also have three cats, and pictures of them are also available.