

Creed by Jim Hug, SJ

Do you believe in God, creator of the immensity of time and space, who personally knows and cares about each person in the small moments of your lives? Do you believe in God who is intensely person, like a father, but much more than a father. Like a mother, but much more than a mother? Who ultimately is MYSTERY and before whom we must stand wordless and in awe?

Do you believe in Jesus as the special foundation of our knowledge of God who sometimes used images of men and fathers, who sometimes used images of women and mothers to try to help us sense the incredible power and sensitive intimacy of God's love? Do you believe in Jesus as the one who called people beyond their personal wounds and illnesses to be witnesses of God's healing love and comfort? Do you believe in Jesus who from the cross in agony found the strength to love and forgive those who betrayed, tortured and executed him and who rose to offer comfort, love, and hope?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit of God, given to us to enable us to forgive and comfort, heal and rebuild communities of hope and love in global solidarity? Do you believe in the community of faith living in that Spirit that has the strength to tread on the serpent that tempts us to revenge, to hatred, to discrimination, and to intolerance, and to tread on the scorpions of distrust and fear, and to come away with our power to love and forgive and comfort unharmed? Do you believe that you are a community in Christ's Spirit called every day to spread this hope and comfort in rebuilding our community, our church, our nation, our world? Are you willing and grateful to live in this Spirit all the days of your life and through your death and re-birth into everlasting Life?

We give you our deepest thanks, our Loving God, through Christ our Lord and in the living Spirit. Amen.