

## Wilderness Words



## Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—June 9, 2011

### Vicar Notes:

During Easter season, there's been a recurrent theme in our services at Spirit of the Wilderness—of faith and doubt and how those are expressed. One of the things I love most about the way we do church at Spirit is that it's been a conversation—not just me talking to myself—as different people have given homilies around these themes... Some of our conversation has ended up focusing around the creed.

The creed is placed in the service after the ministry of the word—the readings and the homily—and is meant to be the congregation's response to the word. Hear the word, hear the homily, and say, "We believe...." Many of us have agreed that it hasn't felt that way to us...it's been more like "it's that time in the service so now we say the creed."

At our worship committee meeting the other night we decided to try something new over the next month or so—using the Affirmation of Faith from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer. It expresses the creed in a somewhat different way, especially since it is addressed to God—(see right).

I would challenge us all to see if this version gives us more sense that we are together responding in a meaningful way to God's word. We'll discuss later!

Blessings, + Mary Ellen



Affirmation of Faith  
You, O god, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
Good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
You love for us in Jesus Christ,  
Who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

- June 10th: 5-7 Hedstrom opening—Johnson Heritage Post.
- June 12th: Food shelf collection at church.
- June 15th: Bishop's Committee Meeting.
- Deepening Roots Two spaces left.....