

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology is to train people to be competent in the study of the text, soul, and culture in order to serve God and neighbor through transforming relationships.

Organizations operate out of a set of practices, stated and implicit. Several years ago, The Seattle School chose a monastic term, *The Rule* as a statement of its way of life. It was both aspirational and an intentional way to assess growth, missional alignment, and operational practices within the organization as it reflected our connection to God and intention to practice the spirituality of Christ in our life together. In 2019, *The Rule* was refined, articulated, and intentionally aligned with our Core Themes of formation, integration, and sustainability and re-introduced to our community as *Our Way of Life*.

WAY OF LIFE

FORMATION

Live and work with **integrity, respect, and compassion**.

Cultivate spiritual practices.

Grow in our **gifts** and cultivate the gifts of others.

Embody Jesus Christ in our **relationships**.

INTEGRATION

Invite diverse perspectives.

Collaborate courageously and creatively.

Communicate! Share information, ideas, and improvements.

Listen! Give and receive feedback, with kindness and grace.

SUSTAINABILITY

Steward resources and systems wisely.

Work with **purpose** and pursue measurable goals.

Build encouraging, supportive spaces.

Support missional **alignment** and cultural **transformation**.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Seattle School is an evangelical and progressive institution. The Seattle School subscribes to the Nicene Creed and the text of Matthew 22:37-40 as the official teaching position.

1. We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
2. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the

power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

3. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

4. **Matthew 22:37-40**

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

5. **Statement of Scripture:** "We confess that the Scriptures, both Old and New Testament, are the word of God. We give thanks for them as a gift from God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, written down by God's servants. We receive them, in the tradition of the Christian church, as the authoritative guide to our identity and vocation, bringing us to the fullness of life in Jesus Christ."

I understand myself to be within the Christian faith tradition and personally adhere to the above statement of faith. Explain any reservations or lack of understanding you may have concerning the above statement.

I agree to comply with the guidelines, policies, and procedures of The Seattle School. I understand myself to be within the Christian faith tradition.

Employee Signature _____ Date _____