

OUR FAITH AND CONFESSION

We have joined "The Apostles' Creed".

THE BIBLE – GOD'S WORD

We believe that the Bible is the infallible word of God. It is written by men inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the supreme authority in faith, teaching, ethics and morality.

2 Tim. 3:16; John 17:17; Heb. 4:12

THE TRINITY

We believe in the Trinity; - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Matt. 28:19; Eph. 4:4-6

THE CREATION

We believe that God created heaven and earth, everything visible and invisible. Everything in creation is meant to be good and beautiful. Man is created in God's image and has an inviolable value from conception to natural death. We believe that God has instituted marriage between a man and a woman as the natural framework for cohabitation. Man is set to protect and preserve God's creation. God continues to renew his creation, and one day he will renew the whole world.

Gen. 1:1. 26-27; Ps. 8; Ps. 19:1-3; Ps. 33:9; Jer. 1:5; Rom. 8:18-23; Rev. 21:1-4

JESUS CHRIST AND COMMUNION WITH GOD

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and became man for our sake. He died for our sins and rose again to give all people the opportunity for fellowship with God. This is given to us by grace and received by faith.

Rom. 10:9-10; Phil. 2:5-11; John 1:12; Eph. 2:8

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that all God's children have received the Holy Spirit. Everyone can experience the baptism and fullness of the Spirit that equips them for life and service. It involves a life characterized by the fruits and spiritual gifts that the New Testament describes. We believe that the Spirit helps us to live a life to the glory of God so that our character and conduct are changed to a greater likeness to Jesus Christ.

Matt. 3:11; Acts 2:1-4; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; Gal. 5:22; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 12:1-2

BAPTISM

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We believe that baptism is a covenant of good conscience with God and a surrender to follow Jesus within the framework of the Christian community. The action is a confession of Jesus' death and resurrection, which is expressed by the fact that the person being baptized is lowered under water and raised to live a new life. All who come to faith in Jesus Christ are baptized in the triune name of God.

Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47-48; Col. 2:12; Rom. 6:4-5, 1 Pet. 3:21

CONGREGATION

The church is the body of Jesus Christ in the world. It continues Jesus' ministry and shall be a community that teaches and equips God's children to follow Jesus Christ. The main mission is to complete the missionary commission by making Jesus known, believed, loved and followed among people who do not yet believe. All who confess Jesus as Lord are part of the universal church.

Mark 16:15-20; Eph. 4:11-16; Acts 20:28; Acts 2:47

HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. In the Lord's Supper we proclaim that Jesus died for our sins. We celebrate communion to have communion with Jesus and each other. The Lord's Supper is open to all who believe in Jesus Christ and who want to live in communion with him.

Matt. 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 10:16; 1 Cor. 11:23-29

GOD'S KINGDOM

We believe that God's kingdom has come **near in** Jesus, so that God's good plan and will for people can be experienced already now. As Jesus conveyed resurrection, life and healing to people, we convey the same opportunities and pray in Jesus' name for healing in all areas of life. At the same time, this kingdom has not **yet** come to completion; **that** will happen when Jesus returns.

Heb. 13:8; Matt. 10:8; Luke 10:9; John 14:12; James 5:14-16

THE CHRISTIAN HOPE

We believe that Jesus Christ will return to **gather** his own and establish the perfected kingdom of God. We want to convey the hope of the resurrection of the body and eternal life. We believe in the words of the Bible about two **outcomes of our lifetime**, eternal life and eternal death. The Bible is clear that it is through Jesus Christ that we are saved. Because of Jesus' work of salvation, no one need be lost.

1 Thess. 4:13-17; Matt. 24:14; Matt. 24:36-42; 1 Thess. 4:14-17; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Pet. 1:3

WE SUBSCRIBE TO THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God the Father, the Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, tormented under Pontius Pilate, crucified, dead and buried, descended into Sheol, rose from the dead on the third day, ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the almighty Father, from there shall come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, a holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and eternal life. Amen.