**Creeds of the Church**

**and Statements of Faith**

*It is traditional to recite the* Nicene Creed *or other ecumenical creed on Sundays when the sacrament of The Lord's Supper is celebrated. When Baptism is celebrated, the* Apostles' Creed *is included in the baptismal rite and no other creed is required.*

*When the sacraments are not celebrated, the statement of faith may be one of the ecumenical creeds, or a credal statement based on Scripture, or a section from Living Faith.*

**The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

 **creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

 **who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

 **born of the Virgin Mary,**

 **suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

 **was crucified, died, and was buried;**

 **he descended to the dead.**

 **On the third day he rose again;**

 **he ascended into heaven,**

 **he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

 **and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

 **the holy catholic Church,**

 **the communion of saints,**

 **the forgiveness of sins,**

 **the resurrection of the body,**

 **and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,**

 **the Father, the Almighty,**

 **maker of heaven and earth,**

 **of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**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,**

 **was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary**

 **and became truly human.**

 **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.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

 **who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

 **who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,**

 **who 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.**

**Confessions Based On Scripture**

1. **Jesus is the Christ,**

**the Son of the living God.** *Matt. 16:16***.**

1. *Leader:*

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress,

or persecution, or famine,

or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

*People:*

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors**

**through him who loved us.**

**For we are convinced that neither death, nor life,**

**nor angels, nor rulers,**

**nor things present, nor things to come,**

**nor powers, nor height, nor depth,**

**nor anything else in all creation,**

**will be able to separate us from the love of God**

**in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.** *Rom. 8:35, 37-39*.

1. **Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God,**

**the firstborn of all creation;**

**for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,**

**things visible and invisible,**

**whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--**

**all things have been created through him and for him.**

**He himself is before all things,**

**and in him all things hold together.**

**He is the head of the body, the church;**

**he is the beginning,**

**the firstborn from the dead,**

**so that he might come to have first place in everything.**

**For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,**

**and through him God was pleased**

**to reconcile to himself all things,**

**whether on earth or in heaven,**

**by making peace through the blood of his cross.**

 *Col. 1:15-20*.

1. **Christ Jesus,**

**though he was in the form of God,**

**did not regard equality with God as something**

**to be exploited,**

**but emptied himself,**

**taking the form of a slave,**

**being born in human likeness.**

**And being found in human form,**

**he humbled himself**

**and became obedient to the point of death--**

**even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God also highly exalted him**

**and gave him the name that is above every name,**

**so that at the name of Jesus**

**every knee should bend,**

**in heaven and on earth and under the earth,**

**and every tongue should confess**

**that Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father. Amen.** *Phil. 2:5-11*