

WE BELIEVE

A Series on the Apostles' Creed

May 9 - June 5 2022

One of my favorite statements is that we live what we believe. The question is “What do we believe—really believe?” In the first centuries after Christ, that was a real question. The Jewish people had the Old Testament scripture, but now they had to clarify their understanding about God and themselves in light of Jesus’ life, death, resurrection, and ascension. Leaders in the early church had to process what they knew and believed in light of this new reality of who Jesus was and what he had accomplished.

Our summer sermon series beginning May 15 will be on the Apostles’ Creed. This is the earliest and perhaps the most familiar of all the creeds. And it is one that is used in Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Orthodox churches.

Each week in worship, we will explore one of the key affirmations of our faith. For the devotions, scripture passages have been chosen that support key statements about God. The questions here are provided to help you focus on the truth of God’s word and consider how to respond as God invites you to do. Please understand that not every question will apply to every scripture reading. Hopefully, they can serve as a springboard for reflection, prayer, and response.

May God use our study of his word and the teaching on the Apostles’ Creed to help change us by deepening our understanding and transforming our beliefs so that we can live what we say we believe.

Pastor Glenda Simpkins Hoffman

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Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Genesis</i> 1	<i>Genesis</i> 2	<i>Psalms</i> 8	<i>Psalms</i> 19	<i>Psalms</i> 104	<i>Isaiah</i> 40:21-31	<i>Isaiah</i> 44:1-8
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<i>John</i> 1:1-5, 14-18	<i>John</i> 5:16-27	<i>John</i> 17:1-5	<i>John</i> 30:26-29	<i>Romans</i> 10:9-13	<i>Romans</i> 1:1-5	<i>Phil.</i> 2:5-11
...And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<i>Matthew</i> 1:1-17	<i>Matthew</i> 1:18-25	<i>Luke</i> 1:26-38	<i>Luke</i> 2:1-7	<i>Mark</i> 6:1-4	<i>Galatians</i> 4:4-5	<i>1 Cor.</i> 15:3-6 <i>Luke</i> 1: 31-35
...[W]ho was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,						
30	31	June 1	2	3	4	5
<i>Isaiah</i> 52:13- 53:12	<i>Matthew</i> 27:1-31	<i>Matthew</i> 27:32-61	<i>John</i> 19:1-6	<i>John</i> 19:17-42	<i>1 Peter</i> 2:23-25	<i>Acts</i> 2:1-36
...[S]uffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;						

Questions for reflecting on God's word and responding in prayer:

What does this passage reveal about who God is, what God has done for us, and what God continues to do in and through us? What does this passage reveal about this particular statement in the Apostles' Creed? How does this passage reveal why it's important to believe this truth about God and humans? What is the Holy Spirit saying to me?

Respond in Prayer:

How is my life touched by this passage? How am I comforted, challenged, or convicted regarding my belief (or lack of belief)? What is God inviting me to do as a result of my reflection? What truth, or insight, or promise (what some call "best thought") is God inviting me to take and ruminate on from the passage? Take time to pray the scripture for yourself, for others, and for any relationship that God brings to mind. Ask God to help you live what you believe.

Use the [Lectio Divina method](#) for scripture study.