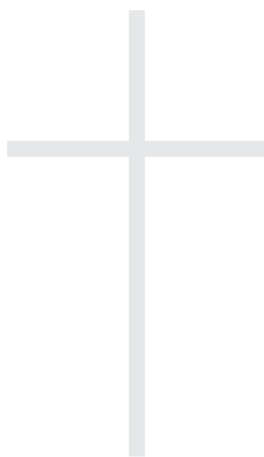


ACTS OF WORSHIP



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CREEDS

CREEDS are historical summaries of the Christian faith. They serve to unite all believers—those alive and the saints in heaven—in a shared confession, as well as to help seekers understand the basics of the Christian faith. Three historic creeds have been embraced by Christians throughout the history of the church: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. The Apostles' Creed is based on an early second-century confession known as the Roman Creed or the Roman Symbol. In its ancient form, it is the earliest creed, though the current version of the Apostles' Creed dates to the fourth century. The Nicene Creed was adopted by the Council of Nicaea in AD 325, though the current version reflects amendments made in 381. The Athanasian Creed was not authored by Athanasius, but was attached to his name because of his stalwart commitment to Trinitarian orthodoxy. All three creeds beautifully reflect the historic church's commitment to doctrinal purity and Trinitarian faith.

The Apostles' Creed

691

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

692 The Athanasian Creed

Whoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary
that they hold the catholic faith.

Which faith except everyone do keep whole and undefiled,
without doubt they shall perish everlastingly.

And the catholic faith is this:

**that we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in unity;
neither confounding the persons nor dividing the substance.**

For there is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the
Holy Spirit;

but the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is all one,
the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit.

The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, and the Holy Spirit uncreated.

The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Spirit
incomprehensible.

The Father eternal, the Son eternal, and the Holy Spirit eternal.

And yet they are not three eternal but one eternal.

**As also there are not three uncreated nor three incomprehensible,
but one uncreated and one incomprehensible.**

So, likewise the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, and the Holy Spirit almighty;
and yet they are not three almighties, but one almighty.

**So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God;
and yet they are not three Gods, but one God.**

So likewise the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Spirit Lord;
and yet they are not three Lords but one Lord.

For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity

to acknowledge every Person by himself to be both God and Lord;

so are we forbidden by the catholic faith to say;

there are three Gods or three Lords.

The Father is made of none, neither created nor begotten.

The Son is of the Father alone; not made nor created, but begotten.

The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son;

neither made, nor created, nor begotten, but proceeding.

**So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons;
one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.**

And in this Trinity none is afore or after another; none is greater or less than another.

But the whole three persons are coeternal, and coequal.

**So that in all things, as aforesaid,
the unity in Trinity and the Trinity in unity is to be worshipped;
they therefore that will be saved must thus think of the Trinity.**

Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting salvation

that they also believe rightly the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For the right faith is that we believe and confess

that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and man.

**God of the substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds;
and man of substance of his mother, born in the world.**

**Perfect God and perfect man,
of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting.**

Equal to the Father as touching his Godhead,

and inferior to the Father as touching his manhood.

Who, although he is God and man, yet he is not two, but one Christ.

**One, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh,
but by taking of that manhood into God;
one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**

For as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ;
who suffered for our salvation,

descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead;

**He ascended into heaven, he sits on the right hand of the Father, God,
Almighty;**

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**At whose coming all shall rise again with their bodies;
and shall give account of their own works.**

And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting

and they that have done evil into everlasting fire.

**This is the catholic faith,
which except we believe faithfully, we cannot be saved.**

693

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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.

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 worshiped 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.

Venite

694

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing unto the LORD:

let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving:

and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God:

and a great king above all gods.

In his hands are all the corners of the earth:

and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it:

and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down:

and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God:

and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts:

as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;

When your fathers tempted me:

they tested me, and saw my works.

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said:

It is a people that do err in their hearts, for they have not known my ways.

Unto whom I swore in my wrath:

that they should not enter into my rest.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.

Amen.

695

Magnificat

Mary's Song from Luke 1:46–55

My soul does magnify the Lord.

And my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

For he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden;

For behold, from now on all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty has magnified me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He has shown strength with his arm;

He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has put down the mighty from their seat

and has exalted the humble and meek.

He has filled the hungry with good things

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He, remembering his mercy, has taken hold of his servant Israel

as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.

Amen.

696

Benedictus

Zechariah's Song from Luke 1:68–79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;

for he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old

that he would save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.

Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

697

Simeon's Song from Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace
according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation,

Which you have prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles

and to be the glory of your people Israel.

Gloria

698

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: **have mercy on us;**

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: **receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

699

Te Deum Laudamus

We praise you, O God; a 4th century prayer

We praise you O God: we acknowledge you as Lord;
 All the earth worships you, the Father everlasting.

To you all the angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein;

To you the cherubim and seraphim unceasingly proclaim:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might,
 Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of your glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praises you;

The goodly fellowship of the prophets praises you;

The noble army of martyrs praises you;

The holy church throughout the world acknowledges you:

**The Father of infinite majesty, your honorable, true, and only Son,
 also the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.**

You are the King of glory, O Christ,
 the Eternal Son of the Father.

When you took it upon yourself to deliver us,

You humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

When you had overcome the sharpness of death,
 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe you will come to be our judge.

Therefore, we pray you help your servants,
 Whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with your saints

in glory everlasting.

O Lord save your people and bless your heritage.
 Govern them, and raise them up for ever.

Every day we magnify you,

And we worship your name, for ever and ever.

Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy.

Let your mercy be upon us, O Lord, for our hope is in you.

O Lord, in you have I trusted; let me never be put to shame.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

700

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever, amen.

Prayer for Anointing

701

Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

The Collect for Purity

702

from the Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, unto you all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.