

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Presbyterian Church in America or “The PCA” is a distinctly evangelical denomination in the Reformed tradition. The Bible as the Word of God is the primary standard for our faith. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, although subordinate to the Bible in their authority, set forth our understanding of biblical truth in a consistent, concise, and reliable form.

In the Reformed tradition, there are five key tenets, among others, that we hold to: By Scripture Alone; By Christ Alone; By Grace Alone; By Faith Alone; and To God Alone be the Glory.

- We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God’s truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.
- We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God’s displeasure, except by His mercy.
- We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God’s people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.
- We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



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January 8, 2012

First Sunday of Epiphany - Epiphany is a Greek word which means ‘to show,’ ‘to appear,’ or ‘to manifest.’ The Season of Christmas begins with the First Sunday of Advent, marked by expectation and anticipation, and concludes with Epiphany, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Incarnation.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Calling and Our Praise

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Isaiah 60; Psalm 72*

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest.

All: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Leader: And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

All: Amen and amen.

(*Indicates when to stand)

We ask that you please turn off cell phones during the worship service. Thank you.

****IN THE CROSS ALONE I GLORY*** – words included

In the cross alone I glory, recognition laying down.
Greatest treasures count as worthless
standing next to heaven’s crowns, standing next to heaven’s crowns.

In the cross alone I glory, ever reaching for the prize.
Pressing on and laying hold of
that for which my Savior died, that for which my Savior died.

(Chorus)

*In the cross alone I glory; nothing of my own to give.
Only that which Christ has offered
for my soul that I may live, for my soul that I may live.*

In the cross alone I glory, holding fast the word of life.
Toiling not in vain but being
poured out as a sacrifice, poured out as a sacrifice.

Never will I seek the glory that was never meant for me.
Always heaven-ward reflecting,
all to Jesus to receive, all to Jesus to receive.

(Chorus 2x)

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed good, right, and our delight that we should
at all times and in all places give thanks unto you, O
Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

– Elder Matt Riley

***JESUS SHALL REIGN** – Hymn #441

***BENEDICTION**

***COME THOU FOUNT, COME THOU KING**

— words included

Come, thou fount of ev’ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace.
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, I’m fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

I was lost in utter darkness
‘til you came and rescued me.
I was bound by all my sin when
your love came and set me free.
Now my soul can sing a new song;
now my heart has found a home.
Now your grace is always with me
and I’ll never be alone.

(Chorus)

*Come, thou fount, come thou King,
come thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear your bride, to you we sing.
Come, thou fount of our blessing.
Come, thou fount, come thou King,
come thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear your bride, to you we sing.
Come, thou fount of our blessing.*

O to grace, how great a debtor
daily I’m constrained to be.
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wand’ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love.
Here’s my heart, Lord, take and seal it’
seal it for thy courts above.

(Chorus)

***HAIL TO THE LORD’S ANOINTED** – Hymn #311 (alt. tune)

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***BE THOU MY VISION** – Hymn #642

His Renewal and Our Hope

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: 1 Peter 2:9-12

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the
excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into
his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now
you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as
sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the
flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct
among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak
against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and
glorify God on the day of visitation.

**All: Lord Almighty, you have called us out of darkness
and have chosen us to be your people. We should
be filled with gratitude for your mercy; we should
be filled with courage to war against our flesh. Yet
we consider ourselves worthy of your mercy, and
barely lift a hand to fight against our lusts. Our
conduct often gives no indication that we belong
to you. Forgive us for abusing your grace by not
resisting temptation. Forgive us for abasing your
glory by not being a light to the world. Please fill
us with boldness and righteousness in our words
and in our deeds, so that the appearing of Christ
Jesus our Lord would be evident in our lives, to his
praise. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: 1 John 5:11-13

God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the
Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you
who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may
know that you have eternal life.

***COMMON CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

The Nicene Creed – Hymnal page 846

***YOUR NAME** – words included

As morning dawns and evening fades,
you inspire songs of praise
that rise from earth to touch your heart
and glorify your name.

(Chorus)

*Your name is a strong and mighty tower;
your name is a shelter like no other;
your name, let the nations sing it louder
‘cause nothing has the power to save
but your name.*

Jesus, in your name we pray,
come and fill our hearts today.
Lord, give us strength to live for you
and glorify your name.

(Chorus 2x)

PRAYER, OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.

*Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children’s Church
(held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)*

***DOXOLOGY** – Hymn #733

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

His Word and Our Response

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Sermon Series: Scripture for All of Life
Sermon Title: Living with the Tension of Truth
Sermon Text: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR:
The Church at Creston, Pastor Darold Reiner.

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:
Eliudi and Lucy Issangya from Tanzania. Eliudi established the International Evangelical Outreach which trains ministers, offers trade schools, schools for children and is building a hospital. He visited Faith Covenant last year and will be returning in February.

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TODAY.
Classes will resume meeting next Sunday, January 15 at 11:15 a.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 for our ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Report and budget will be available today (in the foyer) after the service for you to look through before the meeting. If you have concerns or questions about the budget, please use the time the week before the meeting to direct your questions or concerns to Tom Jentz (treasurer) or any Elder to expedite our meeting time on the 18th.

SOUP SIGNUPS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING are available in the Fellowship Hall. 12 pots of soup are needed, enough to serve 20 each. Any kind of soup will be welcomed! Bread, rolls, coffee, tea and a light dessert will be provided. ***Thank you!***

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP will NOT meet Wednesday, January 18 because of the Annual Meeting.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP IS STARTING! Grades 6th-8th will meet weekly in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays beginning January 25 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Questions? Call Matt Riley 261-6554.

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP. They welcome anyone who would be interested in helping the committee from time to time with the different activities they plan (food events, etc.). You are welcome to attend the next meeting that will be held this week on Tuesday, January 10, 7:00 p.m. at the church to find out more about what they do as a committee. Questions? Contact Nancy Christenson at 752-5056.

THREE DETAILED BIBLE READING PLANS are available to you on the table in the Fellowship Hall to help you read through the Bible in a year.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN–FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve this week on Thursday at St. Matthews school cafeteria. If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmautz.

Wednesday, January 18, 2012



6:00 PM Soup Supper

7:00 PM Meeting begins



*All members are encouraged to attend but
not need to be a member to attend.
We hope to see you there!*

*For Prayer Chain requests or to be added to the prayer chain, please contact
the church office at 752-2400 or email to office@faithcov.com.
After hours contact Carlynn at home.*

JANUARY MINISTRIES

DEACON OF THE MONTH Bruce Tulloch
NURSERY M.O.M. (Mom of the Month)..... Karen Hunnicutt
NURSERY COORDINATOR.....Darcy Hearn
Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 471-9770.

TODAY

USHERS/GREETERS Doug & Jeri Brown
CHILDREN’S CHURCH Dar Wassink & Annalise Pierson
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) Tracey & Talitha Stahlberg
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Wiersmas
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS....Nicole Fisher & Paula Saldamando
COMMUNION PREP Dar Wassink
COMMUNION CLEAN-UPNancy Christenson

NEXT SUNDAY – JANUARY 15

USHERS/GREETERS Doug & Jeri Brown
CHILDREN’S CHURCH Dar Wassink & Annalise Pierson
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) Will Schmautz’
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Salyers
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS.....Amy Bennett & Jeri Brown
COMMUNION PREPLucille Eisenhart
COMMUNION CLEAN-UPGloria Hanson

CALENDAR

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
10:45 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship
11:15 a.m. – No Sunday School today

THIS WEEK

Tuesday – Elizabeth Women’s group, noon, at Jo Anne Ross’
– Women’s Ministries meeting, 6:30 p.m.
– Fellowship Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday – Men’s Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall
– Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the Bennett’s,
513 Crestview Rd, Kalispell
Thursday – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesdays – Music practice, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays – Men’s Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m.
– Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups (Sept.-May)
Sundays – Adult Small Groups (Sept.-May)
1st Sundays – Diaconal Offering
1st Tuesdays – Elder home visits
3rd Tuesdays – Elders/Deacons’ meeting, 7:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays – Elizabeth Women’s group, 12:00 p.m. at
Jo Anne Ross’ home, (Sept.-May)
Last Sunday of month – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 15 – Sunday School resumes, 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday, January 17 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Weds., January 18 – Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. followed by
the Annual Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the
Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, January 24 – Elizabeth Women’s group, noon, at Jo Anne
Ross’
Weds., January 25 – ***Junior High Youth Group begins, 7-9 p.m.***
Tuesday, February 7 – Trustees’ meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 9 – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead
Tuesday, February 14 – Elizabeth Women’s group, noon, at Jo Anne
Ross’
– Women’s Ministries meeting, 6:30 p.m.
– Fellowship Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.

SERMON OUTLINE

January 8, 2012

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Sermon Series: Scripture for All of Life

Sermon Title: *Living with the Tension of Truth*

Sermon Text: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

SERMON TEXT:

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

PROVERBS 26:4-5

⁴ Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you yourself will be just like him. ⁵ Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.

EZEKIEL 16:10-13

¹⁰ I clothed you with an embroidered dress and put sandals of fine leather on you. I dressed you in fine linen and covered you with costly garments. ¹¹ I adorned you with jewelry: I put bracelets on your arms and a necklace around your neck, ¹² and I put a ring on your nose, earrings on your ears and a beautiful crown on your head. ¹³ So you were adorned with gold and silver; your clothes were of fine linen and costly fabric and embroidered cloth. Your food was honey, olive oil and the finest flour. You became very beautiful and rose to be a queen.

1 TIMOTHY 2:9-10

⁹ I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, ¹⁰ but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

JEREMIAH 12:1-2

¹ You are always righteous, LORD, when I bring a case before you. Yet I would speak with you about your justice: Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why do all the faithless live at ease? ² You have planted them, and they have taken root; they grow and bear fruit. You are always on their lips but far from their hearts.

PSALM 1:3-4

³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither-- whatever they do prospers. ⁴ Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

Questions and thoughts for discussion:

1. Consider: “*Biblical truth is universally presented in dialectical form. By that I mean that the Bible characteristically presents any doctrine in terms of its polarities. The truth concerning any particular subject or theme is taught, now in one place, now in another, in terms of the poles that lie at the opposite ends of the particular continuum.*” –Robert Rayburn
2. Where have you seen Christians mistake the meaning of Scripture because they embraced one pole at the expense of another?
3. Consider: “*I love the simplicity of the Scriptures...the truth is not in the middle, and not in one extreme, but in both extremes.*” –Charles Simeon
4. Why do you think Christians have such a hard time living in the tension that Scripture presents? Do our ‘solutions’ usually work?
5. Consider: “*Christianity got over the difficulty of combining furious opposites by keeping them both, and keeping them both furious.*” –G.K. Chesterton
6. What is the danger of trying to soften or mitigate a particular teaching of Scripture?
7. Consider “*If the stones of an arch were to speak, the stones on the right hand would say, ‘Right-hand pressure is the right pressure;’ and the stones on the left would say, ‘left-hand pressure is the right pressure;’ but by pressing in opposite directions they keep up the keystone of the arch.*” –John Duncan

I. Truth is not in the ‘middle’

II. The tension of keeping the tension