

## 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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**April 15, 2012**

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 1:3*

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **His Calling and Our Praise**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:** 2 Samuel 22:47-50

Leader: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation,

**All: the God who gave me vengeance and brought down peoples under me, who brought me out from my enemies.**

Leader: You exalted me above those who rose against me; you delivered me from men of violence.

**All: For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing praises to your name.**

(\*Indicates when to stand)

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

(Chorus)

*Worthy is the Lamb seated on the throne.*

*Crown you now with many crowns, you reign victorious.*

*High and lifted up, Jesus Son of God.*

*The treasure of heaven crucified. Worthy is the Lamb.*

(Repeat all)

(Chorus)

*Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb.*

## **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)*

**\*A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING** – Hymn #289 (v. 1 only)

## **\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **His Word and Our Response**

**Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.**

**Sermon Series: Ephesians 1 – What Makes You Spiritual**

**Sermon Title: Blessed in Christ**

**Sermon Text: Ephesians 1:1-6**

**\*LEAD ME TO THE CROSS** – music in pew racks

## **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 Steve Johnson

**\*AND CAN IT BE** – Hymn #455

## **\*BENEDICTION**

*All Music Copied Under CCLI License #34680*

*\*JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE – words included*  
Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;  
father love is reigning o’er us, brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

*\*SING TO THE KING – words included*  
Sing to the King who is coming to reign.  
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.  
Life and salvation his empire shall bring,  
and joy to the nations, when Jesus is King.

*(Chorus)*  
*Come, let us sing a song,*  
*a song declaring that we belong to Jesus;*  
*he is all we need. Lift up a heart of praise.*  
*Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.*

For his returning we watch and we pray;  
we will be ready the dawn of that day.  
We’ll join in singing with all the redeemed,  
‘cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.  
*(Chorus 2x)*

**\*PRAYER OF PRAISE & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*\*BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR – words included*  
All my days I will sing this song of gladness,  
give my praise to the fountain of delights;  
for in my helplessness you heard my cry,  
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer;  
I will sing of the blood that never fails,  
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,  
of death defeated and life without end.

*(Chorus)*  
*Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor,*  
*clothed in majesty, Lord of history,*  
*you’re the Way, the Truth, the Life.*  
*Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,*  
*you’re the Risen One, heaven’s champion,*  
*and you reign, you reign over all!*

I long to be where the praise is never ending;  
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades,  
where countless worshipers will share one song,  
and cries of “worthy” will honor the Lamb!  
*(Chorus 2x)*

**His Renewal and Our Hope**

**COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN**

**SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION:** *Matthew 5:17-19*  
Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.  
For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,  
not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.  
Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: “Blessed are the poor in spirit”–  
**All: but we have been rich in pride.**  
Leader: “Blessed are those who mourn”–  
**All: but we have not known much sorrow for our sin.**  
Leader: “Blessed are the meek”–  
**All: but we are a stubborn people.**

*(continued on next page)*

Leader: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness”–

**All: but we are filled to the full with other things.**

Leader: “Blessed are the merciful”–

**All: but we are harsh and impatient.**

Leader: “Blessed are the pure in heart”–

**All: but we have impure hearts.**

Leader: “Blessed are the peacemakers”–

**All: but we have not sought reconciliation.**

Leader: “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness”–

**All: but our lives do not challenge the world.**

Leader: “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me”–

**All: but we have hardly made it known that we are yours.**

Leader: Your Law is holy and your benedictions are perfect but they are both too great for us.

**All: We plead with you to forgive our sins and give us the blessing of your righteousness.**

*(adapted from Matthew 5:3-11)*

**SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN**

**DECLARATION OF GRACE:** *Hebrews 9:15*

He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

*\*WORTHY IS THE LAMB – words included*  
Thank you for the cross, Lord.  
Thank you for the price you paid.  
Bearing all my sin and shame  
in love you came and gave amazing grace.

Thank you for this love, Lord.  
Thank you for the nail-pierced hands.  
Washed me in your cleansing flow,  
now all I know, your forgiveness and embrace.

*(song continued on next page)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR:  
The Dwelling Place, Kalispell, Pastor Dan Sandler.

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:  
Sam and Dawn Wills have completed French Language School and are planning to leave for the Democratic Republic of Congo to begin their ministry with Mission Aviation Fellowship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES RESUME MEETING AT 11:15 A.M. TODAY.

LADIES: A combined baby shower for Nicole Fisher and Wendy Putzler is coming up on Saturday, April 28, 2:00 p.m. at Kate Anderson’s house, 134 Stillwater Ln. in Kalispell. Come join us as we celebrate the coming of these two little ones into our church family. Instead of individual gifts, money is being collected for group gifts for each mom. Contact Julie Thompson (253-5038) or Hanni Hanson (253-4612) if you would like to donate to the group gifts.

TEA AROUND THE WORLD: Faith Covenant ladies of all ages are invited to the Annual Spring Tea Sunday, May 6, at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This year sign up for your “Ticket for Tea” and join us for an international adventure about teatime traditions from foreign lands and inspiration for your hospitality here at home. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall April 22 and 29.

GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY THRU MARCH 31:  
Targeted Budget = \$59,125.47; Offerings received = \$59,506.41

DIRECTORY UPDATES:  
Bud Salyer, 212-1757, cell: 871-9418

COMMUNITY KITCHEN–FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next month on Thursday, May 10 at Central Christian Church (across the alley from the county library). If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmautz.

A BIBLICAL TOUR OF ISRAEL & JORDAN: October 15-25, 2012. An experience of a lifetime! A complete tour of Israel & Jordan plus many extras such as a cruise on the Sea of Galilee, going up to Mount Nebo where Moses died, Petra and much more! Arrangements can be made for departure from any airport. Darold Reiner, Pastor of The Church at Creston, is hosting this tour. Contact him at 406-890-1149 or reiner@centurytel.net for a full brochure.

FLATHEAD FOOD BANK’S Second Helpings Thrift Store is now open next to the Food Bank. ITEMS OF THE MONTH: Furniture & appliances. They accept donations Tuesday-Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. FOODS OF THE MONTH: Ramen noodles, jelly & rice may be dropped at the food bank, 1203 Hwy 2 W., Ste. 2 in Kalispell or left in the containers in the church kitchen.



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.

APRIL MINISTRIES

DEACON OF THE MONTH .....Micah Hill  
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 ..... Donnie Burns & Micah Tinkham  
CHILDREN’S CHURCH ..... Tamie & Kathryn Jentz  
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) ..... Motleys  
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs) .....Nick Hansons  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS..... Darcy Hearn & Laura Pierson  
COMMUNION PREP ..... Donelle Holderbaum  
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP .....Gloria Hanson

NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 22

USHERS/GREETERS ..... Donnie Burns & Micah Tinkham  
CHILDREN’S CHURCH ..... Tamie & Kathryn Jentz  
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) ..... Ellen Rowe & Annalise Pierson  
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs) .....Amy Bennett  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS.....Patti Albert & Sara Motley  
COMMUNION PREP .....Amy Bennett  
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Hanni Hanson

CALENDAR

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE  
11:15 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages

THIS WEEK

Tuesday – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday – Men’s Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall  
– Junior High Youth Group, 7:00 p.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, noon, at Jo Anne Ross’ home, (Sept.-May)  
Last Sunday of month – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 24 – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross’  
Saturday, April 28 – Fisher/Putzler Baby Shower, 2:00 p.m. at Kate Anderson’s home  
Sunday, April 29 – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 1 – Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
– Elder home visits, 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, May 6 – Ladies’ Spring Tea, 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall  
Tuesday, May 8 – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross’  
– Women’s Ministries meeting, 4:00 p.m.  
– Fellowship Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, May 10 – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead  
Sunday, May 13 – Mother’s Day  
– Last day of Sunday School until September  
Tuesday, May 15 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.

## SERMON OUTLINE

April 15, 2012

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Sermon Series: Ephesians 1 – What Makes You Spiritual

Sermon Title: *Blessed in Christ*

Sermon Text: Ephesians 1:1-6

## SERMON TEXT: Ephesians 1:1-6 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

## *Questions and thoughts for discussion:*

1. What was the purpose for Paul sending this letter?
2. Ephesians stands in stark contrast to the religions of the world. “Do this in order that you might live” is replaced by Paul with “Live in Christ so that you can do.”
3. Most of the first chapter is one long sentence in Greek. Why do you think Paul kept layering his thoughts like this?
4. Why does Paul mention “by the will of God” in v-1?
5. “Faithful” in v-1 is not used in contrast to those who are ‘unfaithful,’ rather it speaks of those who believe in Jesus. The Greek word is the same for ‘belief’ and ‘faith.’
6. According to Ephesians, what are “spiritual blessings?”
7. Why are people bothered by the Bible’s clear teaching on predestination? Is it that many are trying to defend God from a charge of injustice or that they inwardly chafe at his absolute sovereignty?
8. Nowhere does Paul qualify his statements about God’s supremacy. Why is it that so many add in “...in a way that does not violate man’s free will” or “of course Paul means God foresaw our choices.”
9. What does it mean that you are blessed in Christ?

## I. Introduction to Ephesians

## II. God the blesser

## III. God the chooser