

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE HOUSE OF PRAYER EVANGEL CHURCH

Presented by Constitution Drafting Committee and Adopted on July 12, 2016 - at Hall of Meeting (Room 201), Travis Avenue Baptist Church, 800 W Berry St, Fort Worth, TX 76110

A Baptist Church

Member: Tarrant Baptist Association

Member: Southern Baptists of Texas Convention

Member: Southern Baptist Convention

Partner: Nigerian Baptist Convention

Affiliate: Baptist World Alliance

Lead Pastor: Rev. Simon Wale Olatunji

Deacon Chair: Deaconess Becky T. Adedokun

Trusteeship Chairman: Bishop David Abioye

PREAMBLE

We, the members of House of Prayer Evangel Church, having been led by the Holy Spirit to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and upon profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, do now in the presence of God, and by the aid of the Holy Spirit, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We declare this church to be an autonomous Baptist congregation, governed by the Word of God, committed to the Great Commission, the Great Commandment, and the historic Baptist distinctives: the authority of Scripture, the autonomy of the local church, the priesthood of the believer, individual soul liberty, believer's baptism by immersion, and religious liberty.

This Constitution and Bylaws is adopted to preserve and secure the principles of our faith, to govern the body in an orderly manner pursuant to 1 Corinthians 14:40, which says, "Let all things be done decently and in order" (KJV), and to preserve the liberties inherent in each individual member and the freedom of action of this body.

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Section 1. Name: The name of this corporation is House of Prayer Evangel Church, also known as Global Hope Center, hereinafter referred to as "the Church" is a Texas Nonprofit Corporation.

Section 2. Principal Office: The principal office shall be in Tarrant County, Texas. The Church may have other offices across the State, nation and the world as the Trustees may determine.

Section 3. Registered Agent: The Lead Pastor, The Reverend Simon Olawale Olatunji, ordained and licenced minister of the New Testament is the founder and shall be the registered agent and president unless otherwise designated by him, or the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND MISSION

Section 1. Purpose: The purpose of this Church is to glorify God by:

- a) Worshipping Him in spirit and truth;
- b) Edifying believers through the teaching of the whole counsel of God;
- c) Equipping the saints for the work of ministry;
- d) Proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations; and
- e) Being a House of Prayer for all nations - Isaiah 56:7, Mark 11:17.

Section 2. Mission: To lead people to become fully devoted followers of Christ, in partnership with Tarrant Baptist Association, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, Southern Baptist Convention, Nigerian Baptist Convention, and Baptist World Alliance.

Section 3. Non-Profit: This corporation is organized exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III - STATEMENT OF FAITH

Section 1. Authority: The Holy Bible is our final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

Section 2. Confession: We affirm The Baptist Faith and Message 2000, as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention on June 14, 2000, as a faithful summary of what the Bible teaches. The full verbatim text is attached as Addendum I and incorporated by reference.

Section 3. Additional Affirmation: We affirm the Nicene Creed as an historic expression of the Triune faith, also attached as Addendum II.

Section 4. Marriage and Sexuality: We affirm that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime, as defined in Article XVIII of The Baptist Faith and Message 2000.

ARTICLE IV - CHURCH COVENANT AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Covenant: Members agree to walk together in Christian love, to strive for the advancement of this Church, to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines, to contribute cheerfully and regularly to its support, and to engage to maintain family and private devotions.

Section 2. Qualification for Membership:

- a) Profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour;
- b) Baptism by immersion as a believer, in accordance with the Scriptures;
- c) Completion of new members class;
- d) Agreement with the Statement of Faith and Constitution.

Section 3. Categories:

- a) Active Members: Those who attend, support, and participate regularly.
- b) Inactive Members: Those who have been absent without communication for 6 months.
- c) Watchcare: Students, missionaries, temporary residents.

Section 4. Admission: By baptism, by letter from another Baptist church of like faith, by statement of faith and prior baptism, or by restoration.

Section 5. Termination: By letter to another church, by death, by erasure at member's request, or by exclusion under Article VIII.

Section 6. Rights: Only active members 18 years and above may vote in business meetings, and/or other decision making time, seasons and moments of the church.

ARTICLE V - ORDINANCES AND WORSHIP

Section 1. Ordinances: The two ordinances of the church are Believer's Baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper.

Section 2. Baptism: Administered by the Lead Pastor or designee to those who have professed faith.

Section 3. Lord's Supper: Observed at least quarterly, as led by the spirit, or determined by pastoral leadership, and open to all born-again believers walking in fellowship.

Section 4. Worship: Services shall be held regularly on Sunday for worship, prayer, and preaching, and midweek for prayer and Bible study.

ARTICLE VI - CHURCH GOVERNMENT, AFFILIATION AND AUTONOMY

Section 1. Government: This Church is congregational in polity. Final earthly authority is vested in the membership acting as a body, under the Lordship of Christ. The Lead Pastor provides spiritual oversight and servant leadership per Hebrews 13:17, which instructs believers to obey and submit to their spiritual leaders because these leaders watch over their souls and must give an account to God. Congregants should make this leadership role a joy rather than a burden, as a painful or grieving process benefits no one.

Section 2. Autonomy: This church is autonomous and self-governing. It reserves exclusive right to self-government in all phases of spiritual and temporal life. No outside body may exercise authority over it.

Section 3. Affiliation: We voluntarily cooperate with Tarrant Baptist Association, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, Southern Baptist Convention, Nigerian Baptist Convention as partner, and Baptist World Alliance as affiliate. Withdrawal from affiliation requires a two-thirds vote at a called business meeting. Cooperation does not imply control.

Section 4. Property: All property shall be held in the corporate name.

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS, MINISTERIAL ETHICS AND QUALIFICATIONS

As presented by Drafting Committee:

Section 1. Officers: Lead Pastor, Associate Pastors, Deacons/Deaconesses, Trustees, Clerk, Treasurer, Financial Secretary.

Section 2. Lead Pastor: Must meet qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 even if he is founder, his designated person, or elected by two-thirds vote. Serves until relationship is terminated by mutual consent, death or discipline.

Section 3. Deacons/Deaconesses: Must meet qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-13, Acts 6:3. Elected by majority vote upon recommendation of Lead Pastor.

Section 4. Ministerial Ethics and Qualifications - Applicable to ALL Offices of the Church:

This Section is binding on all members and especially ordained pastors, ministers, deacons, deaconess, trustees, and all workers. Violation shall be grounds for immediate discipline and removal.

(i) Doctrinal Alignment: Every member and especially every ordained pastor must be in full doctrinal alignment with the Statement of Faith of this church as expressed in The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 (Addendum I). Must affirm without reservation Scripture as sole authority, salvation by grace alone through faith alone, believer's baptism by immersion, autonomy of local church, and sanctity of marriage. Promotion of any contrary doctrine is prohibited.

(ii) Integrity and Exemplary Leadership in Stewardship: Must demonstrate integrity, honesty, financial faithfulness, faithful tithing to this Church as example, avoidance of impropriety, marital fidelity, moral purity, sobriety, humility, accountability. No officer shall use position for personal gain.

(iii) Submission to Spiritual Authority and Correction: Every member, worker, minister, and ordained pastor must submit to the spiritual authority and biblical correction of the Lead Pastor and the Church as applicable to all offices per Hebrews 13:17, Matthew 18:15-17. Refusal to submit is grounds for removal.

Leadership as of Adoption:

Lead Pastor: Rev. Simon Wale Olatunji

Trusteeship Chairman: Bishop David Abioye

Section 5. Trustees: Minimum three members. Responsible for legal affairs, property, and acting as corporate directors per Texas Business Organizations Code. Chairman: Bishop David Abioye.

Section 6. Clerk: Keeps accurate minutes, membership rolls, and official correspondence.

Section 7. Removal of Officer: For cause per Article VIII, with 14 days notice and two-thirds vote at duly called meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - CHURCH OFFICERS

Section 1. General Qualifications and Terms

All officers must be active members of this church in good standing. They shall be elected at the annual business meeting unless otherwise stated. No officer shall hold more than one elected office at the same time. Any officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the church in a regular or called business meeting.

Section 2. The Pastor

A. He shall be the chief under-shepherd and overseer of this church, responsible for leading the church to function as a New Testament church.

B. His duties shall be:

1. To preach the Gospel regularly, administer the ordinances, and have charge of the stated services of public worship.
2. To be President of the Corporation, ex-officio member of all boards and committees, and Moderator of all business meetings except when the business concerns his personal interests.
3. To serve as chief administrator of the paid staff and supervise all employees.
4. To have charge of all matters pertaining to pulpit supply in his absence.
5. To appoint members of special committees unless otherwise directed by the church.
6. To perform such other duties as generally pertain to that office.

Section 3. The Deacons

A. The Deacons shall be servants of the church, as defined in Acts 6:1-7 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13. They shall consist of not less than 3 nor more than 12 men, as the church shall determine.

B. Their duties shall be:

1. To assist the Pastor in ministering to the spiritual needs of the membership, visiting the sick, and promoting the spiritual welfare of the church.
2. To assist in the preparation and administration of the Lord's Supper and Baptism.

3. To elect their own Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary annually. The Chairman shall be Vice-Moderator of the church and preside in the absence of the Pastor.
4. To meet monthly at a time agreed upon, and to hold special meetings at the call of the Pastor or Chairman.
5. To serve as a Council of Advice to the Pastor in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the church.
6. Any Deacon absent from three successive regular meetings without valid excuse shall be subject to removal.

Section 4. The Trustees

- A. There shall be three Trustees elected on a rotating basis, one each year for three years.
- B. Their duties shall be:
 1. To hold in trust all church property, real and personal.
 2. To execute all legal documents as directed by the church, including deeds, mortgages, and contracts.
 3. They shall have no power to buy, sell, lease, or encumber real property except by specific vote of the church.

Section 5. The Church Clerk

- A. To keep a true and accurate record of all business meetings of the church.
- B. To keep a register of all members, with dates of admission, dismissal, or death.
- C. To issue letters of dismissal as authorized by the church.
- D. To preserve all church records and documents.

Section 6. The Church Treasurer and Financial Secretary

A. *Treasurer:*

1. To be custodian of all church funds, keep accurate records of all receipts and disbursements.

2. To pay all bills as approved by the church or by the Finance Committee within the budget.
3. To render a monthly financial report to the Deacons and a quarterly and annual report to the church.
4. All checks shall require two signatures: Treasurer and Pastor, or Treasurer and Chairman of Deacons.

B. *Financial Secretary:*

1. To keep a record of all individual contributions.
2. To count and record all offerings with the Counting Committee.
3. To prepare quarterly contribution statements.

Section 7. The Sunday School / Sunday School Director

1. To oversee the total Bible teaching ministry of the church.
2. To recommend teachers and officers to the Nominating Committee.
3. To report progress at each quarterly business meeting.

ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

Section 1. General Provisions

- A. All committees shall be members of this church. All committees shall be appointed on a rotating system, with one-third rotating off each year, and no member serving more than three consecutive years without a one-year lapse, unless otherwise specified.
- B. All committees shall elect their own chairman and secretary and shall make reports at regular business meetings or when called upon.
- C. The Pastor shall be ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2. Standing Committees

A. Nominating Committee

1. Composition: Five members, appointed by the Pastor and Deacons and elected by the church.

2. Duties:

a. To present to the church at the annual meeting nominations for all officers, teachers, department heads, and standing committees.

b. To fill vacancies during the year as they occur.

c. To survey the membership for talents and willingness to serve.

B. Budget and Finance Committee

1. Composition: Treasurer plus four members at large, plus Pastor and Chairman of Deacons ex-officio.

2. Duties:

a. To prepare and recommend the annual budget to the Deacon body, and then to the church for adoption at least two weeks before the new fiscal year.

b. To serve as purchasing agent; any expenditure exceeding \$500 not in the budget must be approved by the church.

c. To recommend a system of accounting and financial controls.

d. To arrange for an annual audit.

C. Building, Grounds and Properties Committee

1. To oversee maintenance, repair, and appearance of all church property and equipment.

2. To recommend policies for use of buildings and facilities.

3. To secure approval of the church for major repairs exceeding budget.

D. Counting Committee

1. Composed of the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and at least two Deacons.

2. To count all monies, make deposits, and preserve confidentiality.

E. Ushers Committee

1. To greet the congregation, distribute bulletins, seat worshipers, collect offerings, and maintain order during services.

F. Baptismal and Lord's Supper Committee

1. To prepare the baptistery and assist candidates.

2. To prepare the elements for the Lord's Supper.

G. Personnel Committee

1. To recommend policies for hiring, evaluation, and termination of non-ministerial staff.

2. To recommend salary schedules to the Finance Committee.

3. To act in advisory capacity to the Pastor regarding staff.

H. Missions and Evangelism Committee

1. To promote missionary education, giving, and mission trips.

2. To plan local evangelistic outreach.

Section 3. Special / Temporary Committees

A. Pastor Search Committee (Pulpit Committee)

When a vacancy occurs in the pastorate, the church shall elect a Search Committee of five to seven members by secret ballot, nominated from the floor. Its duty is to seek, interview, and recommend one candidate at a time to the church for the office of Pastor. It shall be dissolved upon calling of a Pastor.

B. Constitution and Bylaws Committee

1. To review annually the constitution and recommend amendments to keep the document current with practice and law.

All other committees deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the church may be elected by the church at any regular business meeting, with their duties defined at the time of creation.

ARTICLE X - DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS OF MEMBERS, WORKERS AND MINISTERS

Section 1. Purpose: To restore, reconcile, and maintain purity of the church per Matthew 18:15-17, Galatians 6:1, 1 Corinthians 5.

Section 2. Process:

- a) Private admonition by individual;
- b) Admonition with 2-3 witnesses;
- c) Referral to Church Council (Lead Pastor, Deacon Chair, Trustee Chair);
- d) Public hearing before church with 14 days written notice via certified mail and pulpit announcement;
- e) Action requires two-thirds vote of active members present.

Section 3. Suspension Pending Hearing: The Lead Pastor with concurrence of Deacon Chair and Trustee Chair may suspend a worker/minister from active duty pending outcome.

Section 4. Ordained Pastor Review: For ordained pastors, a Review Council shall be convened including the Church Council plus 2 pastors from Tarrant Baptist Association in good standing, invited by the Lead Pastor.

Section 5. Grounds: Doctrinal deviation, moral failure, financial impropriety, insubordination to biblical authority, sowing discord, criminal conduct, neglect of duties.

Section 6. Restoration: Upon clear evidence of repentance per 2 Corinthians 2:6-8, individual may be restored by two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE XI - MEETINGS AND QUORUM

Section 1. Worship Meetings: Sunday and midweek as scheduled.

Section 2. Annual Business Meeting: In January for annual reports, budget approval, election of officers.

Section 3. Regular Business Meetings: Quarterly, on a Sunday.

Section 4. Special Called Meetings: May be called by Lead Pastor, or by written request of 25% of active members with 14 days notice stating purpose.

Section 5. Quorum: 25% of active members for business, except for amendment, dissolution, property transaction requiring 40%.

Section 6. Procedure: Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern where not inconsistent with this Constitution. Lead Pastor presides.

ARTICLE XII - COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND CHURCH COUNCIL

Section 1. Church Council: Composed of Lead Pastor (Chair), Deacon Chair, Trustee Chairman, Treasurer, Clerk. Advises pastor, sets business meeting agenda.

Section 2. Standing Committees: Finance, Missions, Membership, Discipline/Personnel, Building and Grounds, Nominating, Education and Missions.

Section 3. Appointment: Nominating Committee brings names; Lead Pastor appoints with Church Council concurrence; ratified by church vote.

ARTICLE XIII - FINANCES, TRUSTEESHIP AND PROPERTY

Section 1. Fiscal Year: January 1 - December 31.

Section 2. Budget: Prepared by Finance Committee and Trusteeship, presented by Lead Pastor at Annual Meeting, approved by majority vote.

Section 3. Trusteeship Powers: Trustees may buy, sell, lease, mortgage property upon two-thirds authorization of church in business meeting. No trustee may enter self-dealing transaction.

Section 4. Financial Controls: Two signatures required for disbursements over \$2,500. Annual independent review. Tithes and offerings are voluntary; no member may be compelled.

Section 5. Dissolution: Upon dissolution, after debts paid, remaining assets distributed to Tarrant Baptist Association or Southern Baptists of Texas Convention for religious purposes, per IRS 501(c)(3) requirements. No assets inure to individuals.

ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENTS, DISSOLUTION AND SEVERABILITY

Section 1. Amendments: Proposed in writing, read at business meeting, then tabled for 30 days. Adopted by two-thirds vote of active members present at next business meeting with quorum present.

Section 2. Conflict: If any part conflicts with Addendum I, Addendum I controls for doctrine.

Section 3. Severability: If any provision is held invalid, remaining provisions remain.

ADOPTED JULY 12, 2016

This Constitution and Bylaws was presented by the Constitution Drafting Committee and Adopted by two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at Hall of Meeting (Room 201), Travis Avenue Baptist Church, 800 W Berry St, Fort Worth, TX 76110.

Rev. Simon Wale Olatunji - Lead Pastor

Deaconess Becky T. Adedokun - Deacon Chair

Bishop David Abioye - Chairman, Board of Trustees

ADDENDUM I - THE BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE 2000 - FULL VERBATIM TEXT

Adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, Orlando, Florida, June 14, 2000. Used by permission per Executive Committee.

PREAMBLE

Baptists are a people of deep beliefs and cherished doctrines. Throughout our history we have been a confessional people, adopting statements of faith as a witness to our beliefs and a pledge of our faithfulness to the doctrines revealed in Holy Scripture.

Our confessions of faith are rooted in historical precedent, as the church in every age has been called upon to define and defend its beliefs. Each generation of Christians bears the responsibility of guarding the treasury of truth that has been entrusted to us [2 Timothy 1:14]. Facing a new century, Southern Baptists must meet the demands and duties of the present hour.

New challenges to faith appear in every age. A pervasive anti-supernaturalism in the culture was answered by Southern Baptists in 1925, when the Baptist Faith and Message was first adopted by this Convention. In 1963, Southern Baptists responded to cultural and theological pressures with a revision of the Baptist Faith and Message. In 1970, Southern Baptists readily embraced the affirmation that the Bible is a perfect treasure of divine instruction, with God as its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.

Baptists cherish and defend religious liberty, and deny the right of any secular or religious authority to impose a confession of faith upon a church or body of churches. We honor the principles of soul competency and the priesthood of believers, affirming together both our liberty in Christ and our accountability to each other under the Word of God.

Baptist churches, associations, and general bodies have adopted confessions of faith as a witness to the world, and as instruments of doctrinal accountability. We are not embarrassed to state before the world that these are doctrines we hold precious and as essential to the Baptist tradition of faith and practice.

As a committee, we have been charged to address the "certain needs" of our own generation. In an age increasingly hostile to Christian truth, our challenge is to express the

truth as revealed in Scripture, and to bear witness to Jesus Christ, who is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

The 1963 committee rightly sought to identify and affirm "certain definite doctrines that Baptists believe, cherish, and with which they have been and are now closely identified." Our living faith is established upon eternal truths. "Thus this generation of Southern Baptists is in historic succession of intent and purpose as it endeavors to state for its time and theological climate those articles of the Christian faith which are most surely held among us."

It is the purpose of this statement of faith and message to set forth certain teachings which we believe.

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

II. God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God

and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; 53; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5,21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Saviour, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff.; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10,12; Luke 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11,14-16,26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8,14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

IV. Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.

B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-8; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:13.

V. God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7,19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22,31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45,65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6,12,17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7,26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5,13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

_Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-

23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3._

VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

VIII. The Lord's Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; I Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

IX. The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Matthew 3:2; 4:8-10,23; 12:25-28; 13:1-52; 25:31-46; 26:29; Mark 1:14-15; 9:1; Luke 4:43; 8:1; 9:2; 12:31-32; 17:20-21; 23:42; John 3:3; 18:36; Acts 1:6-7; 17:22-31; Romans 5:17; 8:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10,16; 12:28; 1 Peter 2:4-10; 4:13; Revelation 1:6,9; 5:10; 11:15; 21-22.

X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27,30,36,44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40,48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28,35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1,8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.

XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30,37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:9.

XII. Education

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

_Deuteronomy 4:1,5,9,14; 6:1-10; 31:12-13; Nehemiah 8:1-8; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:7ff.; 119:11; Proverbs 3:13ff.; 4:1-10; 8:1-7,11; 15:14; Ecclesiastes 7:19; Matthew 5:2; 7:24ff.;

28:19-20; Luke 2:40; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 2:3,8-9; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 5:12-6:3; James 1:5; 3:17._

XIII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4,19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21,42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

XIV. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable on the part of all Christians, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.

XV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16,43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.

XVI. Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9,38-48; 6:33; 26:52; Luke 22:36,38; Romans 12:18-19; 13:1-7; 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 4:1-2.

XVII. Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:33; 7:12; 17:24-27; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; 5:29; 18:12-16; Romans 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1,13; 6:7; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.

XVIII. The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

Copyright 2000, Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention - All Rights Reserved. You can download a printable version from <http://bfm.sbc.net>

ADDENDUM II - THE NICENE CREED

As adopted at the First Council of Nicaea, AD 325 and enlarged at the First Council of Constantinople, AD 381 - The Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Ecumenical / Liturgical Form (Contemporary English Form used in many Baptist Churches)

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 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.