

The Lamb's High Feast

Lesson 5

Review of Lesson 1: Worship on Earth is patterned after the Worship of Heaven

Review of Lesson 2: God Communicates with Mankind through Sacraments

Review of Lesson 3: The Liturgy opens with prayers and actions as appropriate before a holy, holy, holy LORD.

The Creeds Of Christendom

The Apostle's Creed and the Nicene Creed

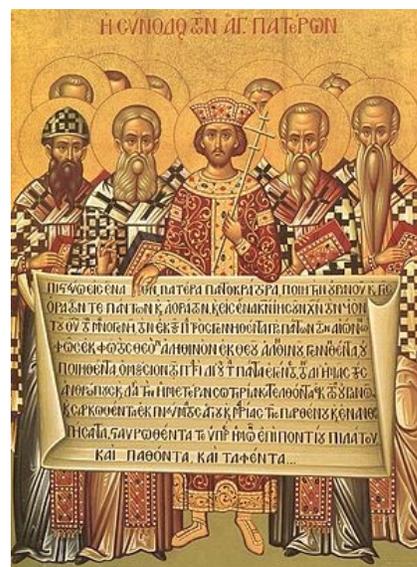
Creeds are formal statements of faith. In fact, the word Creed come from the first word in this statement, which in Latin reads “Credo” (I believe) and “Credimus” (We believe).

The Christian Church throughout the world subscribes to three such creeds.

The Athanasian Creed (BCP 36) – Better called the “Quicumque vult” or the “Whosoever Will”, apparently written as an affirmation of the faith championed by St. Athanasius at the Council of Nicea, this creed is especially concerned with the doctrines of the Trinity and the Incarnation. It is used only in the west and only a few times each year, such as Trinity Sunday.

The Apostle's Creed (BCP 16) – the newest of the three, this creed is used only in the west as the Baptismal Creed, the faith at its most basic, necessary for Salvation in Baptism.

***The Nicene Creed** (BCP 89) – a product of the Councils of Nicea and Constantinople, this statement of faith, based on the Baptismal statement from Jerusalem, is the most widely used and important Creed. It is honored in both East and West and is the basis for unity among all Christians.



Eastern Orthodox Icon of the 318 Holy Fathers of Nicea, commemorated on a Feast Day each year in Eastern Orthodoxy

Creeds (Formal Statements of Faith) are Biblical

A small sample of credal statements in Scripture

Deuteronomy 6:4ff	(The Shema Israel) Hear O Israel...
Matthew 16:16	You are the Christ...
John 1:1-14	In the beginning was the word...
Philippians 2:6-11	Who, though he was in the form of God...
1 Timothy 3:16	The mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh...
Titus 2:13-14	Waiting for our blessed hope...
Colossians 2:9-15	For in him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily...

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, ([Mark 12:29](#), [12:32](#), [Ephesians 4:6](#)) the Father almighty, ([2 Corinthians 6:18](#)) maker of heaven and earth, ([Genesis 1:1](#), [Revelation 4:11](#)) of all things visible and invisible. ([Colossians 1:16](#), [Hebrews 11:3](#))

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, ([1 Corinthians 8:6](#), [Ephesians 4:5](#)) the Only Begotten Son of God, ([John 3:16](#)) begotten of his Father before all worlds. ([Colossians 1:15](#), [1:17](#)) God of God ([John 1:1-2](#)), Light of Light, ([John 1:4](#), [1:9](#), [2 Corinthians 4:6](#), [Hebrews 1:3](#)) very God or very God, ([1 John 5:20](#)) begotten, not made, ([John 1:14](#)) being of one substance with the Father; (cf. [1 John 1:5](#) & [John 8:12](#)) by whom all things were made. ([John 1:3](#), [1:10](#), [Colossians 1:16](#), [1 Corinthians 8:6](#), [Romans 11:36](#), [Hebrews 1:10](#)) Who for us men and for our salvation ([Matthew 1:21](#), [1 Thessalonians 5:9](#), [Colossians 1:13-14](#)) came down from heaven, ([John 3:13](#), [3:31](#), [6:38](#)) and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, ([Luke 1:34-35](#)) and was made man. ([John 1:14](#), [Hebrews 2:14](#)) And was crucified also for us ([1 Peter 2:24](#)) under Pontius Pilate, ([Mark 15:15](#)) he suffered ([Matthew 27:50](#)) and was buried, ([Matthew 27:59-60](#)) and the third day he rose again ([Mark 9:31](#), [16:9](#), [Acts 10:40](#)) according to the Scriptures. ([Luke 24:45-46](#), [1 Corinthians 15:3-4](#)) And ascended into heaven ([Acts 1:9](#)) and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. ([Mark 16:19](#), [Luke 22:69](#)) He shall come again in glory ([Mark 13:26](#), [John 14:3](#), [1 Thessalonians 4:17](#)) to judge both the quick and the dead ([Matthew 16:27](#), [2 Corinthians 5:10](#), [2 Timothy 4:1](#), [1 Peter 4:5](#)) Whose kingdom shall have no end. ([Hebrews 1:8](#), [2 Peter 1:11](#))

And I believe in the Holy Ghost ([Acts 1:8](#)), the Lord and giver of life, ([John 6:63](#), [2 Corinthians 3:6](#)) who proceedeth from the Father ([John 15:26](#)) and the Son, ([John 16:7](#)) who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, ([2 Corinthians 3:8](#)) who spake by the prophets. ([1 Peter 1:10-11](#), [Ephesians 3:5](#)) And I believe in one ([Ephesians 4:4](#)), holy ([Ephesians 1:4](#), [5:27](#)), catholic ([Matthew 28:19](#), [Acts 1:8](#)) and apostolic ([Ephesians 2:20](#)) Church ([Matthew 16:18](#), [Romans 12:4-5](#), [1 Corinthians 10:17](#)). I confess one baptism ([Ephesians 4:5](#), [Galatians 3:27](#), [1 Corinthians 12:13](#)) for the remission of sins ([Colossians 2:12-13](#), [Acts 22:16](#)) and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead ([Romans 6:4-5](#), [1 Thessalonians 4:16](#)) and the life of the world to come ([2 Peter 3:13](#), [Revelation 21:1](#)). Amen.

NEXT WEEK:

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Book of Common Prayer page 106-108