

Something you learn in catechism class is that a creed is an “I believe” statement. One of the things you will be asked to do when you confirm your faith is to give such a statement. The thing is, only you know what you believe! Everything you learn from Bible, the Small Catechism, class, your pastor, along with your parents’ help, will assist you in composing this statement.

To start, let’s look at the Apostle’s Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Creed identifies for us the basics of faith: what we believe about God and what he has done and continues to do for us. This should be the basis of your own “I believe” statement. If there’s something in the Creed that you don’t understand or flat out don’t believe, talk with your parents and with a pastor before continuing.

Your statement should include, in no particular order, these elements:

1. What do you believe?
2. Your Personal Journey
3. Why are you a Christian?

This guide is meant to help you create your statement of faith.

- Take these sheets home with you and continue to discuss them and pray about it with your family.

When you are ready to write your faith statement, follow the outline.

- Don’t feel like you have to include all the information you will gather below. This is to help get you started.
- Example faith statement (yours should be closer to 300 words): *The Bible says God is love. I know God loves me because Jesus paid for my sins. One time I was afraid because I did something bad. But Jesus forgave me. Jesus is the only way to God and he wants me to live with God forever.*

What do you believe?

In your own words you are going to summarize the basics of faith just like the Apostle's Creed.

Ask your parents what they believe about God and the Bible.

Read John 20:31 together. What are some events or things you remember from the Bible that have helped you learn what you believe?

Who is your favorite Bible character? _____ How has this person helped you learn about your faith – or – what has this person taught you about having faith in God?

Write three things you believe about the Triune God.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List three things that He has done for you:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Why do you believe you will go to heaven?



Your Personal Journey

How in the world did you wind up here? It might be more appropriate that Confirmation should be called an Affirmation of your Baptism. If you were baptized as a baby, your parents and baptismal sponsors made a promise to raise you in the Christian faith, bring you to church, teach you the Lord's Prayer, the 10 Commandments, the creeds, etc. Now, you are ready to affirm those promises your parents made at your baptism and confirm that *that* faith is your own.

Write your baptism date here _____



Psst! Be sure to thank your parents, and to thank God for your parents for making those promises on your behalf.

A lot has probably happened to you since your baptism. Start thinking about how God has been with you and used the faith given to you in Baptism as you've grown.

Can you think of some times where God especially helped you or was present in your life?

What are some times when you've felt especially blessed by God.

Has there ever been a time when you felt like God was absent?

Since baptism, how have your parents encouraged you to grow in faith?

Do you want to keep growing in the faith? How does that happen? Who can help encourage you?

Ask your parents to share with you their own personal journey. What are some of their answers to the above questions?

Why are you a Christian?

When you were younger it was probably enough to answer this question by saying “Because my parents are!” But now that you are getting ready to confirm that this faith is your own you need to be able to answer this question for yourself.

Read 1 Peter 3:15. In no more than 50 words and taking less than 90 seconds answer the question “Why are you a Christian?”



That last one was tricky right? Look at the list of verses from earlier. Think about the key words you chose. Include your favorite Bible verse if you have one.

Take those key words and write a sentence for each that helps you explain why you believe what you believe.

Write another sentence for each verse that describes something God has done for you.

Thinking about your statement, pick one of the verses that can serve as the theme. This will also be your confirmation verse.

Read Matthew 28:19, 20. This is called the Great Commission. What does Jesus want you to do with the faith he has given you?

Pray with your parents that God will continue to bless your learning and spiritual growth, and that he will use you and your family to share your faith with others.